



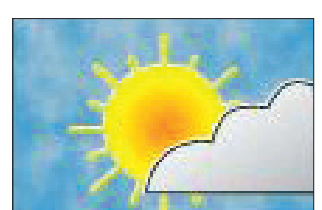
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# H BIG SPRING HERALD

**WEDNESDAY**  
FEBRUARY 18, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 67

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## Biddison won't seek re-election

*Four-term city councilman plans to spend time with family*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

After 12 years of service, Big Spring City Councilman Greg Biddison announced Tuesday he won't be running for re-election.

Biddison, who has served four continuous terms on the council as the District 6 representative, said the decision was bittersweet for him.

"My children are getting older. One is 7 years old and the other is 11 years old," said Biddison. "That's having quite an impact on the amount of time I have available. Also, my wife has some health concerns, as do my parents. All of this is really putting a strain on the amount of time I have to devote to the council."

"It's a bittersweet decision for me. On one hand, I think four terms is enough. I never intended to make a career out of serving on the city council. However, there are still things I'd like to see accomplished and things I'd like to contribute to. So it wasn't an easy decision, but family has to come first."

Biddison's decision to sit out the May election didn't go unnoticed, however, as Howard College Vice President Terry Hansen filed this week to run for the District 6 seat.

Hansen said he's not running for the position with a particular agenda in mind, but felt he has experience that could benefit the city and its residents.

"I don't have an ax to grind or anything like that," said Hansen. "I just decided this was a good time in my life to do this. I don't have any young kids at home, and I felt a lot of my experience with Howard College could benefit me and the city. I've been involved in a lot of civic activities these last few years

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3A



Biddison Hansen Ramirez

## REMEMBERING 'THE MIRACLE'



Herald file photo/Bob Price

Today marks the one-year anniversary of the explosion at the Alon USA Big Spring Refinery that rocked the Crossroads area. Called "a miracle," only a handful of people were injured in the blast. See related photos, page 7A.

## Go Red For Women luncheon to emphasize heart-healthy habits

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

Developing heart-healthy habits for women will be the focus of the Go Red For Women luncheon scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Thursday in the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Sponsored by Scenic Mountain Medical Center, the luncheon will help spotlight a month-long effort by the American Heart Association to help fight heart disease, the No. 1 killer of women in the United States.

"The Heart Association has

REGISTER FOR THE FREE LUNCHEON BY CALLING 268-4842



sponsored this luncheon for many years," said Kim Howell, marketing director and Healthy Woman coordinator for SMMC. "When we launched our Healthy Woman program, we thought it would be a great thing to make this luncheon our first Healthy

Woman monthly program." Traditionally, the AHA has sold tickets to the luncheon, but this year's event is free, Howell said. However, persons wishing to attend should contact her at 268-4842 for reservations. Almost 200 women have registered for the event as of Tuesday afternoon, she noted.

Aside from enjoying a "heart-healthy" lunch, attendees will also learn more on how to avoid heart disease, Howell said.

Drs. Sue Roberts and Cynthia Rutledge, local family

See **HEART**, Page 3A

## Gregg Street renovation video on TV

Residents who were unable to attend the Texas Department of Highways presentation on the pending renovation of Gregg Street may see it on Channel 17 at 9 p.m. through Feb. 22. Exceptions are Monday and Wednesday, when city council meetings will air.

You can also access the video by going to [www.mybigspring.com](http://www.mybigspring.com) and click on Community TV on the left panel.

## Make your preparations now for Big Spring Day in Austin

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Designed to increase awareness of the Crossroads area in the state legislature every two years, local residents and officials will once again converge on the State Capitol for Big Spring Day in Austin March 25.

According to Terry Wegman, executive director of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation, there are a full slate of activities planned for the day-long event.

"For those who are planning



Wegman

to take advantage of the bus we have chartered, we'll be leaving from the east parking lot at Howard College's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum at 4:30 a.m.," said Wegman. "It's \$40 to take the bus, and that includes transportation to and from the capital and a box lunch while we're there."

"Food and drinks on the bus will be the responsibility of those traveling, and on the way back we'll be stopping off at

Coopers Barbecue, which will be Dutch treat. We expect to arrive back at Howard College at approximately 11 p.m."

Wegman said the time at the State Capitol will be well spent, featuring a number of events to help highlight Big Spring and Howard County.

"They will read the resolution on the floor of the House and Senate proclaiming March 25 Big Spring Day in Austin," said Wegman. "Also, students from the Howard County School

See **AUSTIN**, Page 3A

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Look In Friday, February 27th Edition Of The Big Spring Herald For The **Health & Fitness Section** Information Related To YOUR Health!




16381



## Short-handed Lady Steers drop opener

By **BRANDON HALLFORD**

Special to the Herald

The Big Spring Lady Steers hoped to open the 2009 home campaign with a win.

Unfortunately, the Monahans Lobos had different ideas as they took advantage of 12 Lady Steers errors on their way to a 10-2 win Tuesday at Lady Steer field.

With the score 1-0 in Monahans' favor after the first inning, the Lobos blew open the contest with a seven-run second thanks in large part to several fielding miscues on the part of the Lady Steers.

"We are just going to have to get mentally tougher and stop making so many mistakes," Big Spring Head Coach John Sparks said. "We are still missing a few girls that are on the basketball team including the middle of the infield. We should look like a totally different team this Friday when they are able to join us."

Kenzie Hunt, who only gave up two earned runs on 10 hits with no walks and nine strikeouts, was the victim of the mental lapses of her team.

"It's just hard to win when you keep giving them chances. There isn't a lot that a pitcher can do if her defense doesn't back her up," Sparks noted.

To her credit, Hunt hung tough, allowing the Lobos just two runs over the final five innings. Big Spring was only able to scratch out a pair of Macy Briggs runs.

Briggs was able to break through in the third after reaching on a fielders choice. She was able to motor around two batters later as Briggs singled up the middle to score Briggs with the Lady Steers' first run of the night.

See **SOFTBALL**, Page 3B

## Howard sweeps Vernon, improves to 8-0

**Herald Staff Report**

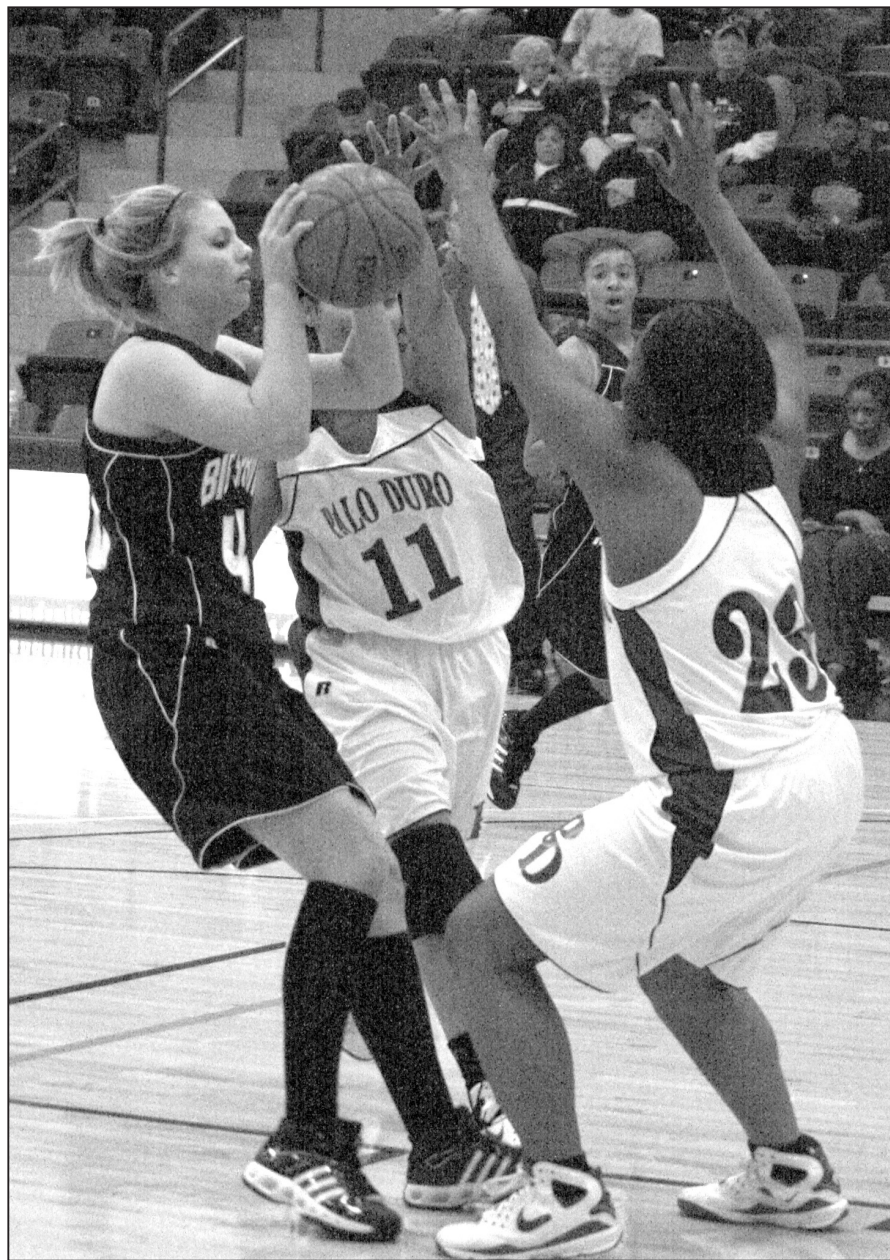
ABILENE — Howard College's sixth-ranked baseball team continues to rely on solid pitching and defense to remain undefeated in the early part of this season.

The Hawks swept a doubleheader from Vernon College, 6-1 and 5-1, Tuesday at Hunter Field in Abilene. The two wins make Howard 8-0 for the year.

The Hawks host Hutchinson College out of Kansas for a four-game series

this weekend. Howard will play Hutchinson in a pair of doubleheaders Saturday and Sunday with first pitch coming at noon each day at Jack Barber Field.

The weekend series will serve as the season opener for Hutchinson.



Courtesy photo/Alicia Bess

**Big Spring Lady Steers post Cerbi Ritchey attempts to shoot over two Amarillo Palo Duro defenders in a Class 4A bi-district girls basketball playoff game at Rip Griffin Center in Lubbock. The Lady Steers fell to No. 7 Palo Duro, 75-33.**

## Lady Dons dominate Big Spring

### No. 7 Palo Duro ends Lady Steers' season

By **JONATHAN HULL**

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — For most, the Big Spring Lady Steers Class 4A bi-district playoff basketball game at the Rip Griffin Center in Lubbock went as expected.

Amarillo Palo Duro's Lady Dons dominate and lived up to their billing as the seventh-ranked team in the state with a 75-33 victory.

However, for one period, the Lady Steers did something completely unexpected. They played neck and neck with the Lady Dons.

Trailing 14-0 after the first period, Big Spring appeared to be playing a squad completely out of its league. Palo Duro bumped its lead to 17-0 seconds into the second stanza, but the Lady Steers finally got on the board at the 7:20 mark courtesy of a Bridgette Tuitt bank shot.

Big Spring then rolled off a 7-2 run, trailing 22-9 with 5:10 to play in the first half. Palo Duro extended the Lady Steers, 17-14, in the second period.

See **LADY STEERS**, Page 3B

## Local basketball playoff schedule

### Friday

(Girls basketball)

Forsan vs. Tahoka, 8 p.m. in Andrews.

Stanton vs. Smyer, 6 p.m. in Denver City.

Garden City vs. Paducah, 6:30 p.m. in Post.

Sands vs. Knox City, 6:30 p.m. in Slaton.

### Tuesday

(Boys basketball)

Big Spring vs. Canyon Randall, to be announced.

Sands vs. Robert Lee, 7 p.m. in Snyder.

Stanton vs. Wink, 7 p.m. in Andrews.

## Steers edge Plainview, 61-59, clinch 4-4A's third playoff seed

**Herald Staff Report**

PLAINVIEW — Big Spring's Steers left no doubt about its basketball playoff future Tuesday night.

