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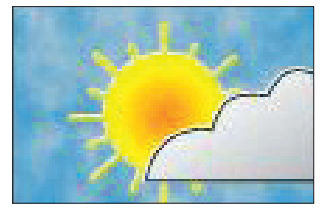
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# HIGH SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2009**



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## County OKs joint law enforcement pact

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer  
 Howard County commissioners gave a nod Monday morning to an inter-local agreement between the Sheriff's Office and the Big Spring Police Department's Narcotics Task Force, unanimously approving a measure that will



**Parker**

give BSPD investigators a chance to pursue lawbreakers beyond the city limits. According to County Judge Mark Barr, the agreement is a step in the right di-

rection for both agencies. "Stan (Parker, County Sheriff), Josh (Hamby, County Attorney) and I met with the city and ironed out the details," said Barr. "I want to point out one thing about this. I think it's a good thing to let them go out in the county, because they are just going to push

them out into the county." The agreement, which currently requires no monetary contribution from the county, will expire in six months, according to Parker. "We'll revisit it sometime in September, which is our budget time," said Parker. "That way we can see if we want to

invest anything in their task force. After that, it will be renewed annually. We decided to revisit it in six months because we knew that would be when our budget year would start. We can also cancel this agreement any time we

See **COUNTY**, Page 3

## Race to the finish

*Funds running low to house inmates out of county as new jail nears completion*

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer  
 Money budgeted to cover the cost of housing inmates outside of the county jail is quickly running out, County Judge Mark Barr warned Monday morning, as the officials try to beat the fiscal clock in opening the newly built \$11.57 million facility. According to Barr, there is currently \$9,674 in the jail's budget to cover the cost of housing the overflow of inmates in other counties. "We're going to be cutting it pretty close. We're looking at being able to move the prisoners into the jail sometime between April 1 and April 15,"

**"We're going to be cutting it pretty close. We're looking at being able to move the prisoners into the jail sometime between April 1 and April 15."**



—County Judge Mark Barr

said Barr. Since 1997, Howard County has paid approximately

See **JAIL**, Page 3



**Les Montgomery, left, prepares some sausage patties while Rick Scott cleans dishes at the Big Spring Grand Masons Lodge Room early this morning. Masonic Lodges 1340, 598 and 992 honored local teachers by serving up a free breakfast with all the trimmings. Above, Sherra Harrell, left, and Georgia Molina, resource teachers at Moss Elementary, enjoy a top-notch breakfast.**

HERALD Photos / Thomas Jenkins

## Firefighters douse blaze before it reaches residence

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer  
 A local family narrowly avoided disaster early Monday morning, as a grass fire threatened a home in the 3100 block of Lintner Road.

County Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan, volunteer firefighters were able to bring the blaze under control quickly, thanks to a heightened level of response.

See **BLAZE**, Page 3

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 Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.

## Max Barr to fill vacant college trustee post

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
 Staff Writer  
 Coahoma native Maxwell Barr is the newest appointee to the Howard College Board of Trustees. College trustees appointed Barr, a farmer in the Luther area of Howard County, to replace long-time trustee Don McKinney on the board during their monthly meeting Monday afternoon. The appointment ends a two-month search for a replacement for

McKinney, who died in December after more than 30 years service on the board. A search committee, consisting of board members Dr. John Freeman, Dr. Charles Warren and Marie Eteridge, interviewed several candidates before submitting Barr's name to the board. "Although we lost many years of dedication and wisdom with the passing of Don McKinney, I am certain that Mr. Barr will be an excel-

lent replacement," Freeman said in a statement. "He has a tremendous amount of knowledge in the agricultural and farming industry and that will be a benefit to this board." Barr is the second member of his family to serve as a college trustee — his father, Buddy Barr, was a college board member from 1975 until 1994. Barr is a graduate of both

See **COLLEGE**, Page 3

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## Obituaries

### Sammie Joe Merrick



Sammie Joe Merrick was born Dec. 10, 1938, in Sands Springs to Walker and Cleora Merrick. He graduated from Coahoma High School in 1957. He worked for the Texas Highway Department from 1958 to 1974, and then went into private business as owner of S&S Portable Buildings. He was a veteran, serving in the United States Army. He married Geneva Dear June 7, 1958.

He is survived by his wife, Geneva Merrick of Big Spring; two children, Stephen D. Merrick of Big Spring and Alana Merrick of The Colony; one granddaughter, Jennifer and husband, Logan Roland; one sister, Billie Frazier; one brother, Teddy Merrick and wife, Donna; an uncle, Bob Merrick of Big Spring; an aunt, Nelta Smart of Houston; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother-in-law, Carl Raymond Frazier.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009, at Coahoma Cemetery with the Rev. Jim Binnix, pastor of Midway Baptist Church, officiating.

After services the family will gather at 201 W. Robinson Road.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials be made to Midway Baptist Church, 6200 S. Service Rd., Big Spring 79720.

Letter from Sam dated Feb. 14, 2007 (Valentine's Day): If I were to die tonight, I would go in contentment because of the way I have been treated and cared for by many Valentines all year long, for many years. For me, everyday is Valentine's Day and I am truly blessed. I would like to thank each and every one, especially my wife, Geneva, and my children, Steve and Alana, for the kindness that has been shown for me throughout the years.

One of my blessings is God's Learning Channel, for teaching me about God and His Kingdom. They taught me about His son Jesus and I have read the Bible twice and have been baptized once in January of 1965 in very cold water.

Time is short, but I did do a lot in my lifetime, some good and some bad, however I am not the judge of that. I am thankful to God for my wife, my children and my granddaughter, Jennifer. With much love, Sam.

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

*Paid obituary*

### Doris Alexander

Doris Alexander, 89, of Big Spring died Monday, Feb. 23, 2009, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### Thomas Jerry Musgrove Sr.

Thomas Jerry Musgrove Sr., 74, of Big Spring died Monday, Feb. 23, 2009, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

### Frances Glenn

Frances Glenn, 98, of Lubbock, formerly of Big Spring died Monday, Feb. 23, 2009, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

### Inez West

Inez West, 93, of Big Spring died Monday, Feb. 23, 2009, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

### Jewell Wadsworth

Jewell Wadsworth, 87, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring died Monday, Feb. 23, 2009, in an Odessa hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14 - 18 - 19 - 35. Bonus Ball: 26.

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

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 10 - 12 - 27 - 30 - 31.

Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-8-0-7. Sum It Up: 19.

## Police blotter

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

- RICKY RICARDO LOPEZ, 19, of 448 Armstrong, was arrested Monday on a charge of no driver's license.
- JOSE ANTONIO NIETO, 28, of 1509 Lancaster, was arrested Monday on charges of resisting arrest, assault of a public servant, and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon - family violence.
- CASEY RAY BRACKETT, 17, of 1204 Pennsylvania, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less in a drug free zone.
- ALLAN GANA, 22, of 4200 Center Point Rd., was arrested Monday on a charge of failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- UNLAWFULLY CARRYING A WEAPON was reported in the 1300 block of Fourth Street.
- THEFT was reported:
  - in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80.
  - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
  - in the 900 block of Willia.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION WITH A VEHICLE was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 2600 block of Gregg Street.

## 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.

- JAVIER CASILLAS, 43, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance - more than 200 grams, less than 400 grams, possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and an Austin parole warrant for evading arrest with a vehicle.
- PORTIA NATASHA FRAME, 19, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less and possession of a controlled substance - more than 3 grams, less than 28 grams.

## Take Note

- 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 or (432) 267-6688 with updates. More information will be shared as the reunion planning progresses.

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

West Texas Opportunities Inc., through a Job Access Reverse Commute project with the Texas Department of Transportation offers transportation to employment in Midland, on a limited schedule, Monday through Friday each week. This fixed route currently leaves Big Spring at 7 a.m. and makes a stop at the EZ Rider bus connection in downtown Midland. The route leaves Midland for the return to Big Spring at 4:15 p.m. As a promotional introduction, no fare is charged. Beginning April 1, the daily fare will be from \$3 to \$8, round-trip, depending on the number of passengers using the service. For more information, call Victor Enriquez, JARC coordinator, at West Texas Opportunities, (800) 245-9028.

## Your Local Weather

Wed 2/25	Thu 2/26	Fri 2/27
<b>88/52</b>	<b>85/45</b>	<b>76/40</b>
Sunshine and clouds mixed. Near record high temperatures. High 88F.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 40s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.
<small>©2005 American Profile Hometown Content Service</small>		

## Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

### TODAY

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

### WEDNESDAY

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

### THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

### FRIDAY

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

### SATURDAY

- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Stadium. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of N. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of W. Third Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Goliad. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 100 block of W. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of Connally. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Highway 350. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the 1200 block of Utah.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Lindsey. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported near the 168 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4200 block of Calvin. One person was transported to SMMC.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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# News Briefs

## Obama takes his economic case to nation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Barreling ahead on a mammoth agenda, Barack Obama is ready to offer a detailed sketch of the first year of his presidency, casting the nation's bleeding economy as a tangle of tough, neglected problems.

In a prime-time speech from the House of Representatives, Obama will make his case Tuesday that much more has to be done to turn around the economy — a message he knows he must explain.

Already, the nation is nearly dizzy keeping up with what's emerged from Washington during Obama's first weeks as president, from a staggering \$787 billion stimulus plan to a revamped bailout for the financial sector to a rescue plan for struggling homeowners.

Although Obama is too new in office to be delivering a State of the Union address, his speech will have all the same trappings. The economy, in its worst tailspin in decades, will dominate. Obama will touch on foreign policy, but that will largely be left for other upcoming speeches. This will not be a

rollout of one policy initiative after another.

## North Korea says it is preparing to launch satellite

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea said Tuesday it is preparing to shoot a satellite into orbit, its clearest reference yet to an impending launch that neighbors and the U.S. suspect will be a provocative test of a long-range missile.

The statement from the North's space technology agency comes amid growing international concern that the communist nation is gearing up to fire a version of its most advanced missile — capable of reaching the U.S. — in coming days, in violation of a U.N. Security Council resolution.

North Korea asserted last week it has the right to "space development" — words the regime has used in the past to disguise a missile test. In 1998, North Korea test-fired a Taepodong-1 ballistic missile over Japan and then claimed to have put a satellite into orbit.

Intelligence officials reported a flurry of personnel and vehicle activity at the Hwadae launch site, the

Yonhap news agency reported Tuesday. However, the North has not yet placed a rocket on the launch pad, the report said. After mounting the satellite or missile, it would take five to seven days to fuel.

## Health care costs top \$8,000 per person

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new government report on medical costs paints a stark picture for President Barack Obama, who is expected to call for a health care overhaul in a speech Tuesday night to a joint session of Congress.

Even before lawmakers start debating how care is delivered to the American people, the report shows the economy is making the job of reform harder.

Health care costs will top \$8,000 per person this year, consuming an ever-bigger slice of a shrinking economic pie, says the report by the Department of Health and Human Services, due out Tuesday.

