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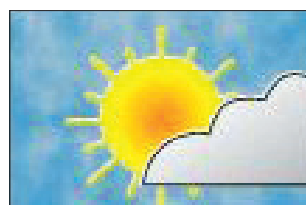
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THE BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY

MARCH 2, 2009



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New rash of bad economic news

Treasury Department to hand out \$30 billion more to struggling AIG

By STEVEN R. HURST

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama faced a new rash of bad economic news Monday as his Treasury Department prepared to hand out \$30 billion more to bail out an international insurance and investment giant and Wall Street shed value even before it opened for trading.

The government said it would give

American International Group Inc. the additional \$30 billion in loans, adding to the \$150 billion it has already provided the ailing insurer. AIG on Monday also reported the biggest quarterly loss in U.S. corporate history — \$61.7 billion. On that news daily U.S. stock futures fell more than 2 percent a few hours before the market opened.

The economy has been in near free fall since late last year when the na-

tion's housing market began its collapse, sending shock waves throughout the economy and threatening a financial implosion. A \$700 billion bailout package set up by the Bush administration has kept the economy on life support, but Obama's subsequent plan for \$787 billion more to stimulate the crumbling system has yet to kick in.

Obama's new budget, meanwhile, foresees the possible need to spend

as much as \$750 billion more to prop up America's banks and investment houses, which are holding an unknown volume of bad debt. They have cut the flow of credit to a relative trickle.

The president won just a brief respite from the economy on Sunday when parallel challenges to his administration from abroad came into

See **ECONOMY**, Page 3

Council to revisit billboards, containers

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Discussions concerning billboards and the use of sea containers in the city limits tops the agenda for Tuesday's special meeting of the Big Spring City Council, as the government body attempts to take a second look at both issues.

The council allowed final approval of the items to fail for lack of a motion during last week's regular meeting after Mayor Russ McEwen urged the council to hold a special meeting Tuesday to better assess them.

"I know I've looked around and had some second thoughts about some of the things," McEwen told the council during its Feb. 24 meeting. "I just feel like it would be good, in a little more informal setting, to sit down and decide what we want to do."



McEwen



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Sea containers like these — located near FM 700 and Virginia — along with the use of billboards in the city limits will be the topics discussed by the Big Spring City Council during a special meeting Tuesday.

Both issues drew a slew of questions and complaints from council members during their first reading several

weeks ago.

In the end, the council approved first reading of an ordinance that would al-

low the use of sea containers — large

See **CITY**, Page 3

Gem show opens Saturday

Annual Prospectors Club event set for two-day run at fair barns

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Gems and minerals are about to take center stage in the Crossroads area, as the Big Spring Prospectors Club presents its 40th annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show Saturday and Sunday in the Howard County Fair Barns.

Prospectors Club spokeswoman Lola Lamb said the show — which is free to the public — has something for everyone in the family.

"We'll have a dozen dealers coming from all over Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, and club members will be doing demonstrations. We'll also have the spinning wheel for the children, and there will be a wider variety of novelties for the children to take home" said

Lamb, a longtime Prospectors Club member. "There will be displays from the prospector groups in Midland and Lubbock, and possibly Abilene. They attend our shows and set up displays, and when they hold their shows we do the same for them.

"A lot of people probably don't realize what can be inside what appears to be an ugly old rock. There will be plenty of displays showing what is actually inside a rock,



Herald file photo

Admission to the Big Spring Prospectors Club Gem and Mineral Show is free.

and how it's worked into jewelry. Several people at the show will be working

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Obituaries

Wanda Jean Lee



Wanda Jean "Little Sister" Lee, 76, of Big Spring died Saturday, Feb. 28, 2009, in a Midland Hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, 2009, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with her brother, the Rev. Jimmy Huff, and the Rev. Dwayne Wheat, pastor of Berea Baptist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends Monday, March 2, 2009, from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

She was born March 9, 1932, in Howard County and married William (Bob) Lee March 1, 1941, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Jan. 11, 2000.

Wanda was a homemaker and an avid collector of dolls. She was a member of Berea Baptist Church.

Survivors include one sister, Frances Emery and husband, Eddie, of Brownfield; three brothers, Jimmy Lee Huff, Thomas L. Huff and wife, Kara, all of Colorado City, and Donnie Ray Huff and wife, Carmen, of Greeley, Colo.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Bobbie Johnson, on June 23, 2005; her parents; two brothers; and three sisters.

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

Eulah B. Godwin

Eulah B. Godwin, 93, of Big Spring died Sunday, March 1, 2009, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take Note

• This is the 80th anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Big Spring and the club will be having its annual pancake supper Friday at the Howard College cafeteria. They will be serving pancakes, bacon and sausage from 4 p.m. thru 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person.

• Big Spring resident Velma Campbell was on vacation in Arizona when she had a massive stroke. She has since been transported to a hospital in Lubbock. She has many friends and is an avid bowler. If anyone would like to help, a savings account has been set up at Wells Fargo. The savings account number is 9662778118.

• 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.

Support Groups

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

TUESDAY

• Grief share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m.. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599.

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

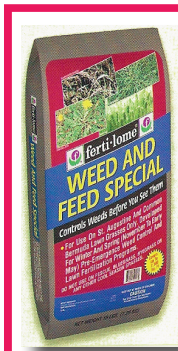
- SONNY CAMPBELL, 41, of 108 Circle, was arrested Saturday on a charge of making a false report to a police officer.
- COLBY SHEA WORDEN, 23, of 3205 Drexel, was arrested Saturday on charges of failure to appear and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- MATTHEW CORY FOWLER, 25, of 1304 S. Nolan, was arrested Saturday on a charge of making a false report to a police officer.
- SAMMY FERRELL, 47, of 509 N. Johnson, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.
- LANCE WAYNE LAND, 19, of 904 W. Fourth St., was arrested Saturday on charges of theft and consumption of alcohol by a minor.
- ERNEST SARMIENTO, 38, of 1400 Princeton, was arrested Sunday on two local warrants.
- DAVID OVALLE, 39, of 1519 Stadium, was arrested Sunday on a charge of hindering the discharge of an officer's duties.
- THEFT was reported:
 - in the 1200 block of 15th Street.
 - in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
 - in the 1200 block of 11th Place.
 - in the 900 block of Willia.
- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS was reported in the 1100 block of 11th Place.
- POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA was reported in the 1100 block of 11th Place.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
 - in the 500 block of Westover Road.
 - in the 1000 block of 15th Street.
 - in the 1900 block of Monticello.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 700 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported:
 - in the 300 block of 12th Street.
 - in the 1600 block of Donley.
 - in the 2900 block of Highway 80.
- FAILURE TO STOP AND RENDER AID was reported in the 100 block of Cedar.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported:
 - in the 1900 block of Highway 87.
 - in the 500 block of Runnels.
 - in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 56 inmates at the time of this report.
- JOSE DELACRUZ, 47, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of harassment.
 - BRANDON DEE RUSHIN, 39, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
 - CURTIS DWAYNE WOODRUFF, 23, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
 - DAVID ARGUELLO JR., 28, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of resisting arrest, search or transportation.
 - RENE RODRIGUEZ, 21, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
 - JOSE ALFREDO MELENDEZ, 25, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
 - SAUL LOPEZ JR., 27, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
 - BILLY JOE CHAVERA, 31, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.
 - PATRICIA BACON, 36, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of assault causing bodily injury – family violence.
 - ERNEST CASTANEDA, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
 - ERIC WAYNE DEAL, 42, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of burglary of a habitation.
 - MERRILL CLAYTON CAMPBELL, 41, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of filing a false report with a police officer.
 - MATTHEW CORY FOWLER, 25, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of filing a false report with a police officer.
 - ANTONIO JOE FLORES, 28, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a motion to revoke probation for reckless driving.
 - TRAVIS SORRELLS, 20, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