The Steers used a dominant third period to pull out a 2-point victory, 61-59, over the Plainview Bulldogs, locking up the third seed out of District 4-4A.

"We didn't want to go through the seeding game scenarios," said Big Spring Head Coach Marcus Morris. "We wanted to control our own destiny and not have to worry about anything else."

Big Spring will face No. 12 Canyon Randall in the bi-district round Tuesday at a time and place to be determined. Randall finished second in District 3-4A with a 25-5 overall

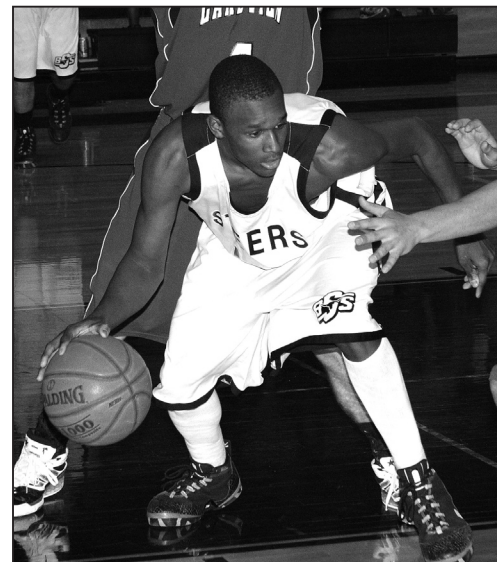
record.

"I'm sure Randall will be good, but we've played some good teams and have beaten some good teams, noted Morris. "That's the point of playing a tough schedule. Our kids aren't going to be surprised by any of the speed or height. How we respond to being in the playoffs is the real question. Randall has an established program and have been in the playoffs before. It's nothing new for them."

Big Spring led by 1 after the first period, but saw Plainview rally to a 26-22 advantage at halftime.

The Steers came out of the locker rooms in the third period on fire, though, outscoring Plainview 25-15

See **STEERS**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

**Big Spring's Sidney Parker attempts to dribble out of traffic in action from Feb. 17 at Steer Gym. The Steers clinched the third seed out of District 4-4A with a 61-59 win over Plainview Tuesday.**

## 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 club.

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 at Lady Steer Park.

The junior varsity takes the field at 4 p.m. with the varsity playing at 5:30 p.m.

Afterwards, the varsity 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.

A coaches meeting will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at Parker-Hannifan located at the airport.

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 different.

Here's the schedule put in place so far: (All games

listed are girls basketball).

### Friday

Rankin vs. Petersburg, 6 p.m.

Greenwood vs. Abilene Wylie, 8 p.m.

### BSCGA holding annual membership drive Sunday

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 Park.

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

## Carl Grantham



Carl Grantham, 46, of Denton passed away Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009, at his residence. He was born Oct. 16, 1962, in Big Spring to Ralph David Grantham and Beverly Sue Dillard Grantham.

He graduated from Mayfield High School in Las Cruces, N.M., and earned a bachelor's degree in economics with a minor in Spanish at New Mexico State University. He married Daniella "Lalla" Anderson in 1992 in Las Cruces, N.M. Carl was self-employed as a painter and home remodeler, touching many community members' lives with his joyful outlook, his wonderful smile and his helping hands.

Carl was treasured for his belief that everyone and everything had value. Most important to Carl were his loving relationships with his sons, Ben and Joe, for whom he was a true hero; his wife Lalla; his family; and his many friends.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Feb. 20, 2009, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of DeBerry Funeral Directors, 2025 W. University Dr. in Denton.

He is survived by his wife, Lalla Grantham of Denton; sons, Benjamin Thomas Grantham and Joseph Taylor Grantham, both of Denton; father, Ralph David Grantham of Dish; and a brother, David Grantham of Ponder.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Beverly Sue Grantham.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial trust is being established. For more information, please contact DeBerry Funeral Directors at (940) 383-4200 or via e-mail at bill\_deberry@hotmail.com.

*Paid obituary*

## Benita Marquez



Benita Marquez, 78, of Big Spring died Monday, Feb. 16, 2009, at her residence. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born March 10, 1930, in El Dorado and moved to Big Spring in 1940. She was a Catholic and a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Daniel Marquez Sr. of Big Spring; seven sons, Juan Marquez of Kennedy, David Marquez of San Angelo, Charlie Marquez of Big Spring, Andrew Marquez of Oklahoma, Martin Diaz of Fort Worth, Benito Diaz of Midland and Theodore Diaz of Amarillo; three daughters, Betty Muniz of Big Spring, Irene Lara of Lubbock and Guadalupe Ramirez of Fort Worth;

and a number of grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three sons, Daniel Marquez Jr., Gomezindo Diaz Jr. and Felipe Diaz.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

## James Robert Teeler



James Robert Teeler, 54, of Big Spring died Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009, in Odessa. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Life Church.

He was born in Austin Sept. 7, 1954, to Donie Lee and Roy Levi Teeler. He moved to Big Spring in the early 1960s. He married Rose Marie Thixton Nov. 1, 1980. He was employed at the Federal

Prison Camp in Big Spring from 1987 until 2007.

He is survived by his wife, Rose Marie Teeler; a son, Cody Teeler and his wife, Lindy, of Buda; a daughter, Elisha Marie Teeler and her fiancée, Jeremy Black, of Fort Worth; his father, Marvin "Bobby" Patterson of Big Spring; a brother, Roy Levi Teeler; and a half brother, Bobby Downey.

He was preceded in death by his step-brother, Ricky Wayne Patterson; and his mother, Donie Lee Patterson.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation, 1332 N. Halsted St. Suite 201, Chicago, Ill., 60642-2642.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

## Juan Martinez Gonzales



Juan Martinez Gonzales, 75, of Big Spring died Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Thomas Catholic Church.

He was born Aug. 14, 1933, in El Refugio, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. He lived in New Mexico and worked in Colorado for a wild flower seed farm. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by one son, Juan Jose Martinez of Mexico; seven daughters, Mariza Martinez and Ana Martinez, both of Mexico, Martha Malouf and Griselda Martinez, both of Virginia, Rosa Martinez of Pennsylvania, Lourdes Martinez of Maryland and Elizabeth Rodriguez of Coahoma; two sisters, Polina Martinez of Illinois and Maria Martinez of Mexico; one brother,

Anacleto Martinez Gonzales of Mexico; 18 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Edwiges, in 2006.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

## James Arnold Clary




James Arnold "Jim" Clary, 78, of Stanton died Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009, at his residence. Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, 2009, at the Stanton Community Center. Graveside services will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, 2009, at the Harpersville Cemetery in Breckenridge.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

## Judy B. Puga

Judy B. Puga, 63, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Your Local Weather

Thu 2/19	Fri 2/20	Sat 2/21
 <b>64/34</b>	 <b>72/38</b>	 <b>58/28</b>
Mainly sunny. High 64F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 20s.

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## Lottery

The winning numbers from Tuesday night's Mega Millions drawing were: one, nine, 23, 27 and 33. The Mega Ball number was 24.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 10-21-27-28-35.  
Number matching five of five: 1.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-3-7-0. Sum It Up: 14.

## Take Note

American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry Saturday at 3203 W. Highway 80. Delivery will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Dine in from noon to 3 p.m. Carry-outs will be available.

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. The celebration for Msgr. Gully is still scheduled for 12:45 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Youth Center.

Coahoma alumni will hold an all school, all classes reunion Saturday, Aug. 1 at the Coahoma school

building. Individual classes are encouraged to plan their class get-togethers Friday night or Saturday night. This year's reunion theme will highlight sports and former coaches Bernie Hagins and Norman Roberts will be honored, along with all former athletes and coaches at Coahoma ISD. Funds will be raised for the Coahoma Scholarship Fund as well. The Coahoma Alumni Association is trying to update its

e-mail and mailing address lists and asks that you contact Patti Meets at [pmeeks@basin-net.net](mailto:pmeeks@basin-net.net) or (432) 267-6688 with updates. More information will be shared as the reunion planning progresses.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Relay for Life team is selling cookbooks to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The cookbooks can be purchased for \$10 apiece. Contact Beverly Grant at 268-4952 for



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# Area roundup: Streaking Stanton tops Van Horn

**Herald Staff Report**

CRANE — Stanton's Lady Buffaloes win streak continued Friday as they routed Van Horn, 63-24, in a Class A bi-district girls basketball playoff game played in Crane.

It was the most dominating victory of the season for Stanton. The Lady Buffs had the game put away after the first period with an 18-3 start and led 35-8 at the break.

Rachel Fleckenstein scored

a game-high 22 points, while Kesley Jones chipped in 12.

The Lady Buffs advance to the area round of the playoffs and face No. 12 Smyer at 6:30 p.m. Friday in Post.

**Van Horn 3 5 9 7—24**  
**Stanton 18 17 13 15—63**  
Van Horn: Florez 9, Valdez 4, Corrales 3, Humpheries 2, Quintana 2, Gonzalez 2, Vejil 1, Martinez 1.  
Stanton (16-14): Ashton Snellgrove 9, Kesley Jones 12, Tiffany Saucedo 3, Naomi Delao 1, Rachel Fleckenstein 22, Adrian Carrasco 3, Krista Sanchez 6, Bea Martinez 3, Michelle Graves 2, Jami Hale 2.  
Free Throws: Van Horn 12-31, Stanton

11-26. 3-Point goals: Van Horn 0, Stanton 6 (Snellgrove 1, Saucedo 1, Carrasco 1, Sanchez 2, Martinez 1). Total Fouls: Van Horn 20, Stanton 27. Foul out: Van Horn (Durbin, Florez), Stanton: (Jones).

**Boys basketball**  
**Ballinger 61,**  
**Coahoma 54**

COAHOMA — A disappointing season for the Coahoma Bulldogs came to a close Tuesday with the Ballinger Bearcats pulling out a 61-54 victory in the District 7-2A finale for both

squads.

Coahoma finishes 20-12 overall, but posted just a 2-8 record in league play.

The Bulldogs' final game played out like many of their losses have over the course of the season. For three periods, Coahoma was in control of the contest, but it took just one poor quarter of play to cost the Bulldogs another victory.

Leading 48-46 after the third frame, the Bulldogs were out-scored 15-6 in the final stanza, giving Ballinger the 7-point

win.

Cody Sheppard led the Bulldogs with 16 points, while Isaac Garcia scored 12.

**Ballinger 13 15 18 15—61**  
**Coahoma 18 14 16 6—54**  
Ballinger: Kalina 2, Lopez 16, Lange 3, Niehues 4, Travis 7, Egan 22, Pruser 7.  
Coahoma (20-12 2-8): Josh Paniagua 4, Mikey Mendoza 4, Braiden Griffen 7, Lane Douglass 2, Hunter Williams 2, Issac Garcia 12, Jovi Paniagua 7 Cody Shepard 16 .  
Free throws: BG 5-9, CH 3-10. 3-point goals: BG 6 ( Lopez 4, Lange 1, Pruser). CH 7 (Josh Paniagua 1, Griffen 1, Garcia 4, Jovi Paniagua 1). Total fouls: BS 13, CH 13. Fouled out: None.

# Abilene Cooper dominates Big Spring golf invitational

**Herald Staff Report**

Big Spring High School's girls golf team hosted a tournament at the municipal golf course in Comanche Trail Park Friday and Saturday and learned one thing about its district — Abilene Cooper is going to be tough to beat.

Cooper's top four players shot 664 over two days, easily claiming the team title. The Lady Cougars also had three of the top four individual performances with Brooke Bailey shooting 153 to claim the championship. Courtney Norton was second with a 166, while Shandra Urey finished tied for third with a 168 alongside Pecos' Tatum Windham.

Windham took home third-place honors after a playoff with Urey.

Cooper was the only team to shoot under 700.

The Lady Steers didn't place as a

team after not having enough golfers on the course on the second day. Big Spring's first-round total was a 419, but two of its five golfers didn't play in the second round.

Ariel Johnson posted Big Spring's top score with a 187. Kate Brumley was second with a 198, while Cecili Acosta shot a 217. Analisa Levario and Mariah Sparkman played only on the first day and shot 118 and 122, respectively.

Big Spring's girls will play in a two-day tournament starting Saturday in Snyder. The boys will play in Plainview over the weekend.