As the recession cuts into tax receipts, Medicare's giant hospital trust fund is running out of cash more rapidly, and could become insolvent as early as 2016, the report said.

## COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

want." Parker stressed the agreement is strictly for narcotics investigations, which will be conducted under the supervision of the Sheriff's Department.

"I know a lot of questions that have been asked of me regarding this agreement, and the main one is does this give

the city carte blanche to just go out in the county and do what they want," said Parker. "And the answer to that is, no, it doesn't. It's only under our direction that they go out in the county and do anything. If we have information, we pass it on to them and ask them to work it or look at it. And it works vice versa. Before they go out in the county they will notify us.

"It's only for narcotics and drug investigations," he added. "It's not an open door pol-

icy. However, it is something we need. We don't have the resources to investigate these cases, and they do at this point and time. That's what this is about."

As for property and money seized in the course of drug arrests in the county, Parker said the law is very strict on who can receive those funds and what they can be used for.

"Any property that is seized will go back to the agency actually doing the investiga-

tion," said Parker. "When property is seized in the course of a narcotics investigation, all the money has to go back into narcotics investigations. Money that would be turned over to the county or city can't be spent at their discretion. It has to go back into investigations into narcotics."

"They (the BSPD Narcotics Task Force) are the ones doing the investigations, so they would be the ones to get the money off of it. If there comes

a point and time in our budget year we decide to make an investment in their task force and investigation unit, then we can start drawing off of that also, if we so choose."

The Big Spring City Council is expected to deliberate over and possibly approve final reading of the agreement this evening.

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

## JAIL

Continued from Page 1

\$1.98 million to house inmates outside of the county, including \$820,335 for female inmates and \$1.16 million for male inmates.

Sheriff Stan Parker said every effort is being made to have the new facility ready in time to beat the budgetary clock.

"Electricity is expected to go on out there (today), and they will be able to start on the flooring," said Parker. "It's wrapping up pretty quick."

Since the beginning of the county's fiscal year Oct. 1, the Sheriff's Department — which oversees the jail department

— has spent \$34,159 to house female inmates and \$106,167 to house male inmates, eating up \$140,326 of its \$150,000 annual budget.

Work on the new multi-million dollar facility began last year, following several years of struggling to meet state jail guidelines that eventually led to the existing facility — located in the county courthouse — being closed for several months while temporary repairs were made.

And while the construction of the new jail is on schedule for its April implementation, Barr said there are still some small wrinkles being worked out.

"Jeff (Heffelfinger, project architect) called me Friday,

and we have a minor problem with our gas lines," said Barr. "Atmos Energy and the city (of Big Spring) are requiring us to put two valves in for safety reasons because there is such a large supply of gas going into the jail. What it amounts to is two pressure valves ... and the change order will run about \$600. Other than that, everything is going great out there."

Barr said the county plans to hold open house events at the jail once construction is complete, a one-time chance for area residents to see the inside of the new facility.

"We're going to have some open houses at the new jail soon," said Barr. "And I'd like to encourage anybody who wants to see the new jail to

come out. We'll be announcing those dates next month. This is going to be a one-time opportunity, because once the inmates go in, the general public will not be allowed in."

Commissioner Jerry Kilgore said chances to see the inside of the jail will still be available for a select — and unfortunate — few, however.

"They can get in there if they really want to," said Kilgore with a grin, referring to those incarcerated at the facility.

"They can if they want to do it the hard way," said Barr with a laugh.

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

## BLAZE

Continued from Page 1

"We're currently on Level 1 Response, which means anytime there's a call, all firefighters respond to it," said Sullivan. "That gives us the ability to quickly get a handle on fires like this and keep them from turning into something massive."

Sullivan said the call came in around 4:30 a.m.

"We had six county

units respond to the fire," said Sullivan. "The cause was an electrical line short near a transformer bank. Oncor was already on the scene when we got there."

There were no injuries, according to Sullivan.

"There was a home that was threatened by the fire," he said. "However, the firefighters did another terrific job of bringing the fire under control and we were able to avoid any damages to the property. Approximately 15

acres were scorched, and it barely missed a pumpjack that was right in the middle of it, but there were no monetary damages."

And while no one can predict a wildfire, Sullivan said local residents can take measures to help firefighters if their home becomes endangered.

"I really can't stress this enough, but it's vital our citizens be very careful right now," said Sullivan. "One of the most important measures people can

take right now is to make sure they have a 75- to 100-foot fire break around their home. Get rid of brush and other items that could burn. That can really help firefighters if their home becomes threatened."

There is currently a burn ban in effect in Howard County.

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

## COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

Coahoma High School and Texas Tech University and has more than 30 years of experience in farming and ranching.

He has served on boards for the Big Spring Co-op Gin, Howard County Farm Bureau and was a member of the Howard County Farm Service Agency County Committee.

"Agriculture is an important industry to our service area and Mr. Barr brings an exceptional set of skills and knowledge to the table," Freeman said.

"Through his exposure and experience in the business of farming and ranching, he will bring some new insight to the board," Freeman

added.

Barr will serve until 2010, at which time a special election will be called to fill the final two years of McKinney's un-

expired term.

Barr will be formally sworn in as a trustee when the board next meets March 23.

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

## OTHER VIEWS

# State laws ought to at very least make good sense

Only financial wizards comprehend Texas' complicated school-finance laws. But we'd bet many Texans get this point: It is ludicrous to have a system where three of Texas' largest cities have "wealthy" districts from which the state can take money to give to poorer districts when the majority of those big-city students come from — wait for it — poor families themselves.

It's hard to imagine legislators had that in mind when they created a share-the-wealth wrinkle in school funding laws in the early 1990s. But that's the crazy case today or it's about to be.

The Dallas and Houston school districts are on the verge of being considered property-wealthy districts because of rising property values and falling enrollments. The recapture, or "Robin Hood," portion of Texas' school finance laws would force them to send money to the state each year, which would parcel it back out to property-poor districts.

The Austin school district already shares its wealth, even though 61 percent of its students come from economically disadvantaged families. Unless legislators make changes, Dallas will become a giver district, despite about 80 percent of its students also qualifying as economically disadvantaged.

Of course, a school district's wealth is based on property values, not individual income. That's why Texas' reliance on property taxes to fund schools is what throws the system out of whack. A new business tax devoted to school funding has helped, but local property taxes remain the lynchpin.

The only good thing now is that the ridiculous designation of Dallas and Houston as wealthy could finally embarrass legislators to move the state's school funding off the property tax.

Obviously, that's a much bigger fight that won't happen this session, so legislators instead should get the state to live up to its constitutional duty to fund schools.

That would mean adjusting the definition of property wealthy, increasing the state's direct share of money and sparing districts like Dallas and Houston. Fortunately, the state has the money to do this because of an underestimation of local property value growth over the last two years.

These laws are undoubtedly complex, but they at least can be rational.

THE MORNING NEWS  
DALLAS

## 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

When we hear it through the grapevine,  
Lord, may we give it to You.

Amen

# Disturbing historical parallels

Recently, I reread the chapters on the New Deal in Larry Schweikart's superb "A Patriot's History of the United States" to review parallels with Barack Obama's radical economic agenda. Here is an eye-opening, side-by-side sampling, with Schweikart's observations on FDR and the New Deal, along with mine on President Obama and his policies.



DAVID  
LIMBAUGH

Schweikart wrote, "During the campaign, FDR, a man whose presidency would feature by far the largest expansion of the federal government ever, called for a balanced budget and accused Hoover of heading the 'greatest spending Administration in ... all our history.'"

Obama's stimulus bill sets frightening new records for federal spending. But while campaigning, he said, "I'm running for president because I believe we can choose our own economic destiny ... to go another four years with the same reckless fiscal policies that have busted our budget, wreaked havoc in our economy, and mortgaged our children's future on a mountain of debt; or we can restore fiscal responsibility in Washington."

Schweikart wrote, "Roosevelt heaped dishonor on the defeated Hoover, denying him even a Secret Service guard out of town."

At Obama's inauguration, his supporters booed, heckled and chanted tauntingly at President George W. Bush. Obama went to dinner during President Bush's farewell speech and repudiated the Bush era in his inaugural address and on his new White House Web site.

Schweikart wrote, "Roosevelt hoped to capitalize on the terrifying collapse of the economy ... to bulldoze through a set of policies that fundamentally rearranged the business and welfare foundations of American life." He continued, "Above all emer-

gency measures needed to be done quickly before opposition could mount to many of these breathtaking challenges to the Constitution."

When Obama peddled panic to rush his bill through Congress, he heeded this advice from Rahm Emanuel: "Never allow a crisis to go to waste. They are opportunities to do big things." The Heritage Foundation's Robert Rector said Obama's stimulus bill "will overturn the fiscal foundation of welfare reform. ... For the first time since 1996, the federal government would begin paying states bonuses to increase their welfare case-loads." Obama regards this legislation as just the first step ("a down payment") in his mission to restructure the American economy.

Schweikart chronicled the liberal historians' view that FDR "saved capitalism from itself by entrenching a number of regulatory measures and social programs that kept the market economy from its own 'excesses.'" Rexford Tugwell, FDR's assistant secretary of agriculture, exposed the "myths" of laissez-faire, saying: "The jig is up.

There is no invisible hand. There never was. ... Virtually all of the New Dealers shared, to one degree or another, a distrust of business and entrepreneurship that they thought had landed the nation in its current distressed condition. ... The administration's aims were crudely simple: 'One objective (of New Deal power policy) was to enlarge the publicly owned sector of the power industry ... as a means of diminishing private control over the necessities of life.'"

Today Obama trashes capitalism while pretending not to and without naming it specifically, but only as "an economic philosophy that has failed." Likewise, Obama's Democrats intend to curb capitalism's "excesses" and punish Wall Street "greed" through such measures as imposing caps on executive bonuses. It's also undeniable that they are wildly expanding

the public sector at the expense of the private sector.

According to Schweikart, most of FDR's "Brain Trust" subscribed to the Keynesian premise that government spending would spur demand and thus pull a nation out of a depression. Few were troubled by the fact that this hadn't worked in Britain. A number of these "Keynes acolytes" sought "to ensure that federal spending was transformed 'from a temporary expedient to a permanent institution of government.'"

It's hardly a secret that Obama is a Keynesian and that he is staggeringly untroubled by the consistent failures of Keynesian policy before and since the New Deal. Moreover, Robert Rector notes that Obama has more ambitious plans than merely stimulating the economy. "The real goal is to get 'the camel's nose under the tent' for a massive permanent expansion of the welfare state."

Finally, Schweikart related that FDR adviser Raymond Moley "was 'impressed ... by the ... scantiness of (FDR's) precise knowledge of things that he was talking about (and) by the immense and growing egotism that came from his office.'"

Obama has sometimes revealed himself to be similarly uninformed on matters about which he has revealed an inflexible certainty, such as the complexities and consequences of closing Gitmo. Attorney Debra Burlingame attended Obama's meeting with families of terrorist victims, where he tried to justify his decision to drop charges against the USS Cole bomber. She said Obama said the right words in general, but when it came to specifics, he was "uncertain, uninformed and sometimes just plain mistaken." In addition, many have begun to comment on Obama's egotism, some even calling it narcissism.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. Visit his Web site at [www.davidlimbaugh.com](http://www.davidlimbaugh.com).