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Bulletin Board

TODAY

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 begins at 5 p.m. with weight-in at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Drag-on China Buffet.
- Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the Bingo Hall. Call 264-0674 for more information.
- The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.
- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Runnels. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2500 block of Barksdale. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2100 block of Johnston. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Highway 350. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Tubb Loop Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the 900 block of S. Johnson.
- DUMPSTER FIRE was reported in the 1100 block of Johnson.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Purdue. One person was transported to SMMC.
- FENCE FIRE was reported in the 1700 block of Donley.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1600 block of Indian Hills. Two people were transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Langley. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1500 block of Goliad. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of E. Highway 350. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1500 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 37-49-11-42-15-36.
Number matching six of six: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 35-17-32-22-3.
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:

1-8-8-4. Sum It Up: 21

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News in Brief

Boy missing in Sam Houston National Forest

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Searchers spent the night looking for a 13-year-old boy missing, during freezing conditions, in the Sam Houston National Forest.

A dispatcher with the Walker County Sheriff's Office, Stacie Flores, told The Associated Press that the boy was reported missing shortly before 5 p.m. Sunday. She says the boy was with a junior ROTC unit from Crosby, about 20 miles northeast of Houston.

KHOU-TV reports the boy was participating, with dozens of other youths, in some type of map and compass exercise.

U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Gay Ippolito (ip-uh-LEE'-toh) says it's not unusual for Scouting or other groups to use the forest area for merit badges or other activities.

Dog teams were being used in the search. Temperatures early Monday dipped into the 20s in the area.

Center man makes prayer crosses for U.S. soldiers

CENTER (AP) — An East Texas retiree has found a hands-on way to let U.S. troops overseas know he cares and is praying for them.

Steve Thomas of Center makes small wooden crosses with the words "prayer cross" written on them.

Part of the cross is hollowed to hold a slip of paper with the soldier's name and the date he or she was prayed for at First United Methodist Church in Center.

Thomas says a few weeks ago was thinking about ways to let U.S. military personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan know they're not forgotten.

"It took me awhile to figure out how to make them (the crosses) and what I needed, and this seemed to fall right

in place," Thomas said.

The retired prototype builder gets the wood from a salvage yard. He and his wife mail the thank-you prayer crosses to troops.

Thomas says the parents of the soldier who received the first cross sent a thank you card for thinking of their son. Thomas calls that "very touching."

Anson expected to rebuild city park

ANSON (AP) — An Anson city park that was torched last month will be rebuilt.

Anson Mayor Boyd Vance says the park was insured and officials are working to determine a cost estimate for restoration.

So far no arrests in the Feb. 22 fire that destroyed most of the park, including a playground complex built by volunteers in 2004.

Boyd says it was "heartbreaking" when he saw what was left from the fire.

Anson is a town of about 2,500, located 20 miles northwest of Abilene.

Fake ID sting for underage drinkers

BELTON (AP) — A fake ID sting targeting underage drinkers in Bell County led to 17 arrests at bars.

Operation Fake Out was held over the weekend in conjunction with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

TABC Sgt. Victor Kuykendoll says the operation was months in the planning, in an investigation that included the cooperation of the businesses.

Undercover officers visited about a dozen bars and nightclubs in Killeen and Harker Heights.

Other arrests included one person for offering a fake military ID, three people charged with public intoxication and one person charged for possession of illegal drugs.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

metal structures used by freight lines and railroads to ship goods, and are sometimes used in the place of sheds or other storage receptacles — within the city limits for both commercial and non-commercial use.

Also previously, the council approved first reading of an overhauled billboard code that was originally developed to address the use of LED billboards in the city limits.

With motions having been made and rescinded, the council finally broke its deadlock on the ordinance — which centered largely around provisions that govern how billboards can be "stacked" on top of one another — when a motion was then made to allow the signs, at a maximum of 300 square feet, to be divided or stacked however the sign owner sees fit.

The motion, marking first reading of the revamped ordinance, was approved unanimously during the Feb. 10 meeting, but final reading failed two weeks later for lack of a motion.

Tuesday, council members are also expected to meet with Stacy Payne, the grant writer recently hired as part of an agreement between several local taxing entities.

The meeting will get under way at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth St.

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

GEM

Continued from Page 1

with the stones so people can see the process they go through first hand."

With 40 years of gem shows to celebrate, Lamb said the local group is doing it in style.

"The ruby is the 40-year anniversary stone," said Lamb. "So to celebrate 40 years

of gem shows in Big Spring, we'll be giving away a manmade ruby cut into the Star of Big Spring. That will be the grand prize."

Lamb said demonstrations are a big part of the Gem and Mineral Show, which is slated for 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday.

"All of the demonstrations this year are going to be done by our local club members," said Lamb. "They will be

doing bead making, fastening and cabochons, which are the round oblong stones you sometimes see in belt buckles and bolo ties."

And while door prizes and plenty of beautiful stones for sale are a major draw for the show each year, Lamb said she hopes area residents who have been bitten by the rock bug will use it as an opportunity to learn about the club and what they do.

"It's a hobby, but it's

also an ongoing process," she said with a smile. "You learn something new everyday, not only from other club members, but also when you go to a show or you pick up the rock and gem magazine. It's a learning process, and most rockhounds like to share their knowledge with other people.

"My favorite part of the club is the collecting and the mystery of it. Sawing a rock in half and seeing what's inside

is quite an experience, because you can't tell what a rock looks like just by the outside of it. It's fascinating to see how pretty it is on the inside sometimes. On the other hand, sometimes it's nothing, but you just never know. You kick a rock, or throw it, and you never really think about what kind of beauty might be inside of it."

For more information on the show, contact Lamb at 263-3340.

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ECONOMY

Continued from Page 1

focus, in particular his plan for ending the U.S. combat mission in Iraq by Aug. 31, 2010, and new concerns about Iran's nuclear ambitions.