**Scores**  
**Big Spring 419-NA—NA:** Ariel Johnson 96-91—187, Kate Brumley 95-101—196, Celili Acosta 110-107—217, Analisa Levario 118-NA—NA, Mariah Sparkman 122-NA—NA, Tiffany Garcia 92-96—188.  
**Abilene Cooper 333-331—664:** Brooke Bailey 77-76—153, Courtney Norton 86-80—166, Shandra Urey 80-88—168, Megan Weber 90-87—177,

Abbey Hill 90-94—184.  
**Midland Christian 274-265—739:** Sara Suggs 93-86—179, Nicki Evans 95-91—186, Rebecca Campbell 93-94—187, Stacie Easterwood 93-94—187, Lauren Lacy 97-102—199.  
**Pecos 374-369—743:** Tatum Windham 86-82—168, Heather Matta 96-91—187, Katrina Hinojos 92-104—196, Samantha Sparkman 104-94—198, Rica Pino 100-102—202, Asi Alligood 92-89—181.  
**Pampa 378-366—744:** Shelby Rose 91-90—181, Rikki Beesley 98-87—185, Shelby Wisdom 96-92—188, Taylor Bell 93-97—190, Julie Schuneman 109-115—224.  
**Borger 377-373—750:** Kelsey Sosebee 89-87—176, Sherry Carter 92-87—179, Whitney Swender 96-91—187, Ashley McKinney 100-108—208, Clarice Myers 105-110—215.  
**Andrews 388-383—771:** Danley Hyer 86-92—178, Whitlee Woods 93-94—187, Rebbekah Lambert 107-92—199, Keisha Sparks 102-105—207, Dianna Garcia 110-115—225.  
**Canyon Randall 387-384—771:** Eryn Austin 93-89—182, Bailey Case 90-95—185, Kyla Williams 98-93—191, Chelsea Burney 106-107—213, Ashley Zang 110-114—224.  
**Plainview 388-384—772:** Evan Teel 91-92—183, Maria Alvarado 107-90—197, Cheyann Powell 95-96—191, Miriah Gerber 95-106—211.  
**Kermit 403-373—776:** Danielle Rivera

87-82—162, Lindsey Nett 98-103—201, Alex McLennan 111-92—203, Allison Mielul 108-98—206, Rachel Terry 110-101—211.  
**Amarillo Caprock 419-394—813:** Kerrie Owens 95-94—189, Gracie Gollighugh 104-92—197, Cheyanne Jones 112-95—207, Lexi Love 108-112—220, Sarah Etheridge 113-114—227.  
**Lamesa 418-417—835:** Natalie Tejada 104-108—212, Helen Anderson 106-101—207, Shelbi Parks 105-103—208, Audra Bartlett 103-105—208, Kelsey Perry 109-116—225.  
**Levelland 435-428—863:** Ashlyn Shannofelt 97-109—206, Emily Sifuentes 106-102—208, Alyssa Esqueda 107-105—212, Audrey Rodriguez 125-112—237.  
**Fort Stockton 467-473—940:** Alexia Almandariz 109-106—215, Bridget Gentry 107-123—230, Victoria Carrasco 118-125—243, Janice Jennings 133-119—252.  
**Amarillo Palo Duro 513-473—986:** Marissa Barraza 100-83—183, Marisa Sherman 132-125—257, Savannah Smith 140-133—273, Summer Stephens 141-132—273.  
**Midland Greenwood NA-NA—NA:** Madison Pate 94-94—188, Cali Crockett 111-111—222, Elizabeth Ransom 140-134—274.  
**San Angelo Lake View 440-NA—NA:** Heidi Prude 110-93—203, Tamara Madrid 103-105—208, Skyler Christensen 120-113—233, Brandy Chappa 115-NA—NA, Courtney Pruitt 112-NA—NA.

## STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

and taking a 6-point advantage into the final stanza.

That lead held on until the 2:00 mark, when Plainview began inching its way closer to the Steers. The

Bulldogs cut the deficit to 2 with less than 20 seconds to play and got the ball back after Big Spring was called for traveling bringing the ball up the court.

The Steers played a good defensive sequence, though, and forced Plainview to take a contested three with seconds to play. The shot didn't fall and Big Spring secured the rebound to seal the win.

Tyrone Clemons led the Steers with 13 points, while Jerrell Williams added 12. Xavian Parnell came off the bench to score 12.

"This was a big win for us," said Morris. "We're going to head into the playoffs looking to win. We're not going to play just to play basketball. We're playing to win. We're definitely excited to be in and we're looking to make the most of the opportunity."

**Big Spring 10 12 25 14—61**  
**Plainview 9 17 15 18—59**  
Big Spring (11-17, 4-4): Tyrone Clemons 13, Jerrell Williams 12, Xavian Parnell 12, McCalister 8, Matt Ritchey 6, Sidney Parker 8.  
Plainview (13-17, 2-6): Carter 20, Jackson 14, Dulakis 5, Lopez 2, Jackson 3, Curry 14, Williams 6.  
3-point goals: BS (Williams 2, Clemons 3, McCalister), PV (Curry 2, Carter, Jackson). Free throws: BS 9-13, PV 17-25. Total fouls: BS 20, PV 13. Fouled out: Ritchey.

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- 2007 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT** - V-6, Automatic, Local One Owner w/38,000 Miles. **WAS \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2006 Ford F250 Crew Cab King Ranch Powerstroke Diesel** - Black w/Leather, Local One Owner, Clean Truck. **WAS \$28,995** **NOW \$23,995**
- 2006 Ford F250 Crew Cab FX4 4X4 Powerstroke Diesel** - White w/Leather, One Owner, Clean Truck. **WAS \$19,995** **NOW \$17,995**
- 2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT** - Maroon 4X4 - Stone w/Leather, Fully Loaded, Local One Owner, Clean Truck. **WAS \$19,995** **NOW \$17,995**
- 2006 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat** - White/Leather, Local One Owner w/53,000 Miles. **WAS \$24,995** **NOW \$21,995**
- 2006 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT** - Maroon w/Cloth, All Power, Local One Owner w/29,000 Miles. **WAS \$22,995** **NOW \$20,995**
- 2005 Ford F250 Crew Cab King Ranch FX4 4X4 Powerstroke Diesel** - Dark Copper/Tan w/Leather, Local One Owner. **WAS \$30,995** **NOW \$27,995**
- 2005 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT** - Maroon w/Cloth, All Power. **WAS \$14,995** **NOW \$12,995**
- 2005 Ford F150 Supercab STX 4X4** - Bright Red, Local One Owner, w/36,000 Miles. **WAS \$17,995** **NOW \$15,995**

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- 2005 Ford Ranger XLT Supercab** - Silver, Automatic, 6 Cylinder, Local One Owner w/39,000 Miles. **WAS \$14,995** **NOW \$11,995**
- 2004 F250 Crew Cab XLT Powerstroke Diesel** - Blue/Silver, Local One Owner. **WAS \$22,995** **NOW \$18,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT** - Tan w/Cloth, V-8, One Owner w/68,000 Miles. **WAS \$17,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT** - Maroon w/Cloth, V-8, All Power, Local One Owner w/65,000 Miles. **WAS \$14,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT** - Maroon, All Power, One Owner. **WAS \$12,995** **NOW \$10,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercab XLT** - White w/Cloth, V-8, Local One Owner, w/78,000 Miles. **WAS \$13,995** **NOW \$10,995**
- 2004 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT** - Arizona Beige w/Cloth, All Power, One Owner w/54,000 Miles. **WAS \$15,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2004 Ford Ranger S/C XLT** - White w/Cloth, Local One Owner, w/62,000 Miles. **WAS \$13,995** **NOW \$11,995**
- 2003 Ford F250 Crew Cab XL** - White, 5.4 V-8. **WAS \$12,995** **NOW \$9,995**
- 2002 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT 4X4 7.3 Powerstroke Diesel** - Local One Owner w/90,000 Miles. **WAS \$15,995** **NOW \$13,995**
- 2001 Ford F250 Crew Cab XLT 7.3 Powerstroke Diesel** - White w/cloth, New Transmission, 132K Miles, Local One Owner. **WAS \$15,995** **NOW \$12,995**

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- 2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 L.S. Crew Cab** - Blue w/Cloth, V-8, All Power, One Owner w/28,000 Miles. **WAS \$24,995** **NOW \$22,995**
- 2007 Chevrolet Colorado L.S. Crew Cab** - White, V-6, All Power, Local One Owner w/37,000 Miles. **WAS \$17,995** **NOW \$15,995**
- 2006 GMC Canyon Crew Cab 4X4 SLE** - Red, V-6, All Power, One Owner w/27,415 Miles. **WAS \$18,995** **NOW \$16,995**
- 2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 H.D./L.S. 4X4** - White, Local One Owner w/36,000 Miles. **WAS \$24,995** **NOW \$19,995**
- 2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 L.S. Reg. Cab** - Pewter, V-6, Automatic, A/C, 58K Miles. **WAS \$15,995** **NOW \$11,995**
- 1999 GMC Sierra 1500 E-Series** - Dark Red, V-6, Local One Owner w/80 Miles. **WAS \$10,995** **NOW \$8,995**
- 1992 Chevrolet S10 Reg. Cab** - Teal, Nice Truck, 90K Miles. **WAS \$6,995** **NOW \$5,995**

★ ★ ★ DODGE TRUCKS ★ ★ ★

- 2005 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab SLT** - V-8, White, All Power, Local One Owner w/49K Miles. **WAS \$16,995** **NOW \$14,995**

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## Police blotter

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

- BRENT DOUGLAS, 22, of 4219 Hamilton, was arrested Tuesday on a local warrant.
- THEFT was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
- POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1100 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Street.

• ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported:  
in the 1500 block of Wood.  
in the 1000 block of Interstate Highway 20.

a safety belt and violation of a promise to appear.

- CLEOPHUS JOHNSON, 42, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of bondsman off bond for evading arrest or detention.
- FRANK RAY SIMPSON, 36, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on an Attorney General motion for enforcement – failure to appear.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Settles. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1500 block of Wood Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Jennings. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 53 inmates at the time of this report.
- JUSTIN RAMIREZ, 21, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana.
  - JUSTIN WAYNE MEEK, 23, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of no liability insurance, ride not secured by

## COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

and I just felt like I had something to offer.”

Hansen hasn't yet drawn a challenger for the seat, but incumbent District 4 Councilwoman Gloria McDonald — who filed to run for re-election earlier this week — won't go into May uncontested, as local resident Terena Restman will be vying for the position as well.

Also this week, incumbent District 2 Councilman Manuel Ramirez Jr. filed to run for re-election. Ramirez hasn't yet drawn a challenger for the position.

According to Assistant City Secretary Tami Davis, would-be candidates have until March 9 to file their candidacy at City Hall to be eligible for the May contest.

The city of Coahoma has three seats — all three are at-large — up for election in May.

Seats held by incumbents David Elmore, Ricky Stone and

Mayor Bill Read, will all be up for grabs. According to officials with the city of Coahoma, the three incumbents have yet to file or indicate their intention to file. However, Coahoma resident Jay Holt filed to run for one of the at-large seats Tuesday afternoon.

In the city of Forsan, three at-large positions will be decided in the May election, as incumbents Mary Gressett, Fred Hogan and Marty Whetsel have all indicated they plan to run for re-election. No challengers have filed to run against the

trio.

In the city of Stanton, an at-large position on the city council, along with the District 4 seat, will be up for grabs in May. According to officials, the at-large incumbent, Tommy Haislip, and District 4 incumbent, Steven Villa, have filed to run for re-election and are currently unopposed.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@big-springherald.com](mailto:citydesk@big-springherald.com)

## AUSTIN

Continued from Page 1A

Choir — made up of students from several different schools in the area — will perform in the Rotunda. We'll have a box lunch on the east grounds of the Capitol, as well as have a Coke and Blue Bell Ice Cream reception, followed by a group photo on the Capitol steps.”

Wegman said area residents planning to attend are asked to register ahead of time, whether they will be taking the bus or a private vehicle.