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# Bad times visit our betters

Think that credit collapse that triggered the Bush administration's \$700 billion bank bailout was necessary because of Republican hostility to regulation and the ineptness of President George W. Bush?

If it were that simple, then British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and his Labor Party would not be squirming, and the United Kingdom would not be swimming in staggering sums of debt.

It was not that long ago that market watchers hailed Brown as the savvy Euro-technocrat who, as the United Kingdom's former chancellor of the exchequer, understood capital markets and calmly navigated British finance through the storms that swamped Bushdom last year. When the Halifax Bank of Scotland was on the verge of collapse in September, Brown began working on a takeover of the bank by Lloyds TSB — for which the prime minister was hailed as a hero who averted a crisis.

But the deal did not save the empire. Instead, it helped sink Lloyds, requiring government intervention. British taxpayers now own a 43 percent stake in Lloyds — which may grow. Some wonder if Brown will have to nationalize Lloyds.

Oh, yes, and last week, the Sunday Telegraph reported that Lloyds was planning to pay 120 million pounds (\$171.72 million) in bonuses to top execs.

Sound familiar? This part is, too: There were Cassandras in both countries warning of

impending disaster. Earlier this month in Washington, whistleblower Harry Markopolos testified before the House Subcommittee on Capital Markets about how he had figured out back in 2000 that financier Bernard Madoff, who now has admitted to bilking investors of a whopping \$50 billion, was a fraud. Not only did Markopolos find and document evidence of fraud, but worse, he repeatedly handed the information to Securities and Exchange Commission staff. Staff members either didn't understand the information or did not care.

Now Brown has his own Markopolos. His name is Paul Moore, the former head of risk management for Halifax Bank of Scotland. Before a House of Commons Treasury Select Committee this month, Moore testified that he warned the bank between 2002 and 2005 that the sales-driven culture under bank head Sir James Crosby would lead to ruin.

"You know the adverts that beg you to buy more? People must be protected from falling into so much debt," Moore told the Independent on Sunday.

For his troubles, the bank canned Moore, then worked out a 500,000 pound (\$715,515) legal settlement that demanded his silence.

It turns out that the man who fired Moore for issuing this sage advice, Crosby, later was named by Brown to be the No. 2 regulator at the Financial Services Authority. After Moore's testimony, Crosby resigned, but the damage to Brown was done.

Moore also told the Independent, "Brown presided over a policy based on excessive consumer spending based on ... massively increasing property

prices, which were caused by excessively easy credit which could only ultimately lead to disaster. But no, in Gordon's mind it was all caused by global events beyond his and anybody else's control."

The word from No. 10 Downing Street is that Brown has "no regrets" about the Lloyds/HBOS deal. Tory leader David Cameron now calls the merger "a bad decision," and others have cited the "no regrets" line as proof that Brown is out of touch and unable to admit mistakes.

It's easy to kick Brown, even if the Lloyds/HBOS merger — and his boast at the time, "We have changed the competition law" — may have kept the economy from sinking faster and deeper.

The moral of the story: No matter which party is in charge, leaders are likely to be too cozy with people who make big money. In the end, Brown would have been better served with a friend named Paul Moore than a colleague named Sir James. (President Obama, take note. Maybe you want to share your BlackBerry address with Markopolos and Moore.)

The other moral: Throughout the Bush years, Democratic critics spoke as if every problem would be dealt with smoothly under different leadership.

But in the United Kingdom — one of Our Betters in Europe, with European higher taxes and commitment to liberal regulation — their very European Union oversaw the same credit craze that occurred under the bubbling, right-wing, go-it-alone Bush.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfcronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfcronicle.com).

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# Bird Poop: 'The symbol of happiness'

Rapidly beating its wings, the bird descended from the top of the escarpment. Gliding over the houses nestled at the base of the rocky bluffs, it swooped with an undulating rhythm down the street. Swerving to miss a flock of grackles, the migrating visitor failed to see the next obstacle.



BEBE McCASLAND

As the neighborhood calmed after a rush to school and work, the woman jogged around the cul-de-sac, then headed toward home. On the last block of her morning regimen, she noticed something lying in the middle of the road. Slowly approaching what she discovered to be a bird, the woman was amazed by its color.

Determined to keep the small creature from being ground into the pavement, she noticed that it was still breathing. Only after carefully lifting the bird did she realize how little it weighed. Slipping the unresponsive being into the front pocket of her sweatshirt, she walked as evenly as she could to-

ward her house, since every step might jolt the injured bird.

"It's in a shoe box," was the first thing I heard after answering the phone. Telling the woman we would get the bird as soon as we returned from a short trip south of town to get a hawk, I knew the lady had what we had only hoped to see some day.

Previously, calls had come from numerous residents south of town and in the woman's neighborhood about the migratory flocks that graced the county in the fall. By the time we would arrive to share in the enjoyment, the birds had always left. Now one was contained and awaiting our arrival.

Once home, we slowly raised the lid to look at the mountain bluebird. Still lying on its side, the male was an exquisite turquoise-blue. A paler blue below, the bird only had a small area of white on its lower belly.

When people had called about the migrating flocks, they had often described dull, grayish-brown birds in among the sky-blue males. They were seeing the females that have only bluish coloration on their rumps, tails and wings. Their soft, blended hues were meager compared to the male's cerulean gift from nature.



Courtesy photo

Having summered in aspen and pine forests, the mountain bluebird leaves the upper elevations in favor of open country that can sustain it during the winter months with a diet of insects and berries.

Suspecting head trauma, or possibly internal damage due to an impact with a vehicle, we allowed the male complete rest in a warm, quiet and darkened environment. Hopefully, he would respond to time and a safe haven.

From Alaska, Canada or the mountains west of the

Great Plains, our patient and his companions had come through West Texas in search of food. Fall and early spring had enough warm days to provide some of the insects in their diet. Native plants, such as hackberry, juniper and mistletoe readily shared their seeds with the

hungry migrants.

If the bluebird recovered, he could look forward to a breeding season that included his trying to tempt his intended with the perfect nesting cavity for their future family. Flying from woodpecker holes in trees to crevices among the rocks, he would continue to search for the ideal spot. Even considered would be a kingfisher's burrow in a river bank. Once the female selected her nest site, he would help build and defend it.

By late afternoon, the bluebird had awakened. Although offended by his enclosure, he was slower than most in recovering from an impact injury. Since the raptor needed delivery to the Midland sanctuary, we decided the smaller bird should also make the trip.

After learning that the mountain bluebird's recovery might be a slow process, but was certainly possible, we headed home. With the hope that one day it would again be able to hover, drop to the ground and snatch its prey, we were grateful to have handled what long ago someone had deemed "the symbol of happiness."

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

# As ye sow, so shall ye reap

The other day, I was reading and ran across the statement, "tomorrow begins today." As I thought about that statement I remembered a comment by Dr. Albert Schweitzer when he was asked the question, "Why are most people not successful?" The great doctor was silent a moment, and then he said, "People simply don't think."



DARRELL RYAN

Well, his comment got me to thinking. Today we live in a golden age. This is the time that humanity has looked forward to, dreamed of, and worked toward for thousands of years.

We live in the richest era that ever existed on the face of the earth; a land of abundant opportunity for everyone. So, why is success so difficult?

If we take 100 individuals at the time they graduate from high school and follow their lives until they're 65, how many will be termed successful?

When they graduated from high school they were eager toward life and life was a tremendous adventure to them.

However, statistics tell us that by the time they're 65, only one will be rich, four will be financially independent, five will still be working and 54 will be broke, totally depending on others (which includes the government) for life's necessities.

Only five out of 100 make the grade. Why?

It's been said the difference is setting goals. People with goals usual-

ly succeed because they know where they're going. They have developed a personal goal in life and are striving to achieve it.

It's like taking a trip and mapping out the entire journey before leaving home. We arrive at our destination because we know where our destination is.

When looking at goals, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale put it this way: "If you think in negative terms, you will get negative results. If you think in positive terms, you will achieve positive results."

We become what we think about. A person who is thinking about a solid and worthwhile goal is going to reach it, because that's what he's thinking about.

The human mind is much like a farmer's land.

The land gives the farmer a choice. He

may plant in that land whatever he chooses. The land doesn't care what is planted. It's up to the farmer to make the decision.

The mind, like the land, will return what you plant, but it doesn't care what you plant. If the farmer plants two seeds, one a seed of corn, the other nightshade, which is a deadly poison, what will happen?

It is written in the Bible, "As ye sow, so shall ye reap." The human mind is far more fertile, far more incredible and

mysterious than the land, but it works the same way. It doesn't care what we plant; success or failure; a concrete, worthwhile goal or confusion, misunderstanding, fear, anxiety and so on. But what we plant is what we sow.

Our mind can do any kind of job we assign to it, but generally speaking, we use it for little jobs instead of big ones. So we must decide now what we want?

We must develop our goals and plant them in our minds. The rest of our life depends on it.

The choices we make today begin to create our tomorrow and what we carry from our past into the present will continue the cycle for our future. We must not let the things that matter the most be at the

mercy of the things that matter the least.

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

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## Wacky Facts

- \* Wind power is a rapidly growing technology that doesn't pollute or get used up, like fossil fuels. Wind turbines convert wind energy into electricity.
- \* Minnesota and Iowa both get close to 5 percent of their electricity from wind energy.

SOURCES: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC.COM, AMERICAN WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION

# KID NEWS



## Chatter Box

"Unless someone like you  
cares a whole awful lot,  
nothing is going to get better,  
it's not."

— "The Lorax," by Dr. Seuss

## Reading Rack

## 'Pants' author launches new series

One pair of jeans mailed like a postcard among four best friends separating for the summer is more than just a neat idea for a young adult novel; it's a franchise. The first volume of Ann Brashares' "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" generated three sequels (8 million copies sold) and two hit Hollywood films.

How to follow an act like that? For Brashares, a 41-year-old mother of three, the answer was to start over.

"3 Willows" (Delacorte, \$18.99, ages 12-up) is the first book in a series about a trio of friends on the brink of entering South Bethesda High School — the alma mater of the "Sisterhood's" Bridget, Carmen, Lena and Tibby.

"I didn't want to distance myself arbitrarily from the 'Sisterhood,' but I didn't want to fall back on the magic of the pants either," Brashares said. "So these girls are encountering the same things, but in the shadow of a legendary friendship. They have to figure out how to make their friendship matter without the same sense of luck and enchantment the older girls had."

All Brashares' books turn on the importance of female friendship. The book follows the fate of Polly, Jo and Ama, who bonded in third grade when each nursed a willow tree sapling brought home from school until the tiny trees were big enough to plant side by side in the neighborhood woods.