Top U.S. military officials predictably backed Obama's course for removing U.S. forces from Iraq, but Defense Secretary Robert Gates acknowledged that field commanders wanted more time.

"I think that if the commanders had had complete say in this matter, that they would have preferred the combat mission not end until the end of 2010," Gates said.

Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said, meanwhile, that he was comfortable with the plan, which would have all American forces out of Iraq by Dec. 31, 2011. Mullen said, however, that he was reluctant to talk about "winning or losing," adding rather that conditions were in place for the Baghdad government to successfully take control over the country.

"I was able to give him my best military advice and I'm very comfortable with the decision

he made," Mullen said.

Under the Obama plan, the 142,000 U.S. forces in Iraq would be drawn down to between 35,000 and 50,000 troops by the 2010 date, with all forces to be extracted from the country by the last day of 2011.

Mullen, meanwhile, issued unsettling remarks on Iran and its nuclear program, saying Tehran now has sufficient fissile material for a nuclear weapon, declaring it would be a "very, very bad outcome" should the Islamic regime move forward with a bomb.

He offered the assessment when questioned about a recent report by the U.N. nuclear watchdog on the state of Iran's uranium enrichment program, which can create nuclear fuel and may be sufficiently advanced to produce the core of warheads.

Mullen was asked if Iran now had enough fissile material to make a bomb. He responded, "We think they do, quite frankly. And Iran having a nuclear weapon I've believed for a long time is a very, very bad outcome for the region and for the world."

On Monday, Iran dismissed U.S. concerns, saying it isn't developing a nuclear bomb and that any effort to make weapons-grade uranium would be difficult under

the eyes of international inspectors.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Hasan Qashqavi told reporters in Tehran, "We have said many times that a nuclear weapon has no place in Iran's defense doctrine."

Qashqavi did not comment specifically on the amount of fissile material Iran has produced. But he implied that even if Iran wanted to produce weapons-grade uranium, it would be difficult since the country's enrichment facility is being monitored by the IAEA.

"How is it possible for uranium enriched 3 to 4 percent to be enriched up to 90 percent while under IAEA monitoring?" he said.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said Iran has processed the 2,222 pounds (1,010 kilograms) of low-enriched uranium. But the report left unclear whether Iran is now capable, even if it wanted, of further processing that material into a sufficient quantity of highly enriched uranium to

arm one weapon.

Gates did not go as far as Mullen. The Iranians, Gates said, are "not close to a weapon at this point and so there is some time" for continued diplomatic efforts.

"The question is whether you can increase the level of the sanctions and the cost to the Iranians of pursuing that program at the same time you show them an open door if they want to engage with the Europeans, with us and so on if they walk away from that program," Gates said. "Our chances of being successful, it seems to me, are a lot better at \$35 or \$40 oil than they were at \$140 oil because there are economic costs to this program, they do have economic challenges at home."

But U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Susan Rice, recently told National Public Radio that the IAEA report "confirms what we all had feared and anticipated, which is that Iran remains in pursuit of its nuclear program." Iran, now subjected to

various penalties by the U.N., the U.S. and others over its nuclear program, denies it wants to build a bomb. It asserts its program is intended to provide the country with the homegrown ability to generate electricity from nuclear reactors.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

Texans should remember price our heroes paid

Texas is 173 years old today. On March 2, 1836, 54 men gathered together at Washington-on-the-Brazos and signed the Texas Declaration of Independence.

While all that was taking place, 189 Texas soldiers sat in the Alamo in San Antonio, providing time for Sam Houston — who was among the declaration's signers — to form an army that would eventually defeat Mexican Emperor Santa Anna at San Jacinto, securing Texas' independence from Mexico which would ultimately change the future of the United States.

Those besieged soldiers at the Alamo, facing an estimated 6,000 Mexican troops and outnumbered 10-to-1 or so, were commanded by Col. William Barret Travis and fought not only the most famous battle in the Texas Revolution, but one of the best remembered battles of all times.

Travis and his soldiers were willing to lay down their lives in service to Texas and in pursuit of its freedom, knowing all too well that without reinforcements they would not be able to survive.

Shortly before the fall of the Alamo, Colonel Travis wrote a letter to all Texans that we should remember and one that we here at the Herald take pride in remembering today:

FELLOW CITIZENS AND COMPATRIOTS: I AM BESIEGED BY A THOUSAND OR MORE OF THE MEXICANS UNDER SANTA ANNA — I HAVE SUSTAINED A CONTINUAL BOMBARDMENT AND CANNONADE FOR 24 HOURS AND HAVE NOT LOST A MAN — THE ENEMY HAS DEMANDED A SURRENDER AT DISCRETION, OTHERWISE, THE GARRISON IS TO BE PUT TO THE SWORD, IF THE FORT IS TAKEN — I HAVE ANSWERED THE DEMANDS WITH A CANNON SHOT, AND OUR FLAG STILL WAVES PROUDLY FROM THE WALL — I SHALL NEVER SURRENDER OR RETREAT.

THEN, I CALL ON YOU IN THE NAME OF LIBERTY, OF PATRIOTISM AND OF EVERYTHING DEAR TO THE AMERICAN CHARACTER, TO COME TO OUR AID, WITH ALL DISPATCH. THE ENEMY IS RECEIVING REINFORCEMENTS DAILY AND WILL NO DOUBT INCREASE TO THREE OR FOUR THOUSAND IN FOUR OR FIVE DAYS. IF THIS CALL IS NEGLECTED, I AM DETERMINED TO SUSTAIN MYSELF AS LONG AS POSSIBLE AND DIE LIKE A SOLDIER WHO NEVER FORGETS WHAT IS DUE TO HIS OWN HONOR AND THAT OF HIS COUNTRY — VICTORY OR DEATH.

WILLIAM BARRET TRAVIS, LT. COL., COMMANDER

It should be noted that beginning on March 2, 1961, the late Sen. John G. Tower would read Col. Travis' letter on the floor of the United States Senate and he did so every one of the 24 years he served in the Senate. It's a tradition has been continued by Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison.

We believe it important that every generation of Texans pause to remember those patriots — each soldier who gave his life at the Alamo; the 54 men who met at Washington-on-the-Brazos, putting their lives in danger by signing that Declaration of Independence; and every man, woman and child who struggled to make Texas what it became, greatest place in the world to live today.

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we take comfort in the knowledge that You can help us through all situations, Lord.
Amen

Let's do without the waste

In his inaugural address, President Barack Obama made clear his vision for government. Midway through his speech, he said that it is "not whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works."

The president also made clear that if a program is failing or not working, it should end.

Over the last two decades, generally coinciding with the start of each new Congress, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) has written a report that should help the new administration strive to meet this laudable goal. The most recent study chronicles about 30 government programs that are at high risk for waste, fraud, or abuse.