“We're asking everyone to register at the Big Spring Area Chamber of

Commerce, regardless of how they are getting there or when they are leaving,” said Wegman. “The deadline to pay for a bus ticket or to order a box lunch is March 6. If you're not taking the bus but want to have a box lunch waiting for you, it's \$9.”

Wegman said residents planning to attend are being asked to follow a dress code while in the capitol.

“We're asking everyone to wear a Big Spring shirt and khaki pants or skirt,” said Wegman. “If you don't already have one of the denim Big Spring shirts, you can order both long and short sleeve ones from

the chamber office. They are \$25 each, and the deadline to order a shirt in time for Big Spring Day in Austin will be March 2.”

Wegman said Big Spring Day in Austin is an excellent way to catch the attention of lawmakers in the Lone Star State and let them

know Howard County residents are very interested in how state policy affects the Crossroads community.

“This is a great chance to see first-hand how the legislature works,” said Wegman. “They make the laws that effect our lives, day after day.”

For more informa-

tion on Big Spring Area Day in Austin, call Big Spring EDC at 264-6032 or the Big Spring Chamber at 263-7641.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@big-springherald.com](mailto:citydesk@big-springherald.com)

## HEART

Continued from Page 1A

practitioners, will present the program, “A Light-Hearted Approach to a Serious Topic.”

Thursday's luncheon is the first of two major events this week focusing on the AHA's fight against heart disease. The organization will host its annual Heart Gala from 8 p.m. until midnight Saturday at Big Spring Country Club.

Gala tickets are \$20 per individual and will be available at the door and at Thursday's luncheon.

Music, dancing and a live and silent auction will be the highlights of Saturday's event.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at [reporter@big-spring-herald.com](mailto:reporter@big-spring-herald.com)

### MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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James Robert Teeler, 54, died Thursday. Memorial Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Life Church.

Juan Martinez Gonzales, 75 died Thursday. Memorial Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Thomas Catholic Church.

Benita Marquez, 78, died Monday. Vigil Services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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# Jerry Jones: No decision on TO yet... maybe

By JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — Cowboys owner Jerry Jones went on and on Tuesday emphasizing he hasn't decided whether to keep or cut Terrell Owens.

Then, long after the subject was seemingly put to rest, Jones brought it up again — with a pretty obvious hint that T.O. is staying.

"You and I both know that the one that you're asking about all the time, if I gave you the answer that you want to hear, then you would've already had it. So the fact you don't have it ought to tell you something. It really should," Jones said.

The response came in the final minute of a roughly 45-minute news conference called to announce that George Strait will headline the first-ever event at the team's new \$1.1 billion stadium. But since this was the first time Jones addressed a large group of reporters since the Cowboys'

season-ending loss at Philadelphia back in late December, far more topics came up.

The subject changed from music to football with a question about whether Owens will be on the roster when Strait takes the stage June 6. Jones was ready with the explanation that "we're evaluating our entire roster."

"There are several decisions on our roster we have to look at," Jones said. "This is the time of year we do that. I'm not trying to be trite, but as you all know we're evaluating players in college, we're evaluating free agents and we're evaluating our own roster. This is an ongoing thing, not any different than this time last year. ... Our roster is our roster. Changes to that are pure, pure speculation."

When told he could end all speculation by saying Owens is staying, Jones said he wouldn't answer "because we're not talking about the roster; he's part of the roster."

"We've got a lot of things we want to look at. Not just to Terrell, but several positions on the team — backup quarterback and some other areas," Jones said. "So, again, it's not that it's easy or hard. It's just that I'm not doing it."

Jones said stories of locker-room drama were stirred up by media and insisted he's not concerned about such personality clashes.

"Not at all. Not at all. Not at all. Period. I'm just not," he said. "They are a figment of the result. You didn't hear about those things when we were winning. You hear about those kinds of things when we're losing. So I'm just not. And if y'all knew more about some of the things that you write about, you wouldn't be as concerned."

The news conference covered a lot of other ground over the next 15 minutes and was winding down when Jones started talking about how angry

people are about the economy. He then accused reporters of being angry that the Cowboys missed the playoffs after being projected to reach the Super Bowl. Next came an explanation of why he hasn't been talking as much lately, despite all sorts of stories swirling around the organization.

"What we're doing here is trying to manage that to some degree," Jones said. "It has nothing to do with information. You're getting every bit of the information that you should have."

He finished that thought with the line about the answer "you want to hear" and the explanation that "the fact you don't have it ought to tell you something."

After answering another stadium-related question, Jones left through a back door.

See **COWBOYS**, Page 4B

# "Young and stupid" A-Rod was injected by cousin

By RONALD BLUM

AP Baseball Writer

TAMPA, Fla. — Over and over, Alex Rodriguez blamed himself, using the phrase "young and stupid" as he tried again to explain where he went wrong.

"Amateur hour," he called it.

The slugger who might someday become baseball's all-time home run king remembered more details about performance-enhancing drugs Tuesday, saying his cousin repeatedly injected him from 2001-03 with a mysterious substance from the Dominican Republic.

"I didn't think they were steroids," the New York Yankees star said. Later, he admitted, "I knew we weren't taking Tic Tacs."

Making his second public attempt to explain a 2003 positive drug test while with Texas, baseball's highest-paid player described a clumsy scheme in which a cousin persuaded him to use "boli" — a substance he said the cousin obtained without a prescription and without consulting doctors or trainers.

Rodriguez said the cousin, whom he wouldn't identify, told him it would cause a "dramatic energy boost."

Yet, when asked to explain why the secrecy if he didn't think it was an illegal substance, Rodriguez revealed he had a pretty good idea he was doing wrong.

"Look, for a week here I've been looking at people to blame," he said, "and I keep looking at myself at the end of the day."

Some, including Yankees radio broadcaster Suzyn Waldman, had trouble believing him.

"Do I believe that Alex Rodriguez, who won't have a Snickers bar or a cookie, let his cousin inject him with something that he didn't know what

it was? I find that really hard to believe," she told WCBS radio in New York, the team's flagship station.

She wasn't alone.

"I wonder if his cousin even existed," Kansas City pitcher John Bale said. "That was my first thought. Is his cousin made up?"

Rodriguez's assembled teammates gave him the eye, especially when he turned to them to apologize and offer thanks for their support.

Rodriguez paused for 37 seconds, searching for the right words. He

See **A-ROD**, Page 4B

## LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

"I think once we got over our first period jitters and settled down, we realized that there is just five of them out there and that we can compete with them," observed Big Spring Head Coach Mike Warren. "We got out and started rebounding the ball. We played some good basketball in the second half and I'm very proud of the way this team competed with one of the best squads in the state."

Palo Duro clamped down defensively on the Lady Steers in the second half, allowing Big Spring to make just three field goals in the third and fourth periods combined. The Lady Steers managed to earn some points at the free throw line in the final stanza as they went 11 for 14 from the charity stripe.

Tuitt led Big Spring with 10 points, while Linzee Yarbar and Valerie Ross each added seven apiece.

Tasha Tubbs hit for a game-high 13 for Palo Duro with Brianna Taylor and Moneeka Carter scoring 10 each.

The Lady Steers finish with a 9-20 record after going winless just a season ago. They lose no seniors from the group that played in the postseason game.

"We're looking to just keep moving on up next season," said Warren. "It's like (Principal Mike) Ritchey says at the high school, when he talks about us make a U-turn academically. We're doing it in athletics also. I think we turned a corner this year. Next year, we'll start the season with confidence, where as this year we began with inexperience. I'm excited about the future."

Big Spring 0 14 8 11-33  
Palo Duro 14 17 22 22-75

Big Spring (9-20): Linzee Yarbar 3 1-1 7, Taylor Seaton 1 3-4 5,

Valerie Ross 1 4-8 7, Bridgette Tuitt 3 4-7 10, Taryn Kennedy 0 1-2 1, Cerbi Ritchey 0 3-5 3. Totals 8 16-27 33.

Palo Duro (25-6): Brianna Taylor 4 2-4 10, Dominique Woods 4 0-0 8, Tasha Tubbs 5 2-2 13, Jasmine Patterson 4 0-1 8, Jasmine Taylor 4 1-1 9, Ariel Bowie 2 0-0 5, Moneeka Carter 3 2-3 10, Jalesa Glover 3 2-3 8, Jerica Mills 0 2-4 2, Kiley Dixon 1 0-0 2. Totals 30 11-18 75.

3-point goals: BS 1 (Ross), PD 4 (Carter 2, Tubbs, Bowie). Total fouls: BS 17, PD 23. Fouled out: None.



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## SOFTBALL

Continued from Page 1B

The duo hooked up once again in the seventh when Briggs doubled down the left field line and scored when Hunt drove a ball to the center field fence.

That was as close as the Lady Steers got as the Lobos' relief pitcher Sabrina Marin got the final two outs, securing the win.

Briggs finished 2 for 3 with two runs scored, while Hunt had both of the Lady Steers' RBI. Baylea Fox and Jillian Valle also had hits.

"I knew this was going to be tough going in," Sparks said. "When you have players in positions they are not used to and batting in spots that they aren't comfortable in, then you are going to have inconsistency. We will be better once we get every-

one on the field and the girls are able to play in places that they are more comfortable in."

Feleena Graves claimed the win for the Lobos while Gabby Marquez threw four solid innings.

The Lady Steers host Midland Christian at 5:30 p.m. Friday.

Monahans 170 010 1-10 10 1  
Big Spring 001 000 1- 2 6 12

W - Feleena Graves (1-0). L - Kenzie Hunt (0-1).  
2B: BS - Macy Briggs, Hunt. RBI: BS - Hunt 2.

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## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### Actions Speak Louder Than Words

North dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 8 7  
♥ —  
♦ A 8 7 5 4 2  
♣ A K 9 6 2

**WEST**  
♠ A J 10 3 2  
♥ J 9  
♦ Q J 3  
♣ 10 5 4

**EAST**  
♠ K 9 6 4  
♥ K 6 5 3  
♦ 10 9  
♣ Q 8 7

**SOUTH**  
♠ Q 5  
♥ A Q 10 8 7 4 2  
♦ K 6  
♣ J 3

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass  
2♣ Pass 3♥ Pass  
4♣ Pass 4♥

Opening lead — ace of spades.

**Falsereading effectively** is just as much an art in bridge as the ability to execute, say, a complicated squeeze or endplay. The general purpose of the falsereading is to try to convince the opposition that a certain situation exists that in fact does not exist.

**Consider this deal** from a team-of-four match. At the first table, the bidding went as shown, with South ending up in four hearts. West led the ace and another spade to East's king,

and East shifted to the ten of diamonds.

**South took his king** and cashed the ace of hearts, West contributing the nine and East the three. Declarer's only chance for the contract now was to continue with the queen, hoping West had started with the doubleton J-9 and East with the K-x-x-x. When this proved to be the case, South lost only one trump trick and so made the contract.

**At the second table**, South also got to four hearts, and again West led the ace and another spade. Here too East returned a diamond to the king and declarer then played the ace of trumps. But at this table, West dropped his jack on the ace, thus posing an altogether different problem for South.

**If West's jack was on the level**, declarer's only chance now was to lead a low trump in the hope that West had started with the K-J alone and East with the 9-6-5-3. Leading the queen at this point would result in later losing a second trump trick to East's nine if West had actually started with the doubleton K-J.

**And so**, having decided that West's jack at trick four was probably from the K-J, South led the seven of hearts at trick five. As a result, he lost a trump trick to the nine and later lost another to the king to go down one.

**Tomorrow:** Never relax.  
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## In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



*Sharing her good fortune*

Superstar singer Jewel has not always lived a charmed life. The pop-turned-country singer once lived in a Volkswagen van for a period of time because of job loss and hardship. She now uses that experience to help others. Plus, the "No Cussing" crusade and triple onion chicken.

## American Profile

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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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

# Consider filing to serve your school or city

Filing periods are under way for anyone contemplating whether they would like to serve as a public school trustee, council member or mayor. There is still plenty of time to think it over. The final date for filing throughout the Crossroads area in the May 9 elections is still about a month away — Monday, March 9.

There are plenty of positions up for election, including seats on the Big Spring, Forsan and Coahoma city councils and all of the area's school boards, save for Grady and Garden City which elect trustees in November.