The story starts as the girls have finished eighth grade and the summer sends them on different journeys — geographical and emotional — that will test their allegiance to one another. Bookish Ama has won a scholarship to an outdoor wilderness adventure program. Polly is home, mostly alone, dreaming of attending modeling camp. Jo's parents have decided to separate so she's spending the summer at their vacation home in Rehoboth Beach, working as a bus girl and bonding with older, cooler girls. As with the "Sisterhood," the plot turns on many small deeply personal crises, crushes and first kisses included.

"I love this age group, and I love writing about early romantic love," Brashares said.

Fans of the "Sisterhood" books may be too old now to enjoy the Willows' younger concerns, but the publisher expects there's a new audience for Brashares' latest. The first printing is 500,000 copies.

Brashares does not thrive on public speaking but loves meeting fans face to face, especially since she admits to being about "18 months behind" on responding to fan mail. The big, unanswered pile beneath her desk is almost enough to make her avoid her office altogether.

"Someone who cares enough about your books to write, you don't want to leave them hanging or make them think you don't care," Brashares said. "But the first commitment has to be to your characters and the book. The best thing I can do is to write a great book they're going to want to read."

— Sue Corbett, *The Miami Herald*.

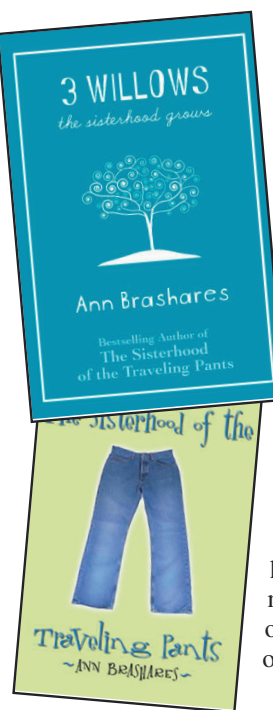


IMAGE COURTESY OF ANBRASHARES.COM

# ECOED

## Contest asks communities to nominate America's greenest school

By Vickie An/TimeforKids.com

Do you think your school could be the greenest school in the country? If so, the IC Bus company wants to hear about it. The bus manufacturer has launched a nationwide contest to find America's most eco-friendly school.

Students, parents and teachers from around the country are invited to submit a 500-word essay that explains the actions their schools have taken to help protect the planet. Activities like organizing an in-school recycling program, planting a garden, and even turning off the lights in an empty classroom are all ways you and your classmates can be green.

Visit [americasgreenestschool.com](http://americasgreenestschool.com) for official contest rules. If you are under the age of 13, you will need a parent or guardian to sign up and submit your essay for you. The last day for entries is April 30.

## THINKING GREEN

Organizers hope the contest will inspire kids and adults to think about how they can help save the earth. "This program can help students, teachers and parents learn that they do have the power to make greener choices," says contest judge Terra Wellington. "Making America's schools greener is a winning lesson plan for everyone." Wellington is the author of "The Mom's Guide to Growing Your Family Green: Saving the Earth Begins at Home."

Finalists will be announced after Earth Day. Then the public will be able to vote for the essay they believe best represents America's greenest school. The winner will take home a \$5,000 scholarship. Sponsoring teachers will receive \$3,000 to use toward classroom materials.

But a cash reward won't be the only green prize. The winning school will also receive a hybrid school bus from IC Bus. Hybrid cars and busses run on a mix of electricity and gas. They create less pollution than regular cars and busses.

## ECO-FRIENDLY TIPS

Do you want to be greener, but don't know where to start? Here are a few easy tips from Wellington.

\* **Ride the school bus.** When kids ride to school in a bus instead of individual cars, there are 36 fewer cars on the road, according to the American School Bus Council. This cuts down on pollution and traffic. It also saves 3.1 billion gallons of gas each year.

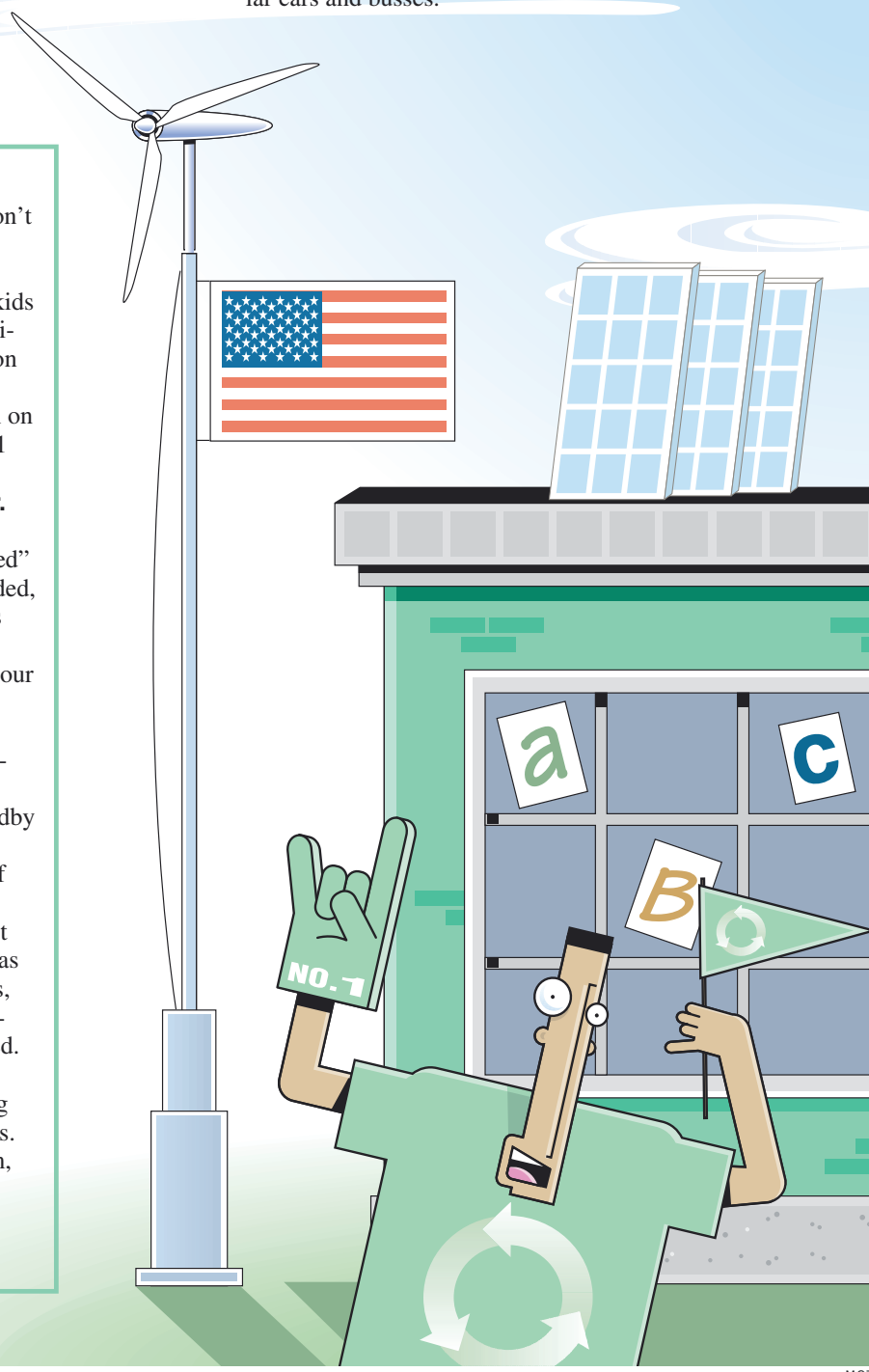
\* **Use both sides of the paper.** Ask your teacher if you can print homework assignments "double-sided" to save paper. By printing double-sided, paper use is cut in half. This reduces waste.

\* **Become a light monitor.** If your classroom has windows, ask your teacher to turn off the lights and use natural light instead. When the classroom is empty, make sure lights are turned off and computers are in standby mode. A standby setting can reduce power more than 90 percent. Both of these actions will help save energy.

\* **Pack a litterless lunch.** Don't use any disposable containers, such as brown bags or plastic sandwich bags, to pack your lunch. Instead, use containers that can be washed and reused.

\* **Recycle.** Ask your teacher or principal about setting up a recycling bin for paper, plastic bottles and cans. If your school already has a program, encourage others to participate.

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## Help!

### No more patience for late pal

**DEAR AMERICAN GIRL:** I have a friend who's always late. She told me it was her parents' fault. It probably is, but I just don't feel like our friendship can go on like this. — See You Later

■ You can't blame your friend for what her parents are doing, but you can plan ahead. If you need to leave for a movie by 4 p.m., ask her to aim for 3:30

p.m. That way, if she's late, you can still leave on time. Another option is to spend more time at your friend's house so you're not stuck somewhere waiting for her. No friend is perfect. It's better to accept she'll be late sometimes than to lose your friendship over it.

**DEAR AMERICAN GIRL:** My dad is gone for business a lot. My mom's the one I'm usually with. I like my mom better because I know her better. How do I shake that feeling? — Feeling Bad

■ Your feelings are natural, so don't feel bad. Can you and your dad call each other at a certain time each day?

■ Pick a book you'll both read, and discuss it after you finish each chapter. Find a quiz and compare your answers to your dad's. Plan a special day together when he's home. You'll get to know your dad better, and he'll know more about you, too.

Visit "Fun for Girls" at [americangirlmagazine.com](http://americangirlmagazine.com) to get or give advice. © 2009 American Girl, LLC. All rights reserved.



## Try This

### Help find a new friend for Arthur

Are you ready to meet a new friend of Arthur, D.W., Buster and the rest of the Elwood City clan? Well, so are the show's producers, and they're asking for your help.

The producers of "Arthur" are working with CVS Caremark All Kids Can, a program aimed at making life easier for kids with disabilities, to create a new, unique character for the show. They want

children ages 6 to 12 to send ideas for a new friend for Arthur, and describe what makes the friend special. The new friend should have a unique ability, character trait or disability that makes the

character a little bit different from — but just as happy as — his or her friends.

If your idea is chosen, you and your character will be featured in a live-action segment of the show. You will also have

the chance to meet Marc Brown, the creator and author of "Arthur."

The contest ends March 31, 2009. To enter, visit [pbskids.org/Arthur/allkidscan](http://pbskids.org/Arthur/allkidscan).

— Lindsey Frank







HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

**Big Spring Lady Steers second baseman Linzee Yarbar throws a runner out at first as teammate Valerie Ross hits her up in softball action from Friday at Lady Steer Park. Big Spring lost to Levelland, 4-0, Monday.**

## Lady Steers muster 1 hit in 4-0 loss to Levelland

### Herald Staff Report

LEVELLAND — Big Spring's Lady Steers softball team got a humility lesson in the batter's box Monday in a 4-0 loss to the Levelland Lady Lobos.

Levelland pitcher Katrina Johnson had a no-hitter through five innings as she struck out 14 Lady Steers' batters. Jaclyn Porras was the only Lady Steer to get a hit and did so in the top of the sixth inning.