The GAO report on high risk government programs can serve as a road map for the Obama administration. The objective of rooting out waste, fraud, abuse, and inefficiencies in government, as well as identifying at-risk agencies and programs, will require hard work. Here are some examples from the high-risk list that are a good place to start:

Defense Weapons Purchases: This decade, the military has significantly increased the number of major defense acqui-

sition programs. On average, the cost overruns of the 95 weapons currently under development or in production have increased by \$295 billion over initial estimates. And most of these programs are experiencing a 21-month delay in delivering the weapons systems. The Department of Defense must then request more funding to cover the overruns, making less money available for other priorities.

Enforcement of Tax Laws: The amount of taxes that taxpayers should have paid but didn't was last estimated to be \$345 billion. That is with about an 84 percent compliance rate — a rate that has changed little in three decades. After late payments and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) enforcement actions are accounted for, the so called tax gap narrows to \$290 billion. And recently IRS began contracting out some of its collections to private companies, which, according to Treasury's taxpayer advocate, has actually cost taxpayers money.

Another concern is U.S. companies using off-shore tax havens. GAO's recent work showed that many U.S. multinational corporations are shifting profits to low or no-tax jurisdictions. The lost tax revenue is about \$56.4 billion. IRS enforcement of the tax laws is vital. It is a key way to enhance taxpayer confidence that everyone is paying their fair share.

Reforming Department of Energy contracting: The De-

partment of Energy relies more on private contractors than any other government agency. Nearly 90 percent of the agency's annual budget is spent on contracts. Twelve large Energy Department construction projects exceeded original cost estimates, with increases ranging from \$79 million to \$7.9 billion, and experienced sizable time delays.

When President Obama said that "us who manage the public's dollars will be held to account, to spend wisely, reform bad habits, and do our business in the light of day, because only then can we restore the vital trust between a people and their government," he was essentially saying that cutting wasteful programs is necessary for the public to regain faith in its elected officials.

Sure, there are many government programs that work and there are some that fail. The GAO High Risk report recommendations are a good place to begin reining in waste and cutting fat.

When government is planning on spending enormous amount of federal cash on a stimulus, it is even more critical that the wasteful programs are eliminated, and the inefficient ones reformed. This would be an important first step in regaining public trust.

Ryan Alexander is president, Taxpayers for Common Sense, a non-partisan federal budget watchdog.



RYAN
ALEXANDER



Poor parents need support

Parenting offers the most wonderful and daunting challenges in the world.

Parents are their children's most important teachers and mentors, and they bear primary responsibility for nurturing their sons and daughters while keeping them safe.

Yet parenting is one of the most undervalued and least prepared-for roles in America.

Virtually everyone who has children wants to be a good parent, but some do not know how to do that, and many lack the support of extended family or community resources. So instead of judging or assigning blame when parents come up short in providing care and protection to their children, we should recognize that what many parents need is help.

Nobody raises a child alone and many parents need support from a spouse, parent, sibling, friend or neighbor. That support may come in the form of respite for an hour or two of alone time once a week or the ability to attend church while a friend sits with their children. Parents, grandparents or other caregivers of children or teenagers can benefit from support groups organized by faith-based or other community organizations where they can find help for coping with the challenging behaviors of their children or extra support to address their children's special needs.

Many parents are plagued by poverty or unemployment that can make it particularly difficult for them to balance parenting

with job searches or work. Parents who worry about the impact on their children of an impending job lay-off or eviction may at some point vent their frustration on a child. Stress grows as parents become more isolated.

Help for many families comes through home visiting programs that engage parents and keep them from being isolated. Home visitors work with parents to understand and address their children's developmental needs while strengthening their parenting skills. Some home visiting programs offer a variety of supports to families with differing needs, but most seek to help parents beginning right after childbirth when they are especially receptive to advice and assistance.

The Nurse-Family Partnership, a successful home visiting program, has the longest track record. It engages young women during pregnancy, focusing on improving the health, well-being and self-sufficiency of low-income, first-time parents -- many of them young single mothers -- and stays with them through the child's second birthday. The nurses work with mothers on health-related behaviors during pregnancy such as cigarette smoking, drinking and drug abuse, and educate them about the physical and emotional needs of their children.

The Healthy Families home visiting programs target mothers at risk, connecting with them at the hospital and following up with visits, to some parents and children through age five. The Parents as Teachers program offers home visiting to parents with newborns through the schools. Recognizing that parents are their children's best first teachers, families receive

child development instruction and parenting support in their homes from a trained parent educator for the child's first three years, and in some locations, until the child enters kindergarten. All of these home visiting models have been highly effective in strengthening parenting skills, promoting healthy child development, and addressing child abuse and neglect.

For parents facing special challenges, such as substance abuse, comprehensive family-based treatment brings parents and their young children together so that attention can be given to the parent-child relationship as well as the child's development. These programs also help parents prepare a recovery plan as they transition back into their communities. As a component of some programs, mothers in recovery serve as wise parent mentors to counsel others parents going through treatment.

Support for families in need through community-based organizations, schools or public agencies must fully engage parents, other family members and the children and build on the strengths of all of them. Helping adults become better parents reduces child abuse and neglect and works to prevent crime and delinquency when children's special needs are caught early. Ultimately, this type of intervention benefits children and all of us over the long term by helping to make the futures of those served more productive and by lowering public expenditures.

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



MARIAN
WRIGHT
EDELMAN

BSHS track makes statement in Lubbock

Herald Staff Report

LUBBOCK — Big Spring High School's boys and girls track team made loud statements at its first track meet of the season Saturday in Lubbock.

The Lady Steers dominated their field, scoring 152 points, while the Steers grabbed second place with 115 points — seven behind first-place Frenship — despite not running any of their relay teams at the Lubbock Invitational.

"We gained a lot from the experience we got last year," said Lady Steers Coach Nick Roberson. "We've got some young girls on this team, but we've also got some we can rely on for their experience."

Desiree Anderson and Bridgette Tuitt were the catalysts for the Lady

Steers.

Tuitt, a freshman, took home individual gold in the triple jump, high jump and 200-meter run. She was moved to the high jump just this week and had two days to practice it. She then won the event, clearing four feet, 10 inches.

"Most freshmen are intimidated by their first track meet, but Bridgette wasn't at all," said Roberson. "She got off the bus and went to work. In the 200, I thought she was just tired. She'd be competing all day and I think I might have put her in too many events. Then she just turned



Tuitt

it on and raced away from the competition."

Anderson, a sophomore, came in first in the long jump and 100-meter dash. She finished second to Tuitt in the triple jump.

The duo also teamed to win two relays — the 4x100 and 4x200. Joining Tuitt and Anderson on the 4x100 was Iesha Simpson and Traosha Walker, while Simpson and Paige Smith teamed with them on the 4x200.

Simpson also had a third-place finish in the 100-meters, while nabbing second in the long jump.

Senior Leslie Leal also scored big for the Lady Steers, winning the shot put competition, while finishing third in the discus.

Standing out in the boys division was senior LaRay Woodard. Woodard claimed gold in the three events —

the long jump, the 110-meter hurdles and the 300-meter hurdles. He finished second in the state in the long jump last year as a junior.