Our purpose here, however, is not to encourage involvement simply for the sake of having contested races.

No, as we have noted in this space many times and will continue to do so, the decision to seek one of these positions is one that should only be made after a lot of thought.

The men and women who serve on these boards help shape the future of our schools and our communities. Their decisions affect each one of us in some way, whether it is the amount of taxes we pay, the services we receive or the quality of education that our children and grandchildren get in the classroom.

They don't teach, coach or put in water lines or fill potholes, but their decisions determine how funds should be allocated to accomplish those tasks.

We've also mentioned before — and won't hesitate to add again — that these individuals serve as role models for our communities and schools, representing us not only on the boards they serve, but many times on a broader scale, such as regional service centers and councils of governments.

And finally, before deciding to seek office, a potential representative of the school district or city must decide to work for the good of the entire community.

They must be willing to study all sides of an issue and not rush to judgment.

Because of these responsibilities, the decision to seek office as a school board trustee, councilperson or mayor is one that should be made carefully.

Good luck in your decision.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

## LETTER POLICIES

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we be gentle when speaking to others,  
Lord, and show Your love for them.

Amen

# Call him Mr. Credibility

Quoth President Obama: "It's a little hard for me to take criticism from folks about this recovery package, after they've presided over a doubling of the national debt. I'm not sure they have a lot of credibility when it comes to fiscal responsibility."

By the time you read this column, there is no knowing what the size of Obama economic stimulus package will be. Just below \$800 billion? A little more? Whatever the price tag ends up being, expect it to be a testament to the cynicism of D.C. Democrats.

Not that long ago, Obama and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi were taking potshots at President George W. Bush for supporting deficit spending. Now that they're in power, they're spending money at record speed that Washington doesn't have. And they're still blaming the Republicans.

Will they ever be responsible for the choices they make? I

can understand Obama talking about the economic ills which he inherited in terms of Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner's proposed \$2.5 trillion bank bailout plan.

This is different. In November, the Obama stimulus package was supposed to cost about \$300 billion. Now it has more than doubled in size.

Sure, as Obama noted, some of the president's Republican critics once supported big spending under George W. Bush. But there are high-profile Republicans — think GOP 2008 nominee John McCain — who fought against excessive spending in the Bush years. That is, McCain is being true to his principles in dismissing the stimulus package as "an act of generational theft."

As a rule, I don't criticize moderate Republicans who cut deals.

After all, it's their job to work with others. But I don't understand how GOP Senators Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe of Maine and Arlen Specter can support a measure that grew from \$300 billion to \$838 billion.

Specter wrote in the Washington Post that he supported the package because America "cannot afford not to take action." No. America cannot afford a

double-or-nothing roll of the dice that is sure to expand the deficit — the deficit Democrats used to lament.

Just a year ago, Pelosi was demanding that the Bush stimulus package be "timely," "targeted" and "temporary."

Now, undaunted by the questionable results of the \$168-billion Bush "booster shot," Pelosi's three-word mantra is "more, more, more."

Now the idea of restraining spending is a joke.

Obama countered critics of his over-spending recently, as he quipped, "What do you think a stimulus is? That's the whole point. No, seriously. That's the point."

During a campaign debate last year, Obama chastised McCain's plan to freeze domestic spending, when he said to McCain, "The problem is you're using a hatchet where you need a scalpel."

It turns out that when Obama was talking about cutting excess spending with a scalpel, he was using a shovel.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfchronicle.com).  
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# Clamp down on offshore drilling

Campaigning in Florida last June as a presidential candidate, then-Sen. Barack Obama blasted the proposal of his opponent, Sen. John McCain, to open coastal areas of the United States to offshore drilling.

Declaring that it "makes no sense at all," Obama correctly stated that such drilling would make very little difference in the price of gasoline, and supported a reduction of fossil fuel use through a stimulus program that would create "green jobs."

But as gasoline prices soared past \$4 a gallon and the Republicans campaigned on the issue of "drill here, drill now," the Democratic leadership softened its position.

The end result was that a 27-year ban on drilling in coastal areas off the United States was allowed to expire.

President Obama now has an opportunity to reverse this mistake by re-instituting the prior protection of our coastal environment.

Offshore drilling has resulted in millions of gallons of oil spills and other forms of pollution. The expansion of offshore drilling is widely seen as a threat to the coastal environment, as well as to tourism and fishing indus-

tries. It is also a misplaced priority, given the need for the development of renewable energy, increased energy efficiency, and other solutions that will slow the pace of global climate change.

The way in which the ban on offshore drilling was allowed to expire offers a remarkable case study in the techniques of modern political manipulation. Perhaps even more striking is the way in which the major media outlets enabled this mass deception to succeed, by shirking their fundamental responsibility to report the most relevant facts.

The McCain campaign took advantage of voters' anger over rising gasoline prices with attack ads directly blaming Obama. "Gas prices — \$4, \$5, no end in sight, because some in Washington are still saying no to drilling in America," blared one influential McCain TV ad.

McCain made offshore drilling a major issue in the campaign at the time. But there was no empirical basis for the idea that lifting the ban on offshore drilling would significantly affect gasoline prices. Projections from the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA) found that such drilling would increase world production by about one-fifth of 1 percent — 20 years from now. The EIA concluded that this was too small to have any significant effect on oil prices.

But most Americans would never get this information. Of 267 major television programs

that mentioned the proposed drilling between June 16 and August 9, 2008, only one cited the EIA finding.

As a result, the McCain effort succeeded in shaping public opinion. By the end of July, 69 percent of respondents favored such expanded drilling, and 51 percent said that they believed that "federal laws that prohibit increased drilling for oil offshore or in wilderness areas" were a "major cause of the recent increase in gasoline prices." The response of political candidates to the election-year pressure of misinformed public opinion then led to the change in policy.

But Barack Obama emerged as the winner, and he now has the bully pulpit as president and approval ratings over 80 percent. Gasoline prices are back down to \$2.07 a gallon. It shouldn't be too difficult for him, together with the Democratic congressional leadership, to simply explain the truth of the matter and re-institute the ban on offshore drilling.

If President Obama is to deliver on his promise of change, he will have to correct a number of major mistakes that were based on the mass dissemination of lies — including most obviously the Iraq war.

Restoring the protection of our coastal areas is an easy one. He should do it immediately.

Mark Weisbrot is co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington, D.C.



MARK WEISBROT



DEBRA SAUNDERS



**A-ROD**

Continued from Page 3B

looked side to side, blinked several times, bit his lip and took a sip of water. Only then did he finally look up to face captain Derek Jeter & Co. "Thank you."

Jeter sat with his arms crossed, joined in the front row by Andy Pettitte, Mariano Rivera and Jorge Posada. More than 20 players in all were there, along with manager Joe Girardi, general manager Brian Cashman and co-chairman Hank Steinbrenner.

Posada left during the question-and-answer session as Rodriguez offered new details. Other players filed out when the news conference ended and quickly went to their cars without speaking with reporters.

"If this is Humpty Dumpty, we've got to put him back together again, to get back up on the wall," Cashman said.

Rodriguez was the third Yankees player in five years to hold a drug-related, apology-filled news conference, following Jason Giambi (2005) and Pettitte (last year). Cashman said the confessionals should serve as a deterrent when viewed by young

players. "This public bloodletting of individual stars, the fallen stars, anybody who witnesses what these individuals have to go through after the fact, say, 'You know what? I don't want to be that guy. I don't want to be in the chair, I don't want to be the one — the poster child for the problem with the game, and on every newspaper across the country and every talk show.'"

The three-time AL MVP has spent years denying drug use. He spoke at the Yankees' spring training camp 10 days after Sports Illustrated reported his name was on a list of 104 players who tested positive during baseball's anonymous drug survey. The substances were Primobolan and testosterone, SI reported.

Rodriguez first admitted to using banned substances in an ESPN interview last week. On Tuesday, his account varied during the news conference, in which follow-up questions were not permitted. All questions were cut off after 32 minutes.

At first he said his cousin injected him "twice a month for about six months during the 2001, 2002 and 2003 seasons." Later he said, "That may be once a month, it may be three times a month."

"I'm not sure what the benefit was," he said. "When you take any substance or anything, especially in

baseball, it's half-mental and half-physical. ... I certainly felt more energy, but it's hard to say, hard to say."

Signed to a \$275 million, 10-year contract that has nine seasons left, Rodriguez is expected by many to break Barry Bonds' home run record of 762, after hitting 553 already. Rodriguez sidestepped whether he thought he had cheated and whether he agreed with commissioner Bud Selig's assessment that he had shamed the sport.

It wasn't clear what exactly "boli" was. Doping experts said their best guesses were Primobolan, Dianabol or Boldenone.

Mets closer Francisco Rodriguez said substances that are illegal in the United States are easily available over the counter in Latin American countries, such as Venezuela (where K-Rod is from) and the Dominican Republic.

"You have to be careful. But at the same time, you're not stupid. You know what you're going to buy and what you're not going to. It's a reality," he said.

Milton Pinedo, president of the Dominican Federation of Sports Medicine, said Primobolan could not be sold in pharmacies in the Dominican Republic and would have had to have been bought on the black market.

Rodriguez also said that during the early years of his career in Seattle, he had used the stimulant "Ripped Fuel," which contained ephedra. That substance was restricted to prescription sales by the U.S. government in 2004 and classified as a banned drug of abuse by baseball in 2005.

Girardi said that although Rodriguez had not apologized to him personally during a half-dozen conversations in the past 10 days, no apology was needed.

"I saw tears in his eyes. I saw remorse. I think he was disappointed that it's come to this," Girardi said.

Cashman said he thought Rodriguez was in enough mental anguish that he would consider him the same as players rehabilitating physical injuries, such as Rivera, Posada and Hideki Matsui.

"This thing is not dying," Cashman said. "The story is going to be with him for a long time. It will be with him forever."

*AP Baseball Writer Mike Fitzpatrick in Port St. Lucie, Fla., AP Sports Writers Eddie Pells and Travis Reed, AP freelance writers Mark Didtler, Alan Eskew in Surprise, Ariz., and Dionisio Soldevila in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, contributed to this report.*

**COWBOYS**

Continued from Page 3B

Also during the news conference, Jones said coach Wade Phillips

will be his own defensive coordinator in 2009, replacing Brian Stewart, who was fired.

Jones also spoke about the failure to reach an agreement with Dan Reeves. The former Cowboys player who

coached Denver and Atlanta to the Super Bowl was set to join the team as a consultant before the deal fell through at the last minute.

"I think a lot of him and really respect him,

but it doesn't surprise me," Jones said. "What happened frankly was the process kind of evolved and it became apparent to me that we weren't on the same page."

In talking about why he's optimistic for the upcoming season, Jones noted that only the Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh Steelers can be satisfied with how

this past season turned out. He added that the Super Bowl-losing Arizona Cardinals are the next-most satisfied, then reminded they went 9-7 last season and struggled over the final month; that's exactly what the Cowboys did, although Jones didn't say it.

"They had a tough time of it their last five games yet they were

almost world champions," Jones said. "And so I would say to our fans that I'm as disappointed and as resolved as you could ever imagine to do the best job of putting our team on the field. ... The only thing that's going to take the disappointment away is to win ballgames. That's what we're going to try to do."

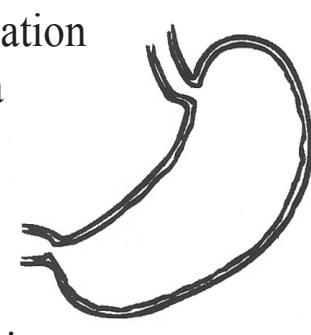
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And he said a lot of cruel things that really hurt,  
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Because he sent me flowers today  
I got flowers today!

It wasn't our anniversary or any other special day;  
Last night he threw me into a wall and then started choking me;  
It seemed like a nightmare, but you wake up to find they aren't real;  
I woke up this morning sore and bruised all over - but I know he must be sorry;  
Because he sent me flowers today  
I got flowers today!

And it wasn't Valentines Day or any other special day;  
Last night he beat me and threatened to kill me,  
Make-up and long sleeves didn't hide the cuts and bruises this time;  
I couldn't go to work today because I didn't want anyone to know - but I know he's sorry;  
Because he sent me flowers today.  
I got flowers today .....