"This is still a good experience early on for this team," said Big Spring Head Coach John Sparks. "We've just got to learn to time our swings and start making contact."

Kenzie Hunt took the loss for the Lady Steers, surrendering four runs — two earned — on five hits

and four walks, while striking out six batters.

Catalyst for Levelland, an offensive catalyst for Levelland, knocking in the only two RBI of the game. Ja'nae Coleman led off the third with a double in the third inning, allowing Johnson to follow her up with a home run. The two-base long ball gave Levelland a 4-0 advantage.

The Lady Steers (1-2) will play in the West Texas Classic softball tournament in Midland over the weekend. Big Spring opens play at 5 p.m. Thursday against Canyon and then later faces Monahans at 7 p.m.

**Big Spring** 000 000 0-0 1 3  
**Levelland** 202 000 0-4 5 1  
WP — Kat Johnson. LP — Kenzie Hunt (1-2).  
2B: LHS — Ja'nae Coleman. HR: LHS — Johnson.  
RBI: LHS — Johnson 2.

## South Plains edges Hawks

### By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

LEVELLAND — Howard College's Hawks still have unfinished business on the hardwood.

The Hawks failed to clinch a berth into the Region V Tournament Monday, ending a 7-game win streak with a 55-53 loss to South Plains College.

Howard has one game remaining and can still clinch the third seed in the regional tourney with a win over New Mexico Military Institute (8-21, 2-13) at 7 p.m. Thursday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Howard College fell behind 54-48 with 1:16 to play after a 3-pointer from South Plains' Hugh Mingo. The Hawks were able to get on a 7-1 run to pull within 2, 55-53, with 49.9 seconds to play.

Howard made a defensive stand, forcing SPC into a shot clock violation, giving the Hawks the ball with 22 seconds left.

Howard avoided a near disaster when Denzel Barnes lost his dribble and had to scramble to the floor to come up with the loose ball and call a timeout.

With seven seconds on the clock, Barnes took the inbound pass and made a move to his right. He drove by the South Plains defender, but started to lose his footing in the process. Barnes threw up an out of control layup that held on the rim and fell out.

Howard secured the rebound, but couldn't get a good look off as time expired, giving South Plains the victory and the second seed at the Region V Tournament.

Howard was led by Barnes and Joshua Watkins, who scored 13 points apiece. Markeys Deans added 11.

South Plains got 13 points from Ingram, who scored 10 in the second half. Bo Ingram was the catalyst for the Texans in the first half, scoring all of his 10 point in the first 20 minutes.

South Plains still has an opportunity to clinch a share of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference title if it can defeat New Mexico Junior College Thursday and if Midland is upset by Frank Phillips College.

Howard needs a win or a loss by either New Mexico Junior College or Western Texas College to clinch the third seed Thursday. Should Howard lose and both NMJC and WTC win, there would be a 3-way tie for the third and fourth seeds.

**South Plains College (24-3, 12-3) 55**  
**Howard College (21-7, 10-5) 53**

**Howard (53)**  
Latrial McCoy 0-4 0-0 0, Denzel Barnes 5-10 1-2 13, Joshua Watkins 3-6 7-9 13, Markeys Deans 5-10 1-1 11, Vladimir Gavranic 2-5 2-2 6, Devon Baker 2-4 1-5 6, Ricardo Zanini 1-5 0-0 3, Shaad O'Garro 0-1 0-0 0, Melanio Ebeden 0-0 1-2 1. Totals 18-45 13-21 53.

**South Plains (55)**  
Landon Tatum 1-7 4-6 6, Tramar Sutherland 3-9 1-1 7, Hugh Mingo 4-9 2-4 13, Markhuri Sanders-Frison 1-1 0-0 2, Philip Outley 0-2 1-2 1, David Tairu 2-10 2-2 8, Bo Ingram 4-11 2-2 10, Myles Walker 4-4 0-0 8. Totals 19-53 12-17 55.

Halftime: SPC 35, HC 24. 3-point goals: HC 4-16 (Barnes 2-5, Baker 1-2, Zanini 1-4, Gavranic 0-1, Deans 0-2, McCoy 0-2), SPC 5-14 (Mingo 3-5, Tairu 2-5, Outley 0-1). Rebounds: HC 31 (Deans 8), SPC 37 (Walker 9, Ingram 9). Assists: HC 7 (Barnes 4), SPC 16 (Outley 4, Tatum 4, Sutherland 4). Turnovers: HC 14, SPC 12. Total fouls: HC 18, SPC 22. Fouled out: Sanders-Frison, Watkins.

## HC women fall to SPC, 53-51

*Hawks head into Region V Tournament with tough loss*

### By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

LEVELLAND — Howard College's women's basketball team was able to shut down every South Plains Lady Texan who came on to the floor, except for two.

And the duo of Chasity Workman and Dayon Hall-Jones went off, scoring 39 of South Plains' points in a 53-51 win over Howard.

"We let one get away from us here. This is the second time its happened to us on the road this season," said Howard Head Coach Earl Diddle. "We opened

See **HC**, Page 12



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

**Howard College's Patricia Malouff looks to pass the ball inside in girls basketball action at Midland College from earlier this season. The Hawks lost a heartbreaker to South Plains Monday, 53-51.**

### WJCAC Women's Basketball Standings

Team	Conference	Overall
Midland College	12-1	28-1
South Plains	10-3	23-6
Odessa College	9-5	20-10
<b>Howard College</b>	<b>8-6</b>	<b>23-7</b>
New Mexico JC	7-6	17-10
Clarendon College	4-9	17-12
Frank Phillips	3-10	10-19
Western Texas	0-13	5-24

**Monday's results: South Plains 53, Howard 51; Odessa 75, Western Texas 42; New Mexico at Clarendon (NA); Midland and Frank Phillips were off.**

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

## Lady Mustangs fight, but fall to No. 5 Guthrie in OT

### Herald Staff Report

IDALOU — Sands' Lady Mustangs were a heavy underdog heading into Monday's regional quarterfinals girls basketball playoff against No. 5 Guthrie.

But like any good underdog, the Lady Mustangs didn't go down without a fight.

Sands gave Guthrie's Lady Bobcats all they could handle Monday night in Idalou, but eventually falling in over-

time, 56-51.

The Lady Mustangs finish their season with a 21-12 overall record. Guthrie will now advance to the Class A, Division II, Region II semifinals against No. 7 Strawn or Lipan at Abilene Christian University Friday.

Sands had a 3-point advantage after the first period, but found itself down by 1 at intermission. Guthrie was never able to create much distance from the Lady Mustangs and could manage just a 2-point lead, 39-37, heading into the

final frame.

Sands was able to tie the game at 47 by the end of regulation, though. However, the Lady Mustangs couldn't keep up in the extra period as Guthrie outscored them 9-4 for the 56-51 victory.

Guthrie's Katie Jones led all scorers with 18 points, while Sadie Tarver scored 15 and Shaley Shipman added 10.

See **SANDS**, Page 12

## Sports in brief

### BSGSA registration begins Saturday

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association is holding sign-ups for the 2009 season beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Big Spring Mall.

Subsequent sign up dates will be each Saturday through March 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Girls ages 4-14 are eligible to play with a registration fee of \$65. The fee covers full uniform.

Late registration after March 14 will include a \$10 extra charge.

For more information, contact Lucy Ramirez at 466-3670.

### Big Spring Little League accepting late sign-ups

The Big Spring Little League Baseball Association

is accepting late sign-ups for the 2009 season at 5 p.m. at the American League Field behind Howard College through Wednesday.

Cost is \$60. Parents should bring the child's birth certificate along with a glove for tryouts.

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

### Howard College on four-game win streak

Howard College's softball team improved to 13-9 on the season with a 2-game series sweep of Lubbock Christian University's junior varsity Monday.

Howard won the first game 8-7, but routed LCU in the second, 8-0.

Laura Olague hit a 3-run homer in the sixth inning of the second game.

The Hawks will attempt to continue their four-

game win streak Monday with a visit to Lubbock Christian University for another doubleheader with its junior varsity.

### Results from BSCGA's membership drive

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association held a membership drive Sunday and the team of Tommy Billalba Jr., Mike Sanchez, L. Lopez, Darryl Pineda and Mike Oliva won the event with a score of 59.

Charlie Garcia, Juan Montelongo, Bobby Cordova and S. Saldana finished second with a 61.

In third was the team of Don Cook, W. Parker, Ernie Garcia and Albert Alvarez with a 63.

New members of the BSCGA is reminded that the association meets every first tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church cafeteria.





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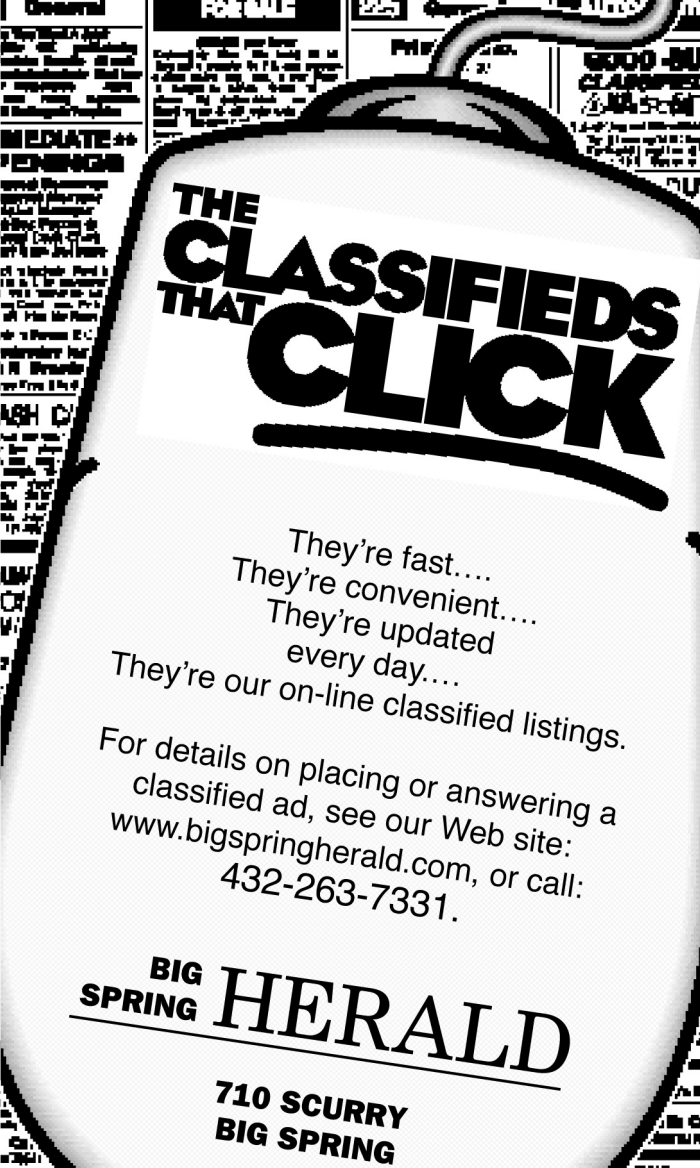
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Legals