Tyrone Clemons set a personal best, clearing six feet, nine inches. Clemons also finished third in the 110-meter hurdles.

Senior Zack Saldivar made his track and field debut for the Steers by winning two gold medals in the shot and disc. Saldivar outdistanced his competition in the shot put by a little less than five feet.

Jordan Valle, who is a state champion in cross country, dominated the field in the 1,600 meters with his toughest competition coming from teammate Kade Parker, who finished

See **TRACK**, Page 6

Pitching leads HC to 4-game sweep of OC

Herald Staff Report

ODESSA — Nationally ranked Howard College is proving to be unbeatable on the diamond in the early part of the 2009 junior college baseball season.

The Hawks (16-0, 4-0) completed a 4-game sweep of Odessa College (7-8, 0-4) Saturday to open the Western Junior College Athletic Conference season with two wins in a doubleheader, 5-3 and 11-3.

It was Howard's depth on the mound powering the sweep over the weekend as the Hawks' pitching staff allowed just three runs in all four games played against Odessa. Howard won 9-3 and 4-3 in Friday's action at Jack Barber Field.

Saturday Anthony Collazo picked up the win in Game 1, pitching 6.1 innings, striking out eight batters and allowing two runs. Burch Smith was the victor in Game 2.

Howard scored a quick two runs in the opening frame of Game 1, but held just a 2-1 lead heading into the top of sixth. The Hawks scored three runs in the inning, utilizing small ball.

The first run scored on a wild pitch, then a bunt brought the second across. The third was registered courtesy of a balk by OC ace Julio Torres, giving Howard a 5-1 advantage.

Howard was more consistent with its offensive production in the second game, using a 3-run third inning to take a 4-0



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Howard College's Burch Smith pitches in junior college baseball action from Feb. 14 at Jack Barber Field. Smith picked up a win in Game 2 of a doubleheader against Odessa College Saturday. The victory gave Howard a 4-game sweep over Odessa to open Western Junior College Athletic Conference play.

See **HAWKS**, Page 6

Turkey Valley eliminates GC from playoffs, faces Sands next

Herald Staff Report

POST — Garden City's Bearkats saw their basketball season come to an end Saturday as they were unable to pull out a victory over Turkey Valley's Patriots.

The Patriots withstood a late fourth quarter rally by Garden City for a 59-54 victory.

The Bearkats got hot shooting the

ball in the fourth period, but every shot was answered by Valley. Garden City made eight 3-pointers, but unfortunately so did Valley.

Sophomore Hayden Halfmann had a career-high 23



Chudej

points to lead all scorers, scoring 11 in the final frame. He had three of Garden City's eight treys.

Brett Chudej and Michael Clarke each totaled 12 points.

Garden City is a young squad with four sophomores and a freshman seeing significant playing time this season. The Bearkats finish the year

See **GC**, Page 6

Hughey gets one final swim at state meet

Herald Staff Report

AUSTIN — Big Spring's Cameron Hughey got to compete in one final swim Saturday at the Class 4A state meet in Austin, finishing 15th in the 100-meter freestyle with a time of 49.39.

Hughey finished 13th in the prelims, allowing the chance to at least hit the pool one final time in the finals.

Hughey almost didn't get to go to the state meet as he was disqualified for the 50-meter freestyle, which was by far his best

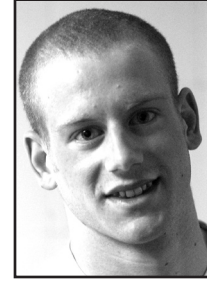
race, at the district competition. He qualified for the 100 freestyle after pulling off an upset victory at the Region I meet.

"Cameron has been a leader for the team all season and it was nice to see him get to state," said Big Spring Swim Coach Kenneth Nelson. "He's had a great career at Big Spring and his senior year was amazing as he set the school record in the 50 free several times."

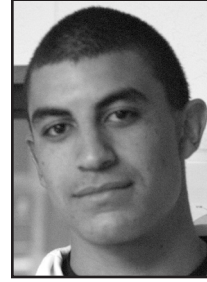
Hughey's classmate Deshae Green also made an appearance in Austin, but was disqualified in the preliminaries of the 200 freestyle for not touching the wall on the final turn of the race.

Green also was a record-setter for Big Spring this season, setting the school mark in the 200 as well as joining Hughey and other teammates to break the BSHS record in several relays.

See **SWIM**, Page 6



Hughey



Green

Sports in brief

BSHS, Forsan, Coahoma results from West Texas Classic in Midland

Softball teams from Big Spring, Forsan and Coahoma High Schools wrapped play in the West Texas Classic in Midland Saturday.

All three squads finished 1-5 in tournament play. Both Big Spring and Forsan picked up victories over Amarillo Palo Duro Friday with the Lady Steers winning 12-0, while Forsan eeked a 5-4 victory.

Coahoma's lone win came over Snyder Friday. Here's full results from the action in the record and how many points each squad scored in pool play.

Big Spring (1-5, 15 points)

7-0 loss to Canyon, 4-2 loss to Monahans, 4-0 loss to Lubbock Coronado, 12-0 win over Amarillo Palo Duro, 6-4 loss to Levelland, 11-0 loss to Midland High.

Coahoma (1-5, 16 points)

14-3 loss to Andrews, 3-2 loss to Lubbock Cooper, 3-2 loss to Midland Christian, 7-1 loss to Odessa, 10-0 loss to Pampa, (no score was available for Coahoma's win over Snyder Friday).

Forsan (1-5 12 points)

13-0 loss to Levelland, 6-5 win over Amarillo Palo Duro, 12-0 loss to Canyon, 10-0 forfeit to Wall, 11-0 loss to Lubbock Coronado, 11-3 loss to Monahans.

Results from Big Spring JV tournament over the weekend

Big Spring High School's junior varsity baseball team hosted a 3-game guarantee tournament over the weekend at Steer Park.

The Steers JV went 1-2, defeating Jim Ned 7-3 in the first game before losing thrillers, 3-2, to Midland Christian and Forsan in their final two games.

Both games came down to the final inning with Midland Christian and Forsan scoring the decisive third run to pick up a win.

Forsan was the only team to pick up three wins in the tournament. The Buffs opened the tournament with a 10-0 shut out victory over Sweetwater's JV and finished Thursday with an 8-2 win over San Angelo Lake View's JV. They capped the tourney with a 3-2 win over Big Spring.

Thursday

Forsan 10, Sweetwater JV 0; Sweetwater JV 8, Monahans JV 2; Kermit 5, Monahans 5; Kermit 6,

Lake View JV 5; Forsan 8, Lake View JV 2.

Friday

Big Spring JV 7, Jim Ned 3; Jim Ned 5, Pecos JV 3; Snyder JV 8, Pecos JV 3; Snyder JV 8, Midland Christian 6; Midland Christian 3, Big Spring JV 2.