Today was a very special day -  
It was my funeral;  
Last night he finally killed me - I was beaten to death;  
If only I would have gathered the courage and strength to leave him;  
The Women's Shelter could have helped me, but I didn't ask for their help;  
So I got flowers today ... for the last time.

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<i>Learning &amp; Leisure</i> <b>February 27, 2009</b>	<i>Business &amp; Industry</i> <b>March 18, 2009</b>

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# BSHS Speech Team sweeps Central Tournament

## Special to the Herald

The Big Spring High School Speech and Debate team recently took top honors at the San Angelo Central Bobcat Classic Speech Tournament.

At the tournament, the team outpaced teams such as Abilene Cooper, Permian, Midland and Odessa to win the first place sweepstakes award.

"This is a big win for us," said Jennifer Adams, BSHS speech coach. "We have so many new students who are finally getting



their feet under them. To win a sweepstakes is a huge accomplishment and one we hope to build on." The debate Adams team led the way for the fourth consecutive week in a new event, Public Forum Debate.

The team swept the event, placing first with Carlita Green and Bianca Mancha, second with Pete Covarrubias and Katie Cooper, third with Blake Borman

and Opal Gonzales and fourth with Tad Loftis and Jessica Rubio.

Rubio and Loftis placed third and sixth, respectively in Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking, while Green, Andrew Lewis, Loftis and Cooper placed first, third, fourth and fifth, respectively, in Original Oratory.

Lewis also made the quarterfinals of Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Eric Valle brought home the gold in Humorous Interpretation and second in Prose Interpretation, while

Loftis continued his solid day with a third place finish in Humorous Interpretation. The team of Will Cross and Josh Wilson placed first in Duet Interpretation and fifth in Duo Interpretation.

Also placing for the team were Rubio, first in Impromptu; Cross, second in Impromptu; and Green, eighth in Poetry Interpretation.

This isn't the first time that the Steers won the title at this tournament; previous wins came in 2002, 2004 and 2005.

## Fish fry set Saturday

American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry Saturday at 3203 W. Highway 80. Delivery will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Dine in from noon to 3 p.m. Carry-outs will be available.

## Coahoma reunion planned

Coahoma alumni will hold an all school, all classes reunion Saturday, Aug. 1 at the Coahoma school building. Individual classes are encouraged to plan their class get-togethers Friday night or Saturday night. The Coahoma Alumni Association is trying to update its e-mail and mailing address lists and asks that you contact Patti Meets at pmeeks@basin-net.net or (432) 267-6688 with updates. More information will be shared as the reunion planning progresses.



# Buffalo Tales

## News from Forsan ISD public schools

The Forsan Band brought home a school record for medals at solo and ensemble contest. The band won 56 medals at Monahans last Saturday. Directors are Jim Rhodes and Misty Hoelscher.

National Honor Society inducted 16 new members Thursday night. Those inducted were Evan Burton, Jeffery Carey, Aric Denton, Shaina Dunnam, Ryan Flores, Monica Garza, Nathan Henley, Mario Hernandez, Aaron Johnson, Claudia Jones, Shelby Jones, Amanda Longorio, Shelby McDonald, Laura Spence, Michael Steelman and Kody Willis.

NHS officers for 2008-2009 are Stephanie Williams, president; Charlene Stanley, vice president; Alex Huckabee, secretary; and Jeremy Robbins, treasurer.

Student Council Random Act of Kindness winners for the week were Mario Hernandez, Kelly McNew, Michael Steelman, Luis Munoz and Gabby Womack. Teachers recommended those they saw helping others and a random drawing was held.

The council also recognized Mrs. Patterson and secretary Debbie Burton for their kindness to everyone.

The student council also recognized teachers with a thank you note and homemade cookies.

Junior high teams finished their basketball season Monday night against Stanton.

Basketball Playoff shirts are on sale for \$20 with a picture of the advancing Buffalo teams. Both teams advanced out of district with a first-place finish. Forsan Lady Buffs had a practice game Monday in Crane and the boys will play a practice game Thursday at Abilene Wylie.

The softball team will play a tournament in Abilene next weekend and varsity boys baseball scrimmaged Coahoma Tuesday.

Monday, was a school holiday and new six weeks began Feb. 17.



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I AM trying to locate a lady whose friend was in Cov. Med. Ctr. in Lubbock around Apr.-May of last year and seen by Dr. H.S. If you remember me and are free, please call me. I have thought of you often. 806-239-8565. P.S. I think you work in the News Field.

### Cemetery Lots

2 CEMETERY plots in Trinity Memorial Park for sale. Call Linda Kiser at 903-399-2766 or 903-687-3164.

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BIG SPRING HERALD



# Hundreds of TV stations make digital switch

NEW YORK (AP) — About a quarter of the nation's TV stations cut off their analog signals Tuesday, causing sets to go dark in households that were not prepared for digital television despite two years of warnings about the transition.

Though most viewers were ready — and people with cable or satellite service were unaffected — some stations and call centers reported a steady stream of questions from frustrated callers. Many wondered how to get coupons for converter boxes that translate digital signals for older TVs — or how to get the devices working.

"It's kind of an irritation, but I understand that everyone will have a much better picture. As far as I was concerned, they could have left things the way they were," said Dorothy Deleard, 67, of Minneapolis, who bought a converter box because a friend gave her a coupon that expires Tuesday.

Phones were ringing off the hook at a walk-in information center set up by stations

in Providence, R.I.

A volunteer at the center, Jeremy Taylor, said he tried to calm agitated callers and explain the reasons for the disappearance of analog signals, which have remained largely unchanged since the 1950s.

"I try to explain that the digital switch is not something we're doing to extort them of money," Taylor said.

The federal government mandated the end of analog broadcasts to make room on those frequencies for wireless Internet service, emergency radio traffic and other uses. Digital TV broadcasts, which began several years ago, take up much less of the wireless spectrum.

Originally, all U.S. stations were to cut their analog signals on Tuesday, but at the urging of the Obama administration, Congress voted this month to give broadcasters more time.

Most stations, particularly those in big cities, accepted the offer to wait until June 12. Others wanted to stick to Feb. 17, a date they had

spent much airtime advertising. Many of them had also booked engineering work on their antennas for that day.

The Federal Communications Commission, which wanted to ensure that no one would be entirely deprived of analog signals, cleared 421 stations to go all-digital this week. Another 220 stations have already made the switch, including all stations in Hawaii.

The most populous places where many or all major-network stations are cutting analog this week include San Diego and Santa Barbara, Calif.; La Crosse and Madison, Wis.; Rockford and Peoria, Ill.; Sioux City, Iowa; Waco, Texas; Macon, Ga.; Scranton, Pa.; Rhode Island and Vermont.

In most cases, one station in each of those markets will continue sending analog signals until June or will offer a so-called "analog nightlight" for a few months, with limited local news and emergency broadcasts, as well as information about the digital TV

transition.

The back-and-forth over the cutoff date threw both TV stations and viewers for a loop.

Jeff Long, manager of WHKY-TV, an independent station in Hickory, N.C., said the company's analog shutdown went smoothly on Saturday, but some viewers complained that they thought it had been postponed until June 12.

RadioShack Corp. circulars in newspapers this weekend had the opposite message, saying Feb. 17 was still the date for the end of analog TV. Spokeswoman Mary Delagarza said the fliers had been prepared two months in advance and could not be pulled.

Congress delayed the cutoff in large part because the fund that pays for \$40 converter-box coupons had reached its spending limit. Coupons are now being issued only as fast as old ones expire unused.

The stimulus bill that President Barack Obama signed Tuesday contains \$650 million in additional funding. Once that money becomes

available, it can clear the backlog of 4 million coupons in a few weeks. Without a coupon, a converter box costs \$45 to \$80.

Joe Glynn, vice president of engineering at PBS affiliate WVIA-TV near Scranton, Pa., said the station got a dozen calls in the past two days about its planned changeover at 11:59 p.m. Tuesday. The converter boxes have been a frequent subject.

"Unfortunately, some of them have asked how you get the coupons for the converter box. Some of them have called asking us if we sell converter boxes. Others are calling and saying 'I got the converter, but I'm not getting anything on it' — I'm assuming because they don't have it hooked up right," he said.

He said most callers acknowledge that they only have themselves to blame for procrastinating.

"Everybody admits it's their fault. They knew it was coming," he said. "Some people seemed to be mad at themselves for not doing something sooner."

## Why not check this out? At the county library

More books on CD have arrived. Please check the New Book Binder at the front desk for a complete list of new items.

All of these are books on CD; just look for them in the BOCB area:

"Blood Memory" and "Dead Sleep" are by Greg Iles; Stuart Woods wrote "The Prince of Beverly Hills" and "New

York Dead;" J.D. Robb (aka Nora Roberts) AUCDs are "Immortal in Death" and "Ceremony in Death;" and finally, Dean Koontz's "Midnight" is ready for listening.

Anna Nicole Smith lived her life surrounded by photographers intent upon recording every foible and flaw. Tragically dying of an overdose of prescription pills, her life doesn't stand up very well to intense scrutiny and Rita Cosby's biography "Blonde Ambition: Untold Story Behind Anna Nicole Smith's Death" (B SMI A) is rather voyeuristic and simple in nature.

Another person who suffers from a tarnished reputation is Roman Polanski. Growing up in Krakow, Poland, Polanski developed his cinematic career by directing several classic movies — Rosemary's Baby, Chinatown and The Pianist.

His wife, Sharon Tate, was murdered by the Manson Family. All in all, his life has not been a smooth ride. "Polanski: A Biography" (B POL R) by Christopher Sandford, is a meticulously researched biography of an important director in modern cinema.

Willie Nelson has written a Western (imagine that!). "A Tale Out of Luck" is the story of retired Texas Ranger Captain Hank Tomlinson who had hoped to spend his retirement raising cattle on his ranch. He is dragged back into the law business when an itinerant drifter is found murdered and scalped.

It is a crooked web of crime, deception and murder that Tomlinson must unravel.

Another Western is in: "The Jackleg Sheriff" by Luke Short Jr. is the story of Deputy Sheriff Royal Ballou and his struggle to return the town of Jacob's Well to a law-abiding town. Question: what does "jackleg" mean? From

the American Heritage Dictionary, it is a term used chiefly in the south. It means a person who lacks skill or training, incompetent. Secondary meaning is unscrupulous or dishonest.

Would you like to read a thinly disguised account of Laura and George Bush's life? "American Wife" (F SIT C) by Curtis Sittenfeld appears to me to be (on the surface) the life of the Bushs. Alice is a serious, quiet school librarian while Charlie Blackwell is a brash, loud son of a leading Republican and they live in Wisconsin. From a review in Bookmarks, Sittenfeld does ask provocative questions about marriage, loyalty and responsibility. But many reviewers couldn't fundamentally understand why the very decent Alice had supported her husband despite her doubts about his capabilities. Sittenfeld's pat, unsatisfactory answer is that Alice leads a life "in opposition." That, combined with the author's obvious contempt for Charlie, brought the reviews down a notch. Still, there's nothing as titillating as a look, albeit fictional, inside the White House.

From Hayward Smith comes "Wedding Belles" (F SMI H), a story straight from the deep south, Atlanta to be precise.

It is a homage to southern women and life. You may have read

her previous books, "The Red Hat Club" and "Return of the Red Hat Club." They are both very funny. They are a combination of the Ya-Ya Sisters and normal people who love their friends and family. This is a neat book.

Here are a couple of totally different mysteries — one takes place in Minnesota and the other in Australia. The Minnesota mystery by Monica Ferris is "Thai Die" (M FER M) It plunges Betsy Devonshire, the proprietor of Crewel World in Excelsior, into danger.

Among the many souvenirs Betsy's friend Doris Valentine brings home from a Thailand vacation is a stone Buddha to be delivered to a St. Paul antiques dealer. When Doris discards the dirty cloth the Buddha was wrapped in, Betsy rescues the cloth, which turns out to be valuable silk more than 2,000 years old. Has Doris become an unwitting pawn in an international antiquities theft operation? After someone ransacks Doris's apartment and murders the antiques dealer, Sgt. Mike Malloy of the Excelsior police and civilian detective Betsy find themselves involved in a case more complicated than any needlework pattern she's ever attempted. With more action and a stronger plot, this entry in the popular cozy series offers such choice knitting tidbits as how to spin

hair from a 14-pound angora rabbit. This review is from Amazon.