Advertisement for Sealed Bids  
The Howard County Junior College District is now accepting bids for the following:

**RFB#09-002 Heavy Duty Truck**  
Documents may be obtained from Jason Mims, Director of Business Services, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)264-5167. Sealed proposals will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2009, in the Practical Arts Building, room 105A, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be read into record. Vendors are instructed that a formal opening will not occur. The college will negotiate with qualified vendors concerning the bids submitted. The final determination of bid award will be made at a future board meeting. All questions should be directed to Jason Mims, Director of Business Services, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, e-mail jmims@howardcollege.edu. (432)264-5167. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #6064 February 24 and March 3, 2009

**NOTICE:**  
THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES, PLUS OTHERS NOT LISTED, HAVE BEEN UNCLAIMED AND ARE SCHEDULED FOR AUCTION ON 02/27/2009 AT 10:00 AM AT 5715 WEST 1-20:  
1998 CHEVY MALIBU VIN#1G1ND52M6W6204260  
1992 HONDA ACCORD VIN#1HGCB7658NA209119  
1986 FORD MUSTANG VIN#1FABP28A9GF120163  
1989 FORD CROWN VICTORIA VIN#2FABP74F4KX196479  
1994 PONTIAC GRAND AM VIN#1G2NE15M9RM594493  
1994 CHEVY BERETTA VIN#1G1LW15M6R306351  
1980 PLYMOUTH STATION WAGON VIN#HL45GAF134794  
1978 DATSUN PICKUP VIN#KHL620324321  
1994 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER VIN#1B4GH44R7RX113517  
1991 DODGE RAM 350 VAN VIN#2B5WB3520MK433005  
1959 CHEVY BEL AIR VIN#G59522496Z  
1989 HONDA ACCORD VIN#1HGCA5538KA045843  
1995 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL VIN#1LNLM97V2SY681141  
1989 CHEVY CAPRICE VIN#1G1BL51E6KR199537  
#6067 February 24, 2009

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR OIL AND GAS WASTE DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT**  
Midland Oil And Gas, Inc. 800 N. Marientfeld, Ste. 203 Midland, TX 79701 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the San Andres Clearfork Formation, Bailey Lease, Well Number 1. The proposed disposal well is located 5 Miles SW of Vincent, in the Wildhorse (Upper Canyon) Field, in Howard County. The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2829 to 3641 feet.  
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.  
Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).  
#6068 February 24, 2009

The new moon in Pisces represents fresh beliefs. If you lost your faith in someone, especially yourself, you can now find it again. If your convictions have weakened you can decide what you do feel strongly about. Spiritual discovery happens, and most often comes from doing the most practical of activities with great love.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). The choice you make must be a dramatic one to get noticed. However, once you have the attention of your subject you can be slightly more practical; i.e., learning what is needed and then provide it.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Here's how you know who you're real friends are: If it's important to you, it's important to your friend. Even when (especially when) your friend has no other interest in the subject at hand except that it matters to you.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Patience may not be your strong suit, but



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I am in a relationship with a caring man and hope to spend the rest of my life with him. "Dan" is friends with a married couple he has known for several years.

We spend quite a lot of time with "Paul and Dora." However, when we are in their company, Dan spends most of his time in conversation with Dora and I feel forgotten and excluded.

Dan is not overly affectionate, but when it comes to Dora, it's a different story. They frequently hug and kiss each other — more than seems appropriate. When I brought this to Dan's attention, he said I was imagining it. He then told Dora I am jealous, which has made spending time with them more uncomfortable.

I've tried to connect with Dora, but I get the distinct impression she is not interested in developing a friendship. She is not rude, but she puts all her attention on Dan. When they are at our place, Dan dotes on

right now you need to cool your jets and wait. Do not give up because this payoff will be huge. Also, this is easier when you bring something to do while you're waiting.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You are sharp. Stay that way by avoiding mind-numbing tasks and pastimes. The one who notices your wit is a keeper. You need to be around people who recognize your intelligence and challenge you to new heights.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). The only true difference between the mundane and the extraordinary is love. You have the key ingredients so mix up some passion for what you're doing. Everyday life will suddenly sparkle.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's cozy in your comfort zone and unfortunately that's not where you'll find the answer you've been looking for. Trust yourself to move far enough in the right direction; step out of the shade and into enlightenment.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Notice how your community is close-knit. People feed off of what each other are saying, wearing, doing and believing. Your actions, and even your fashion

her. Dan assures me he would never cheat and that Dora isn't his type, but I still can't shake this uncomfortable feeling. What makes it worse is that

Dora and Paul are having marital problems. I worry she may be trying to fill that void with Dan's hugs and kisses and a line might be crossed. Am I wrong to ask Dan to respect my feelings? — Lorelei

Dear Lorelei: A serious boyfriend should acknowledge your insecurities, justified or not, and reassure you. Dan dismissed your concerns and, worse, told Dora you are jealous — making her an ally against you.

It's OK to give a hug or kiss on the cheek to friends, but not so much that it makes your girlfriend uncomfortable. If you wish to spend your life with Dan, he must

choices, have wide repercussions.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're ready to make an improvement. Before you do there is a step that must be addressed. It is necessary to own your part in the things that weren't going right before. Accountability is the precursor to transformation.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You bring peacefulness to relationships. If you looked for something to complain about, you would find it, but it's not who you want to be. You'll be actively searching for topics of fun and interest.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Plan for mistakes, then life will suddenly get easier. For instance, start a slush fund to cover parking tickets, or leave early for an appointment in case the directions are wrong. Stay happy and stress free.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's no way to anticipate what others will want from you, but there you are anyway, ready to give your all. When you do things in the spirit of love, the result is magical.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Imagine a situation getting better even

though you're not sure exactly how. Your thoughts are traveling with such intensity that they could fix the situation before you even have time to formulate a plan.

**THE NEW MOON IN PISCES:** This year the new moon in Pisces falls on the same day that, in 1968, Cambridge astronomers announced the existence of pulsating stars they named pulsars. These stars were baffling to their first observers because their emissions seemed irregular and they were dubbed by their discoverers, Jocelyn Bell Burnell and Anthony Hewish, the tongue-in-cheek name of "LGM-1," which stood for "little green men." Could it be possible that these strange stars radiated from alien civilizations?

It's the premise of many a "Star Trek" episode and a delightful conduit for imagination. This new moon in Pisces is ideal for investing some energy in your own fantasies about the possibilities of the universe. It doesn't have to be extraterrestrial in nature, and in fact it's probably mundane. For instance, maybe there's something you want that would make your life easier, but you haven't

figured out how to get it yet.

Daydreaming on the topic of "what if?" will likely bring many ideas that never occurred to you before. Be bold with your imaginings. The more wild and impossible your fantasies are, the better the ideas that come out of them will be.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Lovely Pisces actress Kristin Davis was brought up as a Southern belle and those gracious manners have served her well on screen and off. Her natal sun, Mercury and Saturn in Pisces are ideal aspects for an actress.

Pisces energy is compassionate and empathetic. Pisces lend the ability to set one's own personality aside in order to try on another person's point of view.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

put you first. If not, it's never going to work.

Dear Annie: My husband, "Horace," is highly allergic to dairy products, and medication doesn't help much.

Year after year, we are invited to join his family for meals. Every dish is always full of cream, butter, cheese and milk, even though they are well aware of his food allergy.

We have taken along nondairy dishes, but the

hostess puts them away because they aren't on her planned menu.

We have eaten before we arrive, only to have the hostess be upset with us for not eating. We've tried asking what we can bring, but are told "nothing."

We've reminded them ahead of time about his allergy, only to be ignored. I don't expect people to cater to my husband's dietary needs, but shouldn't a family member be considerate enough to have one dish he can eat? — No Cheese in Southern California

Dear No Cheese: This seems deliberately thoughtless. Eat beforehand, and if the hostess is offended, say with a smile, "You know Horace cannot eat these things, but we wouldn't want to miss your company."

Otherwise, let Horace handle it as he sees fit.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Desperate Doctor in a Harsh New World," the 30-something physician crying about people who expect affordable medical care.

I was laid off a year ago. I was thrilled to find a job for \$12 an hour. Two months later, I was laid off again. My unemployment has run

out, the bills still have to be paid and no one is hiring.

My question to the doctor is this: Are you in the health care industry for the money or to help people? Things are much worse for many who only wish to have affordable health care. — No Light at the End of This Tunnel

Dear No Light: It's not the doctor's fault that people don't have affordable health care. Impoverishing him won't help your situation and will discourage future physicians from paying the high costs (emotionally and financially) of medical school. Then we all lose.

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

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sudoku

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

For Whom the Bells Toll

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ J 7 2  
♥ 9 7 4  
♦ A 10 9 7 3  
♣ 8 5  
**WEST**  
♠ 9 8 6 3  
♥ A Q 6 5 2  
♦ Q 5  
♣ J 7  
**EAST**  
♠ Q 10 4  
♥ 10 3  
♦ J 8 2  
♣ Q 10 9 4 2  
**SOUTH**  
♠ A K 5  
♥ K J 8  
♦ K 6 4  
♣ A K 6 3

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2 NT Pass 3 NT All Pass  
Opening lead — five of hearts.

Bridge would be a much simpler game to play well if, whenever a critical point in the play was reached, some kind soul would ring a bell to warn you to watch your step. The trouble is that, aside from the minor expense of the bell, the cost of hiring someone to ring it at precisely the right moment would be prohibitive.

For example, take this case where West missed his cue when the crucial point arose. The moment of truth quietly passed him by, and as a result

declarer got home with an unmakeable contract.

West led a heart against three notrump, and declarer won East's ten with the jack. South had no choice but to try to establish dummy's diamonds, without which he could not possibly score nine tricks.

So at trick two, he cashed the diamond king, both defenders following low, and then played a second diamond. When West produced the queen, South allowed him to win the trick. This was not from a sense of generosity, mind you, but because West was the right person to have on lead at this stage. It did not matter what West played next because declarer now had nine sure tricks.

Of course, if West had dropped his queen of diamonds under the king at trick two, declarer would have had no chance to make the contract. The diamond queen was an albatross around West's neck that he should have gotten rid of at the earliest opportunity.

He should have reasoned that the queen was a worthless card if South had the jack of diamonds as well as the king, while if his partner held the jack, the queen was certainly not a good card to hang on to.

Somebody should have rung a bell!

Tomorrow: The battle for trump control.