Saturday

Monahans JV 8, Snyder JV 3; Kermit 9, Jim Ned 3; Lake View JV 8, Midland Christian 5; Forsan 3, Big Spring JV 2.

BSGSA registration continues Saturday

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

Subsequent sign up date is the following Saturday, 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.

Cowboys trade for Kitna, sign LB Brooking

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys took care of one of their top offseason priorities Saturday when they acquired quarterback Jon Kitna as the likely backup for Tony Romo.

Then they went out and signed linebacker Keith Brooking to a three-year deal worth about \$6 million — with about \$2.5 million guaranteed — to provide a veteran defender familiar with coach Wade Phillips at a position the Cowboys expect to lose at least one free agent.

The Cowboys got Kitna from Detroit for starting cornerback Anthony Henry. Kitna appeared in only four games last season for the Lions, starting in all of those before being put on

injured reserve in mid-October because of a back injury.

The day before the Lions put Kitna on injured reserve, he said his injury wasn't that serious and that he expected to play again during the season. He threw for 758 yards with five touchdowns and five interceptions.

The 36-year-old Kitna, who was due a \$1 million roster bonus next week, was not expected to return to the Lions. Kitna, scheduled to make \$1.95 million this season has played 12 NFL seasons with Seattle (1997-2000), Cincinnati (2001-05) and Detroit (2006-08).

When Romo missed three games last season because of a broken pin-

kie, the Cowboys went 1-2 and leaned heavily on their defense to beat Tampa Bay 13-9 for the lone victory. The Cowboys, who went into the season considered a Super Bowl favorite, instead went 9-7 and missed the playoffs.

Dallas released 17-year veteran quarterback Brad Johnson Thursday.

Brooking played all 11 of his NFL seasons with the Falcons and was the last remaining player from their Super Bowl team a decade ago.

Brooking, a five-time Pro Bowl selection and Atlanta's leading tackler each of the last eight seasons, became a free agent after failing to

work out a new contract with the Falcons. He was the team's first-round pick in 1998, and helped the team reach the Super Bowl as a rookie.

Brooking has spent his entire football career in the Atlanta area. He grew up in the southern suburbs and played his college ball at Georgia Tech before being drafted by the Falcons.

He became a starter in 1999, and started 128 consecutive games since 2001.

Phillips, the third-year Cowboys coach who will be his own defensive coordinator this season, was Atlanta's defensive coordinator from 2002-03.

TRACK

Continued from Page 5

five seconds behind Valle for silver.

Parker did bring home some gold, edging Plainview's Prince Dawkins by 12 one-hundredths of a second in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:08.62.

Shane Allen came in second in the 2-mile run with a time of 10:45.61.

Big Spring left several points off the board by choosing not to participate in the relays. The Steers didn't compete because many of the athletes just now got out to track this week from basketball and they hadn't practiced passing the baton to each other enough.

Both the Steers and Lady Steers will compete in the Peoples Bank Relays at Frenship High School in Wolfforth with the preliminaries starting Friday and the finals taking place Saturday.

Girls team rankings

1. **Big Spring 152**, 2. Hereford 96, 3. Frenship 94, 4. Lubbock Estacado 87, 5. Ruidoso 51, 6. Lubbock Cooper 46, 7. Artesia 28, 8. Plainview 26, 9. Levelland 12.

Boys team rankings

1. Frenship 122, 2. **Big Spring 115**, 3. Plainview 84, 4. Hereford 68, 5. Artesia 63, 6. Lubbock Estacado 61, 6. Levelland 61, 8. Lubbock Cooper 32, 9. Ruidoso 4.

Girls 3200-meter run

1. Alyssa Diaz, Hereford 12:21.01; 2. Jessica Blakely, Hereford 12:24.23; 3. Ana Lopez, Hereford 12:44.85; 4. **Catherine Leubner, Big Spring 12:49.51**; 5. Emileigh Willems, Frenship 13:03.50; 6. **Marisol Rodriguez, Big Spring 13:05.14**.

Boys 3200-meter run

1. Aaron Castro, Hereford 10:43.35; 2. **Shane Allen, Big Spring 10:45.61**; 3. Shawn Spicer, Frenship 11:18.48; 4. Antonio Gonzalez, Artesia 11:19.45; 5. Justin Butler, Frenship 11:33.40; 6. Daniel Juarez, Artesia 11:33.41.

Girls 4x100-meter relay

1. **Big Spring 51.63**; 2. Lubbock Cooper 55.08; 3. Ruidoso 55.45.

Boys 4x100-meter relay

1. Frenship 44.28; 2. Plainview 44.60; 3. Lubbock Estacado 45.10; 4. Artesia 45.77; 5. Lubbock Cooper 45.91; 6. Hereford 46.84.

Girls 800-meter run

1. Ana Lopez, Hereford 2:30.21; 2. Shekiha Brown, Estacado 2:32.23; 3. Kirsti Whipple, Levelland 2:32.96; 4. **Catherine Leubner, Big Spring 2:35.62**; 5. Jordyn Tillman, Ruidoso 2:49.22; 6. Jordan McVicker, Lubbock Cooper 2:50.66.

Boys 800-meter run

1. **Kade Parker, Big Spring 2:08.62**; 2. Prince Dawkins, Plainview 2:08.74; 3. Chris Casteneda, Lubbock Cooper 2:10.68; 4. Raul

Martinez, Hereford 2:11.30; 5. **Daniel Segundo, Big Spring 2:12.38**; 6. John Belt, Plainview 2:13.42.

Girls 100-meter hurdles

1. Abbie Flores, Estacado 16:44; 2. Brittnee Riley, Plainview 16.69; 3. Sarah Mannon, Frenship 18.18; 4. **Cheyenne Lesser, Big Spring 18.45**; 5. Sara Flinn, Frenship 19.11; 6. Clarissa Willard, Estacado 19.43.

Boys 110-meter hurdles

1. **LaRay Woodard, Big Spring 15.38**; 2. Ramiro DelCampo, Levelland 16.57; 3. **Tyrone Clemons, Big Spring 16.78**; 4. Sway High, Hereford 17.75; 5. Steven Llanas, Frenship 17.95; 6. Luis Trujillo, Plainview 18.33.

Girls 100-meter dash

1. **Desiree Anderson, Big Spring 12.95**; 2. Candice Phillips, Estacado 13.37; 3. **Iesha Simpson, Big Spring 13.46**; 4. Jarae Ward, Hereford 13.53; 5. **Traasha Walker, Big Spring 13.62**; 6. Savannah Arendell, Lubbock Cooper 13.94.

Boys 100-meter dash

1. John Solorzano, Plainview 11.21; 2. Daniel Ibarra, Frenship 11.28; 3. Alton White, Estacado 11.42; 4. Kevin Prisk, Hereford 11.54; 5. Marcus Reyes, Hereford 11.58; 6. Cody Cortez, Estacado 11.63.