Kerry Greenwood's Phryne Fisher series continues to delight me. In "Death By Water" (M GRE K), the nice men at P&O are worried.

A succession of jewelry thefts from the first-class passengers is hardly the best advertisement for their cruises. Especially when it is likely that a passenger is the thief. Phryne Fisher, with her Lulu bob, green eyes, cupid's bow lips, is just the person to mingle seamlessly with the upper classes and take on a case of theft on the high seas — or at least on the S.S. Hine-moa, on a luxury cruise to New Zealand. She is carrying the Great Queen of Sapphires, the Maharani, as bait. Shipboard romances, champagne cocktails, jealous swains, Mickey Finns, jazz musicians, blackmail, and attempted murder mingle before the thieves find out — as have countless love-smitten men before them — that where the glamorous and intelligent Phryne is concerned, resistance is futile.

The Library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The Web site is [www.howard-county.lib.tx.us](http://www.howard-county.lib.tx.us)

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.



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Tickets: \$12.00 per person

Tickets may be purchased at the Chamber Office, 215 W. 3rd  
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Photos by Thomas Jenkins, Steve Reagan, Ron Midkiff and Claudene Cooper



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The sun enters Pisces! The phrase associated with Pisces is "I believe," and this cycle encourages us to review what we think is true. Some of our beliefs will be strengthened and others may be dropped completely. As Henry Ford, the auto mogul, said, "Whether you think that you can, or that you can't, you are usually right."



**HOLIDAY MATHIS**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You are the warrior of the zodiac, but that doesn't mean you always need to be right. In fact, today you'll be fixing the mistakes you didn't make so things can run smoothly again.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Making specific plans may seem frightening to you now. It's because you're playing with an idea and need to work it through before you start mixing and mingling again. You need to feel free to chase your whims.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). There are many enticing options and you flit from place to place exploring them. Do settle on something. It's amazing how quickly you can get what you want once you narrow down what exactly that is.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). There's a time to take action, and it's not now. Do some more dreaming. The one who accuses you of having your head in

the clouds simply doesn't understand how life works. You can actually dream things into existence.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You're in high gear and can count on the occasional flub. Let nothing stand in the way of your productive mood, though. If you're not making mistakes you're probably not making much else either.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). New information makes you think differently about something that happened a long time ago. Perhaps it was a disguised blessing. Forget the wrong that was done back then, but don't forget what it taught you.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are famous for keeping many balls in the air at once. It feels like people are throwing work at you just to watch you juggle. Don't try to set a new world record, though. Take the compliment — you're graceful. Now rest.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is plenty you could be distracted by, but your goal is too interesting today to lose focus. Put your blinders on and keep going. Pass up easy thrills in favor of doing something that is truly important.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Do not sleep in. Your brain does work fast while you're lying down. But over-thinking can lead to procrastination. Once you get vertical you'll be inspired to take on the world.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-

**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

Jan. 19). You'll be taking over a previously neglected responsibility. You're a pro, and pros get thing done. The sooner the better. Skip over the details that will keep you stuck. Get in, get out and get paid.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Open your mind to that idea you've been resisting. You're ready for something new, but you're just a little fearful. It's scary to make that leap, but exhilarating, too. Forget the fear and go for it.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Your ability to see everyone's viewpoint has made you a sounding board for complaints and opinions. Now it's you who needs to talk, and it's time for someone else to listen. Carefully choose the one who will keep your secret.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I'm in my last year of high school. I really like this Taurus guy and I have four classes with him. I think I make it pretty obvious I like him; I mean I'm always flirting with him and aware of him and giving him lots of attention. I think he likes that I flirt with him, too, except he never asks me out. What should I do? I'm getting obsessed with him. Signed, Sagittarius Senior."

You're scaring him. Sagittarius young women tend to be more sophisticated than many of their peers. You have long understood certain things about the way the world works that your friends are just starting to notice. And you are

already thinking the way an adult would about the future and what adventures you'd like to create.

This poor boy enjoys the attention, but is afraid he wouldn't be able to keep up with you were you to actually go on a date. He's probably worried about what he'd talk about with you and whether he could ever live up to the way you've built him up in your mind. What you need to do is back off. Take the pressure off. Even pretend that you like someone else. Let him come to you.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Aquarians are imaginative and in love with possibility. At 16, John Travolta felt so strongly that the acting life was for him that he quit school and moved to New York, and he's been following that stellar intuition to fantastic effect ever since. Travolta will combine his Aquarian hopefulness with the keen instincts of Mercury and Venus in Pisces to weather the tragic loss of his son.

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**Annie's Mailbox : Embarrassed by lying boss**

**Dear Annie:** I work in a hotel with a staff of about 20. Our general manager is an embarrassing liar.

He stretches the truth and tells some outright whoppers. He also gets caught in lies by telling too many people different things. Everyone talks about him behind his back.

I have worked for this man for several years. I know not to take anything he says at face value. I also know he can be quite lazy and isn't the brightest crayon in the box. But I am loyal, and I know he's not trying to hurt anyone with his lies.

The problem is, our hotel is getting bad scores from disgruntled employees who castigate the manager for being a "loser." He thinks everyone loves him because they are nice to his face.

I get along with all the people at work, so I feel stuck. Should I tell the manager he's the reason morale is down and that he needs to knock off the lying? Or do I keep my mouth shut? I really don't want to get involved in office politics, but it is pretty hard to avoid. — *Staying Above*

**Dear Staying:** We assume your manager has a boss somewhere and that this is where those employee complaints are going. Whoever is in charge should deal with the situation, especially if it has become a noticeable problem.

If you are comfortable talking to the manager, you may say that other employees find his tendency to "exaggerate" frustrating and he should be more careful.

**Dear Annie:** I've been married 15 years. My husband's aunt and uncle are delightful, highly educated people, and I absolutely love them and their children. We see them a few times a year.

Here's my problem: My name is "Kim-berly" — not "Kim." Although these relatives have each asked my preference about my name more than once, they

continue to call me "Kim."

I would correct them, but after all this time, I'm embarrassed to do this with my husband's family. During their last visit, my husband took them aside and said, "I just want to remind you that Kimberly goes by her full name, not 'Kim.'"

Still, as they were leaving amid hugs and well wishes, they called me "Kim." I know they don't do it on purpose, but I really don't like it. Any suggestions? — *Not Trying to Be Burly About Kimberly*

**Dear Not Trying:** Most people who see likable relatives only a few times a year would simply ignore this and consider the short version a term of endearment.

Since you cannot bring yourself to do this, however, and since they have not listened to your husband's requests to stop, you will need to correct them sweetly each time they say "Kim," and not respond when they address you improperly.

**Dear Annie:** After reading the letter from "Harassed Bride," I felt I was looking in a mirror. I am relieved and comforted to know that others are going through a situation where the in-laws suddenly "flip a switch" after the engagement and behave abusively.

Those were my exact words describing my husband's family. I agree that her mother-in-law needs therapy. In my case, I know there are other bigger and more deeply rooted issues at the heart of their dysfunction. Often they take their unhappiness with themselves out on others.

I sympathize with

"Harassed Bride" and hope her fiance will speak with his family, as my husband has done the same thing. A broken relationship may not be the best outcome, but you must think of your new marriage and your personal happiness as a couple. It is not peace at any price. — *Sympathetic*



**KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR**

**Bride**

**Dear Annie:** I need some advice. My wife has anger issues. A few days ago, we moved our youngest son to a different bedroom and the two of them got into it.

She wanted him to do something her way, and he wanted to do it his way. She got mad and said, "I'm done, done, done." Now she is sleeping in his old room and won't talk to anyone.

Our oldest son just moved out and part of the reason is because of his mother's mood changes. One moment she's fine, then bam, she's like a totally different person.

He thinks she is bipolar. I talked to our doctor, who says my wife should be examined and probably needs to be on medication, but I know she won't go.

I love my wife with all my heart, but I'm afraid if she keeps this up, she will alienate the rest of the kids. I'm trying my best to keep our family intact, but I'm tired of doing it alone.

I know if you print this I'll be in the doghouse again, but I'll take the chance, hoping it will make her wake up. — *Lonely in Rockford, Ill.*

**Dear Lonely:** If your wife has a mental health problem (and it sounds like it), she may not recognize that any of this friction is a result of her own behavior.

She quite possibly believes everyone feels as she does. Don't assume she

won't see a doctor. Talk to her about your concerns and ask her to consult someone. Explain that it could make a world of difference for all of you. Meanwhile, contact the

National Alliance on Mental Illness ([nami.org](http://nami.org)) at 1-800-950-NAMI (1-800-950-6294) and ask for help.

**Dear Annie:** My husband and I are in our 60s and have been married for only a few years. We each had been single for a long time and are happy to have found each other.

We both have children in their 30s. His daughters live across the country.

The problem is, the girls never remember his birthday and this hurts him very much. Mind you, the older one regularly sends him HER birthday list a month in advance.

This year I called to remind them, and one got mad at me because I hadn't given her "enough time." Their dad raised these girls after his divorce.

He sent them to college and helped them through many bad times. Both girls have been married and divorced, and he has been there for them.

They call him frequently with their problems.

Why are these women so self-centered? One year I gave them calendars for Christmas with their dad's birthday circled, and they still didn't bother to send a card. It makes me furious how they treat him. Any advice? — *Florida Stepmom*

**Dear Florida:** Start small. The morning of Dad's birthday, phone the girls and ask sweetly if they will give their father a call on his special day.

The following year, phone them a week ahead and suggest they send Dad a card. If these suggestions fall on deaf ears, you're out of luck. Try not to make too big a deal out of it, since that will just fan the flames. Instead, make special plans of your own.

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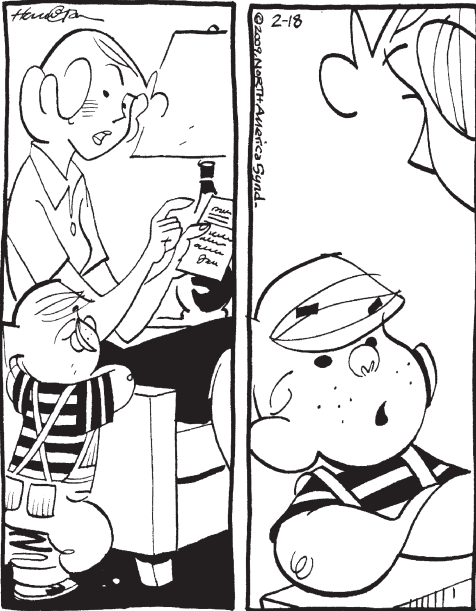
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5 :PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez George	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Cortes Harris	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Chicago, Richard Gere	CSI: NY	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	So Raven	Horn	SportsCenter
6 :PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld	Mark	News-Lehrer	Made	Chicago, Richard Gere	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	So Raven	Interrupt	NFL Live	NBA
7 :PM :30	Entertain	Fortune	Cuidado-Angel	Two Men	Entertain	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Hagee	Mark	Made	Made	Chicago, Richard Gere	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	So Raven	College Basketball	NBA Basketball: Magic at Hornets	
8 :PM :30	Lost	Lost	Fuego en la Sangre	Lie to Me	Criminal Minds	El Rostro de Analia	Life	Payne	Israel Scott	Monarchy-Royl	The Detonators	Movie: The Godfather, James Caan	CSI: Crime Scn	Movie: Twister, Cary Elwes	Movie: Soul Plane, Method Man	Wizards	College Basketball	
9 :PM :30	(:02) Life on Mars	(:02) Life on Mars	Don Francisco	TMZ	CSI: NY	Sin Senos	Law & Order	Payne	Israel Scott	Monarchy-Royl	The Detonators	Chicago, Richard Gere	CSI: Crime Scn	Movie: Twister, Cary Elwes	Movie: Soul Plane, Method Man	Wizards	College Basketball	
10 :PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Impacto	Raymond	News CBS	Noticiero	News NBC	Seinfeld	Israel Scott	Monarchy-Royl	The Detonators	Chicago, Richard Gere	CSI: Crime Scn	Movie: Twister, Cary Elwes	Movie: Soul Plane, Method Man	Wizards	College Basketball	
11 :PM :30	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	King-Hill	Late Show	Decisiones de	Tonight Show	10 Items	Dr. Young	Sex & CCM	Smiley	Movie: The Untouchables, Robert De Niro	CSI: NY	Cold Case	Movie: Soul Plane, Method Man	Score	NFL Live	
12 :AM :30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Extra Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Hora de la Risas	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night	Sex & CCM	Smiley	Smiley	Smiley	Movie: The Untouchables, Robert De Niro	CSI: NY	Cold Case	Movie: Soul Plane, Method Man	Score	NFL Live	
1 :AM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Clasicos	Friends	Entertain	Paid	Rosas	Poker After Dark	Light of the Southwest	Explosion Gone	Explosion Gone	Movie: The	Amazing Video	Cold Case	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	NBA Basket-	