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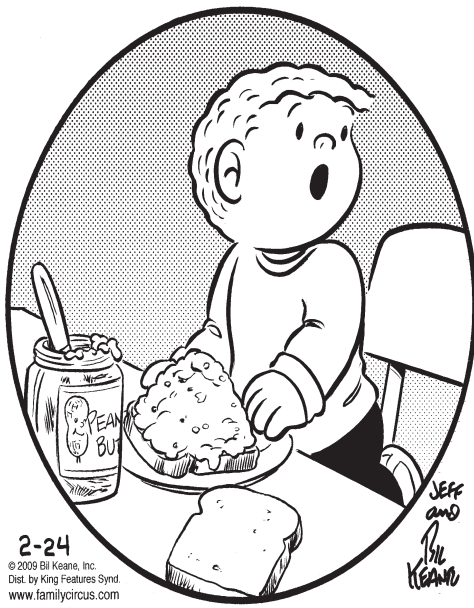
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Scrivner Uri Harel	BBC Business	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Fistful of Dollars, Gian Maria Volonté	CSI: NY	Leverage	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Phineas	Horn Interrupt	SportsCenter
6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage	CSI: Crime Scn	Phineas Phineas	NFL Live	College Basketball	
7 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage	CSI: Crime Scn	Phineas Phineas	NFL Live	College Basketball	
8 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage	CSI: Crime Scn	Phineas Phineas	NFL Live	College Basketball	
9 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage	CSI: Crime Scn	Phineas Phineas	NFL Live	College Basketball	
10 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage	CSI: Crime Scn	Phineas Phineas	NFL Live	College Basketball	
11 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage	CSI: Crime Scn	Phineas Phineas	NFL Live	College Basketball	
12 :AM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage	CSI: Crime Scn	Phineas Phineas	NFL Live	College Basketball	
1 :AM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage	CSI: Crime Scn	Phineas Phineas	NFL Live	College Basketball	

DENNIS THE MENACE



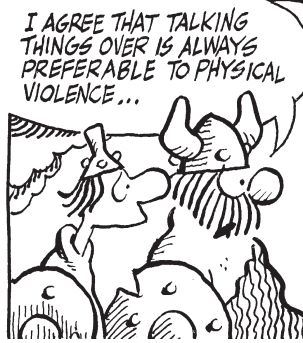
"I've lost at least three inches on this diet."  
"So, how tall does that make you now?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"We're gonna need to get more peanut butter!"

HAGAR



I AGREE THAT TALKING THINGS OVER IS ALWAYS PREFERABLE TO PHYSICAL VIOLENCE...

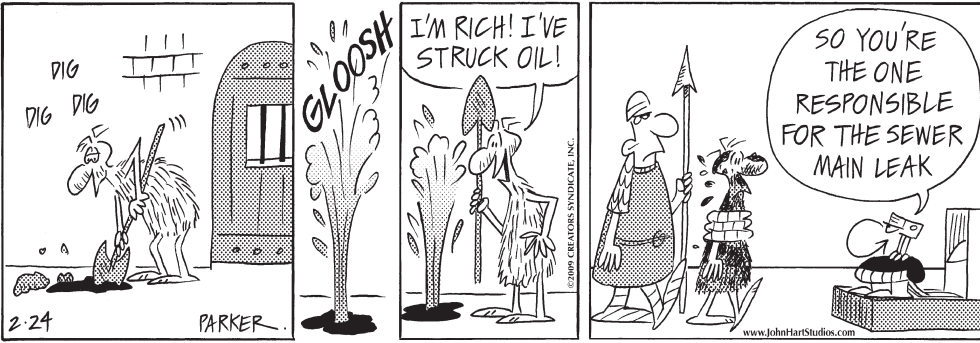


BUT IT MAY BE TOO LATE TO SCHEDULE A PEACE CONFERENCE

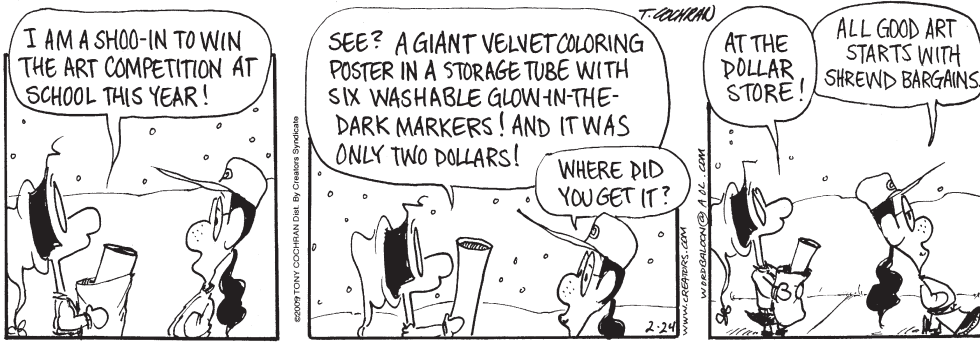
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WIZARD OF ID



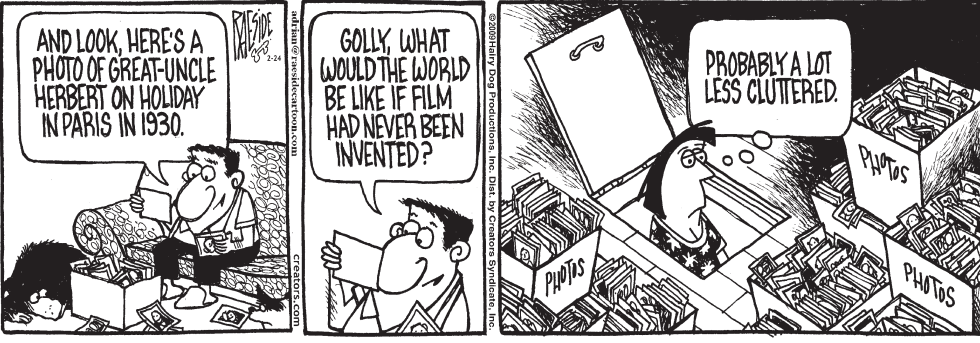
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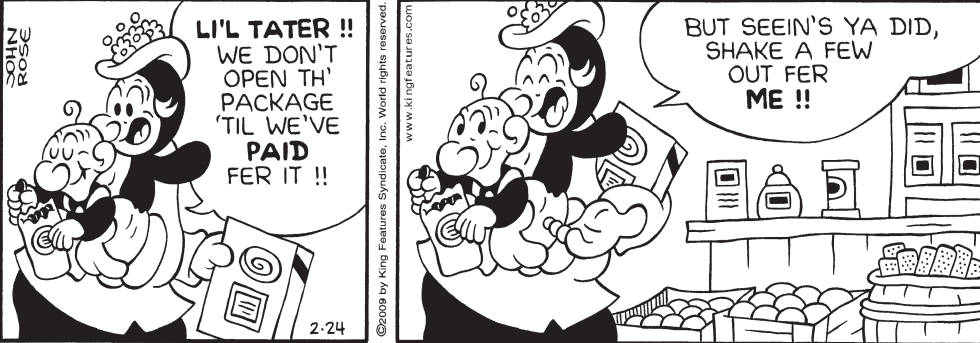
HI AND LOIS



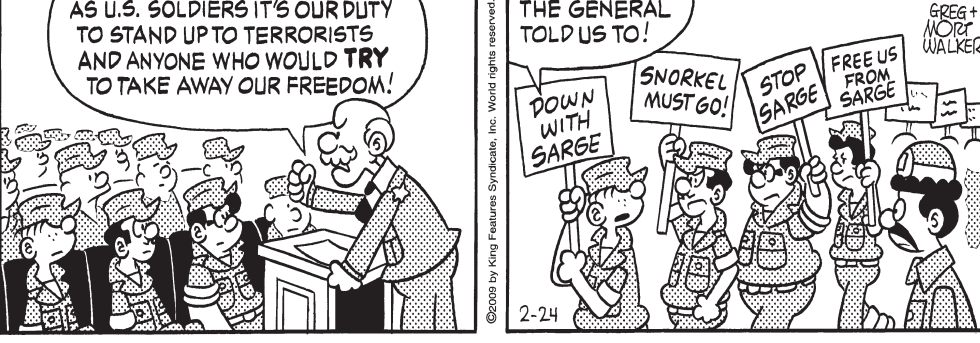
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 2009. There are 310 days left in the year.  
Today's Highlight in History:  
On Feb. 24, 1868, the House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate.  
On this date:  
In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued a papal bull, or edict, outlining his calendar reforms. (The Gregorian Calendar is the calendar in general use today.)  
In 1803, in its Marbury v. Madison decision, the Supreme Court established judicial review of the constitutionality of statutes.  
In 1821, Mexican rebels proclaimed the Plan de Iguala, their declaration of independence from Spain.  
In 1863, Arizona was organized as a territory.  
In 1920, the German Workers Party, which later became the

Nazi Party, met in Munich to adopt its platform.  
In 1942, the Voice of America went on the air for the first time.  
In 1946, Argentinian men went to the polls to elect Juan D. Peron their president.  
In 1983, a congressional commission released a report condemning the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice."  
In 1988, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a \$150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against Hustler magazine and publisher Larry Flynt.  
In 1989, a state funeral was held in Japan for Emperor Hirohito, who had died the month before at age 87.  
Today's Birthdays: Actor Abe Vigoda is 88. Actor Steven Hill is 87. Actor-singer Dominic Chianese is 78. Movie composer Michel Legrand is 77. Actor James Farentino is 71. Actor Barry Bostwick is 64. Actor Edward James Olmos is 62. Rock singer-musician George Thorogood is 59. Actress Debra Jo Rupp is 58. Actress Helen

Shaver is 58. Apple CEO Steve Jobs is 54. News anchor Paula Zahn is 53. Country singer Sammy Kershaw is 51. Singer Michelle Shocked is 47. Movie director Todd Field is 45. Actor Billy Zane is 43. Football player Jeff Garcia is 39. Actress Bonnie Somerville is 35. Football player Bob Sanders is 28. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brandon Brown (Mista) is 26. Rock musician Matt McGinley (Gym Class Heroes) is 26.  
Thought for Today: "Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind." — Henry James, American author (1843-1916).