Girls 4x200-meter relay

1. **Big Spring 1:51.60**; 2. Frenship 1:53.48; 3. Lubbock Cooper 1:58.81; 4. Estacado 1:58.84.

Boys 4x200-meter relay

1. Estacado 1:33.06; 2. Frenship 1:34.85; 3. Plainview 1:35.06; 4. Artesia 1:35.45; 5. Lubbock Cooper 1:36.08; 6. Hereford 1:37.14.

Girls 400-meter dash

1. Shamyra Johnson 1:04.05; 2. Amber Gardner, Ruidoso 1:04.71; 3. Sandra Delagarza, Plainview 1:06.43; 4. Laura Cloud, Lubbock Cooper 1:09.58; 5. **Marissa Zavala, Big Spring 1:11.98**; 6. Kenisha Briley, Estacado 1:14.44.

Boys 400-meter dash

1. Kaegan Hembree, Plainview 53.18; 2. Kyle Jackson, Estacado 53.30; 3. Marcial Ruiz, Frenship 53.60; 4. Keelan Harris, Estacado 54.02; 5. **Bobby Bayes, Big Spring 54.79**; 6. Rene Gonzales, Levelland 56.92.

Girls 300-meter hurdles

1. Abbie Flores, Estacado 50.05; 2. Brittany Martinez, Hereford 50.51; 3. Angela Gardner, Ruidoso 51.46; 4. Brandi Casarez, Hereford 51.87; 5. Sarah Mannon, Frenship 54.59; 6. Tabitha Sportsman, Ruidoso 54.61.

Boys 300-meter hurdles

1. **LaRay Woodard, Big Spring 43.50**; 2. Zack Britton, Frenship 43.63; 3. Ramiro DelCampo, Levelland 44.40; 4. Cole Martin, Frenship 45.55; 5. Sway High, Hereford 45.55; 6. Dallas Croyle, Frenship 46.44.

Girls 200-meter dash

1. **Bridgette Tuitt, Big Spring 26.75**; 2. Jarae Ward, Hereford 28.12; 3. Candice Phillips, Estacado 28.28; 4. Alexandra Weaver, Frenship 28.44; 5. Brittnee Riley, Plainview 28.98; 6. Megan Curtis, Lubbock Cooper 29.50.

Boys 200-meter dash

1. Preston Thomas, Plainview 23.27; 2. Brandon Jones, Frenship 23.28; 3. Zamir Linton 23.30; 4. Jon Ibarra, Frenship 23.34; 5. Keelan Harris, Estacado 23.36; 6. Dillon Homen, Lubbock Cooper.

Girls 1600-meter run

1. Alyssa Diaz, Hereford 5:41.14; 2. Jessica Blakely, Hereford 5:41.30; 3. Kirsti Whipple, Levelland 6:01.81; 4. **Marisol Rodriguez, Big Spring 6:09.57**; 5. Daisy Guerra, Plainview 6:13.33; 6. Shekiha

Brown, Estacado 6:20.83.

Boys 1600-meter run

1. **Jordan Valle, Big Spring 4:41.65**; 2. **Kade Parker, Big Spring 4:46.42**; 3. Aaron Casto, Hereford 4:53.96; 4. Andy Lucio, Hereford 4:53.97; 5. **Shane Allen, Big Spring 5:00.01**; 6. Shawn Spicer, Frenship 5:10.60.

Girls 4x400-meter relay

1. Hereford 4:20.93; 2. Frenship 4:30.64; 3. Estacado 4:34.94; 4. Artesia 4:36.90; 5. Ruidoso 4:39.40; 6. Lubbock Cooper 4:54.84.

Boys 4x400-meter relay

1. Frenship 3:35.85; 2. Lubbock Cooper 3:37.95; 3. Hereford 3:41.15; 4. Plainview 3:44.79; 5. Levelland 3:47.62; 6. Artesia 3:50.76.

Girls long jump

1. **Desiree Anderson, Big Spring 17-04.25**; 2. **Iesha Simpson, Big Spring 16-11**; 3. Hailey Mitchell, Frenship 16-06; 4. Janci Karvas 16-00; 5. Megan Curtis, Lubbock Cooper 15-06.50; 6. G.T. Poma, Lubbock Cooper 15-02.

Boys long jump

1. **LaRay Woodard, Big Spring 21-04**; 2. Kendrick Williams, Estacado 20-07.75; 3. J.P. Fernandez, Artesia 20-01; 4. Justin Spargo, Ruidoso 20-00.25; 5. Justin Lopez, Artesia 19-08.75; 6. **Tyrone Clemons, Big Spring 19-08.50**.

Girls triple jump

1. **Bridgette Tuitt, Big Spring 36-04**; 2. **Desiree Anderson, Big Spring 34-09**; 3. Hailey Mitchell, Frenship 34-01; 4. Candice Phillips, Estacado 33-10; 5. Taylor White, Frenship 33-08; 6. Sarah Mannon, Frenship 32-01.

Boys triple jump

1. Zach Garza, Levelland 38-08.5; 2. Caleb Miller, Artesia 38-05; 3. Jamie Longoria, Levelland 36-09.5; 4. Louie Reyes, Artesia 32-05.

Girls high jump

1. **Bridgette Tuitt, Big Spring 4-10**; 2. Catherine Teegardin, Frenship 4-08; 3. Hayli Clements, Lubbock Cooper 4-06; 4. Bailey Jones, Frenship 4-04; 5. **Macy Graves, Big Spring 4-04**.

Boys high jump

1. **Tyrone Clemons 6-09**; 2. Travis Glenn, Plainview 5-06; 3. Ramiro DelCampo 5-06.

Girls shot put

1. **Leslie Leal, Big Spring 32-10**; 2. Asher Shaw, Ruidoso 31-04.5; 3. T'Naya Shearman, Artesia 30-11; 4. Sydney Hearn, Plainview 30-01.5; 5. Emri Evans, Plainview 30; 6. Felicia Cumpian, Estacado 29.

Boys shot put

1. **Zack Saldivar, Big Spring 47-05**; 2. Miguel Fraire, Hereford 42-08; 3. Mitch Brewer, Frenship 42-07; 4. Josh Richardson, Frenship 41-11.5; 5. Blake Wheeler, Levelland 41-11; 6. Michael Garcia, Plainview 40-05.

Girls discus

1. Asher Shaw, Ruidoso 99-10.5; 2. Brittany Smith, Frenship 97-03; 3. **Leslie Leal, Big Spring 95-07**; 4. T'Naya Shearman, Artesia 91-06; 5. Lequinda Alexander, Plainview 87-04.5; 6. Felicia Cumpian, Estacado 84-11.