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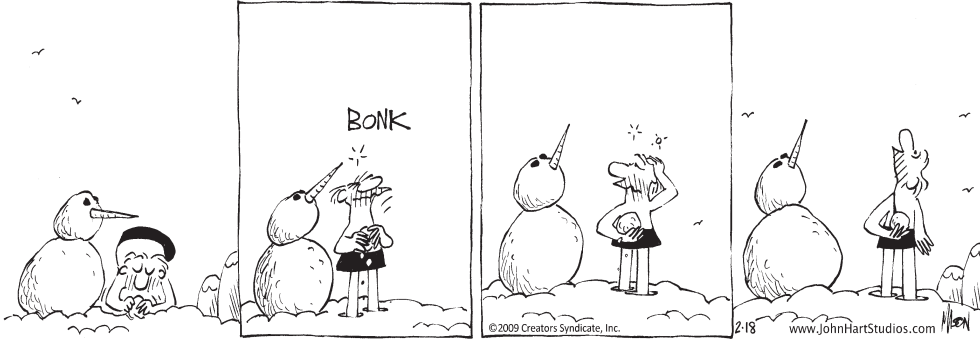
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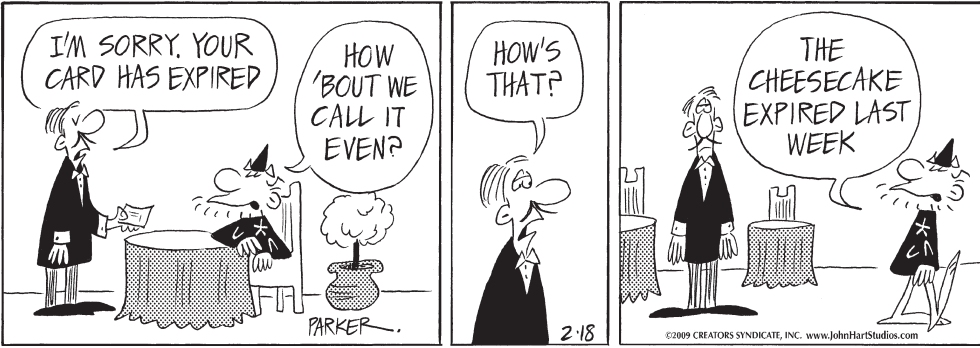
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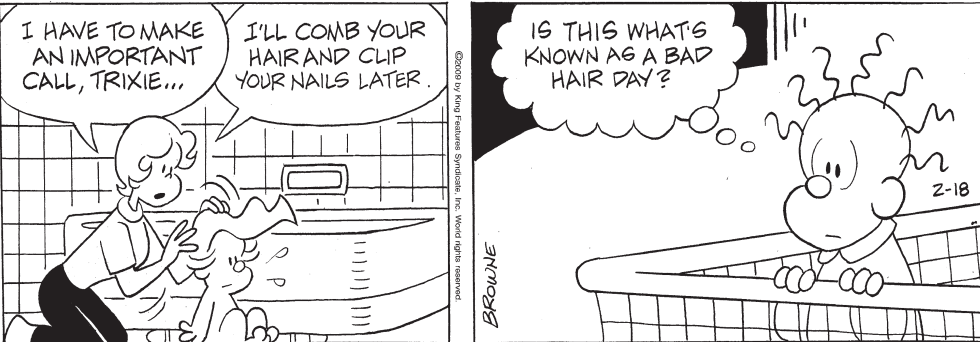
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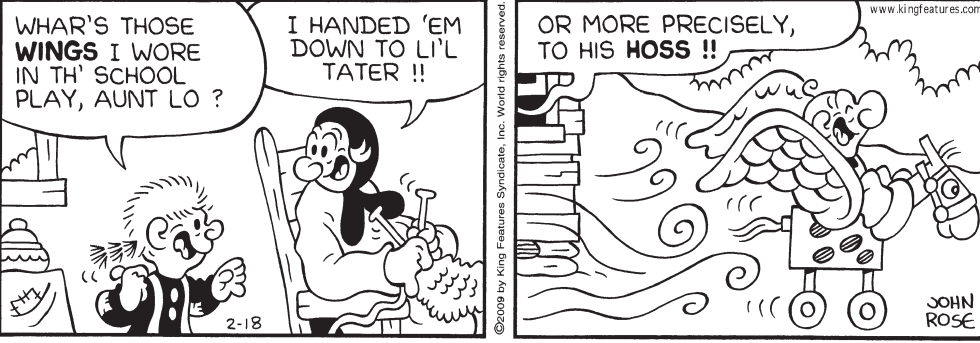
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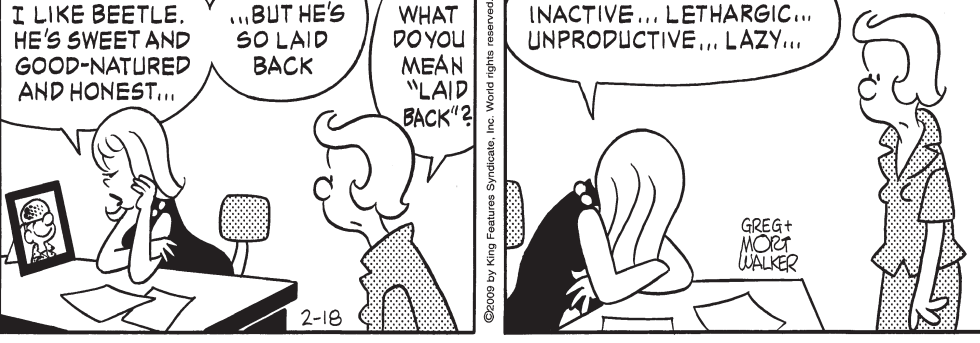
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 18, the 49th day of 2009. There are 316 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 18, 1885, Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" was published in the U.S. for the first time — having been published in Canada and England the previous December.

On this date:

In 1546, Martin Luther, leader of the Protestant Reformation in Germany, died in Eisleben.

In 1564, artist Michelangelo died in Rome.

In 1735, the first opera performed in America, "Flora, or Hob in the Well," was performed in present-day Charleston, S.C.

In 1861, Jefferson Davis was sworn in as the provisional president of the Confederate States of America in Montgomery, Ala.

In 1930, photographic evidence of Pluto — now designated a "dwarf planet" — was discovered by Clyde W. Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Ariz.

In 1960, the 8th Winter Olympic Games were formally opened in Squaw Valley, Calif., by Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

In 1970, the "Chicago Seven" defendants were found not guilty of conspiring to incite riots at the 1968 Democratic national convention; five were convicted of violating the Anti-Riot Act of 1968. Those convictions were later reversed.

In 1977, the space shuttle Enterprise, sitting atop a Boeing 747, went on its maiden "flight" above the Mojave Desert.

In 1984, Italy and the Vatican signed an accord under which Roman Catholicism ceased to be the state religion of Italy.

In 2001, auto racing star Dale Earnhardt Sr. died from injuries suffered in a crash at the Daytona 500; he was 49.

Today's Birthdays: Former Cosmopolitan editor Helen Gurley Brown is 87. Actor George Kennedy is 84. Author Toni Morrison is 78. Movie director Milos Forman is 77. Singer Yoko Ono is 76. Singer-songwriter Bobby Hart is 70.

Singer Irma Thomas is 68. Singer Herman Santiago (Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers) is 68. Singer Dennis DeYoung is 62. Producer-director-writer John Hughes is 59. Actress Cybill Shepherd is 59. Singer Juice Newton is 57. Rock musician Larry Rust (Iron Butterfly) is 56. Actor John Travolta is 55. Game show host Vanna White is 52. Actress Greta Scacchi is 49. Actor Matt Dillon is 45. Rapper Dr. Dre is 44. Actress Molly Ringwald is 41. Actress Sarah Brown is 34.

Thought for Today: "Nothing great in the world has been accomplished without passion." — Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, German philosopher (1770-1831).

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Answer to previous puzzle

SNOBS	MOSS	GASH
KOREA	OHHI	ALTO
ITALY	TIED	MOAN
SILLY	GOOSE	INTO
EAR	DANGER	
HARASS	USING	
ALUM	IREST	SRI
NOSPRING	CHICKEN	
GET	OBJECT	PEEK
DUELS	SHAWLS	
SWEETS	SEA	
CHAT	TALK	TURKEY
RAGE	OBOE	LEAVE
ALLES	ROSE	ELLEN
PERT	MOST	DYERS

Newsday Crossword

LET'S FLY by Daniel R. Stark  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- |                            |                                 |                                  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>              | <b>DOWN</b>                     | <b>DOWN</b>                      |
| 1 Notary's device          | 1 Volvo rival                   | 25 Unspoken                      |
| 5 FDR's coin               | 2 Pale brown                    | 26 Expound at length             |
| 9 Was in a dash            | 3 "Beg pardon!"                 | 27 Colossus                      |
| 14 Long (for)              | 4 Restraints for Fido's friends | 28 Dealt with, as a pocket watch |
| 15 Chapters of history     | 5 Troubleshoots                 | 29 Skating leaps                 |
| 16 Strong glue             | 6 Like Dubliners                | 30 Poker pair                    |
| 17 Land measure            | 7 Algebra's area                |                                  |
| 18 Smidgens                |                                 |                                  |
| 19 Kate's sitcom pal       |                                 |                                  |
| 20 Rude dismissal          |                                 |                                  |
| 22 Parade features         |                                 |                                  |
| 23 Overpriced              |                                 |                                  |
| 24 Strait-laced            |                                 |                                  |
| 25 Clan emblems            |                                 |                                  |
| 28 Topnotch                |                                 |                                  |
| 32 Crop up                 |                                 |                                  |
| 33 Formation flier         |                                 |                                  |
| 34 Sundial numeral         |                                 |                                  |
| 35 Tabby or calico         |                                 |                                  |
| 36 Footlocker              |                                 |                                  |
| 37 Come to a halt          |                                 |                                  |
| 38 "Give __ rest!"         |                                 |                                  |
| 39 Look like a star        |                                 |                                  |
| 40 Propelled, as a gondola |                                 |                                  |
| 42 Kind of bike            |                                 |                                  |
| 44 Like some stares        |                                 |                                  |
| 45 Dress-shirt feature     |                                 |                                  |
| 46 Make fuzzy              |                                 |                                  |
| 47 Romp                    |                                 |                                  |
| 50 Paparazzo's purchase    |                                 |                                  |
| 8 Double-curve shape       | 9 Grasp clearly                 | 10 Poise                         |
| 11 Burger partner          | 12 Where to get off             | 13 Does batik                    |
| 21 Hoarfrost               | 22 Pat down                     | 24 Get in touch with             |
| 31 Lightheaded             | 33 Distress                     | 36 It's a steal                  |
| 39 Gushed                  | 40 Coveted assignment           | 41 Rowboat part                  |
| 43 Candle holder           | 44 Rubs it in                   | 46 Freshadows                    |
| 47 Heels                   | 48 Water, in Oaxaca             | 49 Let off steam                 |
| 50 Rigoletti kin           | 51 Joie de vivre                | 52 Sub captain of fiction        |
| 53 Flue buildup            | 55 Volcanic output              |                                  |

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