Answer to previous puzzle

SASH	STALE	AGOG
OREO	ARBOR	SOME
PEEL	NOOSE	SNIT
HANDEDOUT	DUETS	
UNAPT	FACT	
PROPEL	BARHOP	
REFS	ALIST	SAP
OAF	PARENTS	EYE
DDT	EXITS	MEET
SHADED	ERODES	
ERAS	TACOS	
CAROL	RIGHTAWAY	
LUAU	CAMEO	IOTA
ARCS	SCENE	CROP
MAKE	TESTS	SENS

Newsday Crossword

FIFTIES FASHIONS by Billie Truitt  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Donated
- 5 Disaster-relief org.
- 9 Little rascal
- 14 At a distance
- 15 Banister
- 16 Loosen, as a shoe
- 17 On one's own
- 18 "\_\_\_ do you good"
- 19 Hole \_\_\_ (golfer's dream)
- 20 Fashion for a Fifties girl
- 23 Playful bite
- 24 Tire pattern
- 25 Victory
- 27 Wooden pins
- 30 Tavern
- 31 China's continent
- 35 Clench
- 37 Look after
- 41 Fashion for a Fifties girl
- 44 Huck Finn's creator
- 45 Contemplate
- 46 Lion's hair
- 47 Poem of praise
- 49 Don't go
- 51 Tape \_\_\_ (tailor's device)
- 55 Disreputable
- 59 Assn.
- 60 Fashion for a Fifties girl
- 64 Top of a wave
- 66 Soccer score
- 67 Racetrack shape
- 68 Pay tribute to
- 69 Suffix for kitchen
- 70 Italian money before the euro
- 71 Pretentious
- 72 Plant-to-be
- 73 Car blemish
- DOWN
- 1 Shocked response
- 2 In progress
- 3 Bravery
- 4 Wear away
- 5 Breakfast order
- 6 Has dinner
- 7 Half of half-and-half
- 8 "\_\_\_ forgiven"
- 9 Luggage item
- 10 Larry King's employer
- 11 Make amends
- 12 Small versions
- 13 Chick's chirps
- 21 Once around the track
- 22 Massage
- 26 Half of half-and-half
- 28 Metric weight
- 29 Nasal cavity
- 31 Do something
- 32 Observed
- 33 401(k) alternative
- 34 "So long" in Spain
- 36 Futive whisper
- 38 Approx. landing hour
- 39 Commandments count
- 40 Mine material
- 42 Money-making enterprise
- 43 Wiggled (out of)
- 48 Historical period
- 50 "By all means!"
- 51 Coffee/chocolate mix
- 52 Miscalculation
- 53 Deal negotiator
- 54 Rims
- 56 Get \_\_\_ of (grasp)
- 57 Hollywood release
- 58 Have a hankering
- 61 Overdo it with affection
- 62 Tardy
- 63 Window-blind piece
- 65 Distress signal

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# Minus Griffin, No. 3 OU falls to No. 15 Kansas

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Without Blake Griffin, No. 3 Oklahoma is suddenly beatable — and out of first place in the Big 12.

Tyshawn Taylor scored a career-high 26 points and Sherron Collins added 22 of his 26 points in the second half as No. 15 Kansas surged to the top of the conference standings with a 87-78 victory Monday night against third-ranked Oklahoma.

"We control our own destiny. We feel pretty good about it, but we know it's not a given yet," Collins said. "We've still got to go out and make it happen."

Cole Aldrich was able to dominate inside with the Sooners missing Griffin, a preseason All-American, because of a concussion. He had 15 points and a career-high 20 rebounds as the Jayhawks (23-5, 12-1 Big 12) took control in the race for their fifth straight conference title.

"With or without Blake, they're a great team," Aldrich said. "They showed it tonight. Blake would have definitely helped a lot if they would have had him, but that's kind of how the ball bounces. You just get an unfortunate injury like that, and you've just got to go with it."

The Big 12's biggest game so far this season lacked some of the sizzle after Griffin was ruled out because of the concussion that left him dazed on the

sidelines of the loss at Texas on Saturday night. The player of the year contender is the NCAA's leader in rebounding average (13.8) and double-doubles (22) and the Big 12's top scorer with 22 points per game.

But instead of suiting up, Griffin was in a dark sports jacket and jeans. He participated in a pregame team huddle in the tunnel and hugged Aldrich and Collins as he walked out to the court to watch the Sooners warm up. After that, he was merely a cheerleader.

He got fired up as the Sooners (25-3, 11-2) deployed a full-court press to eat away at the Jayhawks' lead that reached 20 midway through the second half, but the rally could only cut the deficit to three in the final 3 minutes.

"There's a reason that we've been so high in the polls all season. We've got guys that can play well besides him," said Taylor Griffin, Blake's older brother. "We were trying to look at this game as an opportunity to go out and show that. Unfortunately, we made some mistakes early on and errors throughout the game that kept us from doing that."

Willie Warren led the way with 23 points for Oklahoma, which has lost two in a row, including the 73-68 defeat at Texas when Griffin was first sidelined.

But Collins, the most experienced player remaining from the Jayhawks' national championship team from last year, simply made more big plays down the stretch.

Aldrich and Markieff Morris each had two-handed jams in a 15-2 spurt by the Jayhawks, and their lead stretched to 58-38 when the Sooners were called for goaltending on Taylor's layup with 10:38 to play.

Cade Davis followed Omar Leary's 3-pointer with two of his own to pull Oklahoma within 62-56 with just under 7 minutes to play, and Griffin came out to half court to greet his teammates and pat Juan Pattillo on the back at the next stoppage.

Leary hit another 3 to cut the deficit to 71-68 with 3:36 to play, but that's when Collins came up with Kansas' two biggest shots.

He answered at the other end and then did it again after Warren's 3 again got the Sooners within three.

Warren was called for an offensive foul on Oklahoma's next possession, and Pattillo then missed a right-handed dunk as the Jayhawks extended the lead out to 80-71 when Taylor made up for two missed free throws with a layup. Kansas was able to seal it from the free-throw line after that.

"I'm not saying the outcome would have been different, but certainly it would have changed a lot of different

things," Jayhawks coach Bill Self said. "And we wish he would have played."

Self hopes the Jayhawks meet the Sooners again with Griffin in the lineup, particularly if that means both teams have advanced deep in the Big 12 tournament.

"I would like to have our guys have the opportunity to have our guys play against the best player in the country," Self said.

Pattillo added 15 points and Taylor Griffin scored 11 for Oklahoma, which had a 19-game home winning streak snapped. Point guard Austin Johnson had the Sooners' opening basket, but used a heat pad on his troublesome back during the game and didn't score again in the final 39 minutes.

Warren had eight points in an early 20-2 run that put Oklahoma up 22-8, but Taylor led Kansas right back by scoring 11 of the Jayhawks' points in a 16-0 response.

Taylor then hit three free throws and Tyrel Reed sank a 3-pointer from the right corner with the clock running down to send Kansas to a 36-29 halftime lead.

"When we're at full strength, we're as good as anyone in the country," Oklahoma coach Jeff Capel said. "When we get everyone back, I think we'll be OK. These are just two bumps in the road for us."

# Buzbee, Park lead Forsan past Colorado City

By BRANDON HALLFORD

Special to the Herald

FORSAN — One of the strongest points for the Forsan Lady Buffs softball team this year was supposed to be the arm and bat of Amanda Longorio.

Instead, it became the biggest hole for Head Coach Shanna Roberts to fill thanks to a broken foot suffered by Longorio in preparation for Forsan's basketball playoff game last week.

"That (the injury to Longorio) was a big blow for us to take," Roberts said.

Enter Ashley Buzbee.

The Forsan freshman jumped into the pitchers' circle, holding the

Colorado City Lady Wolves to five hits while striking out 10 as the Lady Buffs opened up their 2009 home season with an 8-3 victory.

"Ashley did a great job for us tonight," Roberts said afterwards. "She came in and did the job that we asked of her."

With the Lady Wolves up 1-0 in the bottom of the fourth, Forsan took advantage of three Colorado City errors along with three walks, erupting for six runs in the frame.

After loading the bases thanks to a pair of walks and an error by the Lady Wolves, Forsan looked as if it were to come away empty handed after Colorado City catcher Miranda Reyna threw up a wall at the plate,

blocking both Morgan Forshee and Sandi Goeller from scoring.

The Lady Buffs broke through when Kelsey Jones singled to left, scoring both Shelby Jones and Hill. After a walk to Alyx Pappajohn reloaded the bases for the Lady Buffs, Miranda Park got under a pitch that went off the tip of the Colorado City right fielder's glove for a bases clearing triple.

Park scored three pitches later, dashing home on a passed ball.

Forsan scored two insurance runs in the sixth. Again, it was Park doing the damage, leading off the inning with a double off the right field fence. Park and Kevy O'Brien scored three batters later when a ball off the bat of

Shelby Jones trickled into right field for a single.

Colorado City scored two runs in the top of the seventh, but it was too little, too late.

"I thought that we played a pretty good game tonight for it being the first game back for the girls from basketball," Roberts said. "I saw some things that we need to work on, but our defense was solid for the most part and we took advantage of the chances we where given."

C-City 000 100 2-3 5 3

Forsan 000 602 x-8 5 2

Ashley Buzbee and Shelby Jones. WP: Buzbee(1-0), LP: Reyna.

2B: For - Miranda Park. 3B: F - Park. RBI: F - Park 3, K.Jones 2, S. Jones 2.

## HC

Continued from Page 7

conference play against Midland and had them beat at their place, but let it slip away in the end. The same thing happened here tonight. We've had the top two teams from this conference on the ropes at their place and couldn't come up with a win in either of them."

The game served as

the Hawks' season finale and will send them into the Region V Tournament as the fourth seed out of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference. Howard will most likely meet Weatherford College in the opening round of the regional tourney, which begins March 5.

Howard held a 1-point advantage at the end of the first half, 22-21, and jumped out to an 11-point lead, 38-27, courtesy of a

16-6 run to open the second half.

A field goal by DeAndra Thomas gave Howard a 40-30 lead with 13:23 to play. It was the last time Howard would score for a four minute period, allowing South Plains to sneak back into the contest with an 8-0 run.

The Hawks finally woke up and answered with a 7-2 run for a 47-42 lead with 6:58 to play. However, Howard got comfortable again and went another four minutes without a bucket and South Plains took a 50-47 advantage with 2:41 to play.

The Hawks were able to regain the lead with 1:49 left on the clock, 51-50, courtesy of a Rachael Dryver bucket in the lane.

The Hawks were able to keep South Plains off the scoreboard for more

than a minute, but a costly turnover led to a Workman layup, giving the Lady Texans a 52-51 advantage with 13 seconds on the clock. Workman also drew a foul from Patricia Malouff on the play and made good on the 3-point play.

The layup turned out

to be the game winner as Howard couldn't get either of its last second attempts to fall.

"We turned the ball over far too much to win," said Diddle. "That turnover at the end was just huge. It led to an easy basket and we can't let any team have those. It's something we're

going to have to make sure we can address before the regional.

"We're thrilled to be going back to the regional tournament for a second consecutive year," he continued. "Of course, once we get there, our goal is to win. I like our chances. I think we've shown this season that when we take care of the basketball and don't give up easy buckets, we can play with anyone."

### WJCAC Men's Standings

Team	Conference	Overall
Midland College	13-2	26-3
South Plains	12-3	24-3
Howard College	10-5	21-7
New Mexico JC	9-6	21-8
Western Texas	9-6	19-9
Odessa College	7-9	20-9
Frank Phillips	6-9	16-13
NMMI	2-13	8-21
Clarendon College	0-15	8-21

**Monday's results: South Plains 55, Howard 53; Western Texas 58, Odessa 47; Frank Phillips 74, NMMI 68; New Mexico 121, Clarendon 52; Midland was open.**

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

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## SANDS

Continued from Page 7

Sands was led by Brittini Blaggrave's 16 points with Ashli Stockton and Tamara Nichols chipping in 10 points apiece.

**Guthrie 11 15 13 8 9-56**  
**Sands 14 11 12 10 4-51**  
Guthrie (28-2): Katie Jones 18, Sadie Tarver 15, Shaley Shipman 10.

Sands (21-12): Brittini Blaggrave 16, Ashlie Stockton 10, Tamara Nichols 10.