Boys discus

1. **Zack Saldivar, Big Spring 143-09**; 2. Blake Wheeler, Levelland 142-08; 3. Johnathan Miendietta, Levelland 141-11; 4. Josh Richardson, Frenship 138-07; 5. Ross Reyes, Frenship 136-01; 6. Hector Luna, Levelland 130-07.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 5

advantage. Howard loaded the bases with one out in the third before an error by Odessa's catcher on a Monk

Kreder bunt allowed Runey Davis to score.

Nick Popescu followed with a 2-run single to center, giving Howard a 4-run lead.

Howard put the game away via the 8-run mercy rule in the eighth inning by scoring four more runs.

The Hawks travel to Abilene

Monday to take on Abilene Christian University's junior varsity and then restart conference play Friday and Saturday with a trip to Roswell to face New Mexico Military Institute.

	Game 1
Howard College	200 003 0—5 6 1
Odessa College	001 001 1—3 6 0

Anthony Collazo, Chase Adams (7), Corey Sartor (7) and Monk Kreder. Julio Torres and Matt Darr. W - Collazo. L - Torres. 2B - HC: Nick Popescu; OC: Beau Poston.

Game 2

Howard College 103 200 14—11 11 1

Odessa College 001 002 00—3 6 5

Burch Smith, Duncan McGee and Miles Hamblin. Derek Brooks, Dustin Riley, Chris Lewis and Kevin Ginorio. W - Smith. L - Brooks. 2B - OC: Poston, HC: Runey Davis, Popescu.

SWIM

Continued from Page 5

“DeShae is an absolute beast with the potential to do so much in the pool,” said Nelson. “He’s been

tremendous this season and improved significantly. He’s got a chance to do some great things at the next level.”

Both Hughey and Green are seniors at Big Spring.

Green is planning on swimming collegiately at the University of Texas-Permian Basin in Odessa.

Talvaiz 4, Addison 2.

Free throws: GC 6-13, TV 13-19. 3-point goals: GC 8 (Clark 4, Halfmann 3, Hirt), TV 8 (Smith 4, Ramsey 2, Allen, Hancock). Total fouls: GC 14, TV 14. Fouled out: GC - Cole Schwartz

Hughey isn't prepping to take his ability to the next level and instead wants to join the Coast Guard.

GC

Continued from Page 5

16-11 and claimed a District 10-IIA championship. Turkey Valley will face Sands (20-8) at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in Slaton. Sands is coming off a dominant 65-47 win over Vernon Northside Friday.

Garden City 12 12 12 18—54
Turkey Valley 14 16 15 14—59
Garden City (16-11): Hayden Halfmann 23, Brett Chudej 12, Michael Clarke 12, Aaron Long 4, Brian Hirt 3.
Turkey Valley (23-4): Smith 19, Allen 12, Ramsey 12, Hancock 10.

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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.

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠	Q 10 9		
♥	10 8 7 6		
♦	K 9		
♣	K Q 6 2		
WEST			
♠	J 8 7 6 5 4 3		
♥	K Q 3		
♦	5 3		
♣	5		
EAST			
♠	K 2		
♥	9 4 2		
♦	J 10 8 4 2		
♣	J 9 7		
SOUTH			
♠	A		
♥	A J 5		
♦	A Q 7 6		
♣	A 10 8 4 3		

The bidding:
South West North East
1♣ 2♣ Dble 3♠
4♣ Pass 6♣

Opening lead — six of spades.

The United States won the 1996 World Olympiad Women's Teams, defeating China in the 96-deal final. The final margin over the Chinese, who during the past two decades have become a world bridge power, was 70 International Match Points.

In the final, the Chinese women got off to a fast start, leading by 20 IMPs after the first 32 deals. But the Americans gained 66 IMPs in the

next 16 deals and never trailed again. **Today's deal** is the one that thrust the U.S. into the lead for good. When Jill Blanchard and Irina Levitina held the North-South cards, they reached six clubs as shown. Blanchard's double of two spades was of the "negative" variety, and Levitina cuebid four spades over East's three-spade nuisance bid to indicate a powerful hand. Blanchard felt a five-club bid would not do justice to her excellent support for that suit, so she leaped to slam.

West led a low spade, and East withheld the king as South won with the ace. Declarer drew three rounds of trumps, ending in dummy, and ruffed a spade in her hand, felling the king. This allowed Levitina to discard one of her heart losers on the spade queen, so the slam came rolling home.

At the other table, the Chinese South, Zhang Yalan, also opened one club, but her bid was strong, artificial and forcing, saying nothing about clubs. Juanita Chambers bid three spades, and North, Gu Ling, bid three notrump, ending the auction without the Chinese locating their excellent club fit. North made 11 tricks, but the Americans gained 12 IMPs.

Tomorrow: Score one for the defense.

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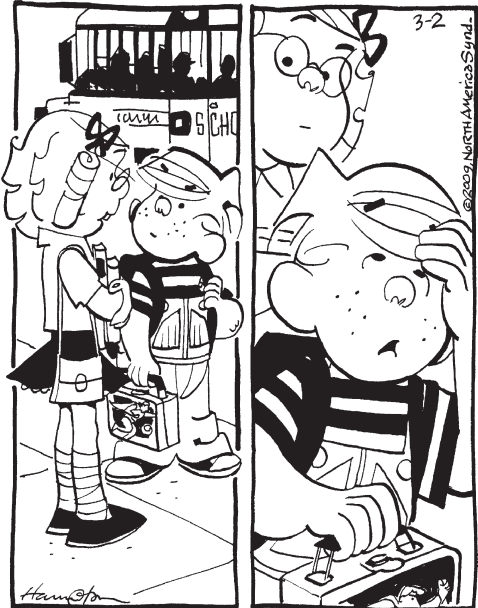
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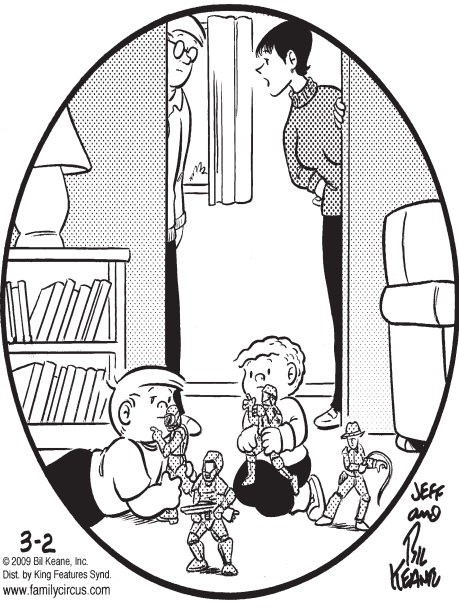
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPiKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	Grohman Granger	BBC Business	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Charles S. Dutton	CSI: NY	Bones	106 & Park	Suite Life Suite Life	Horn Interrupt	SportsCentr
6 :PM :30	News Entertain	Jeopardy! Fortune	Tontas Cielo	Two Men Two Men	News Entertain	12 Cora- zones	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Van Impe Hagee	News-Lehrer	Made Made	CSI: Crime Scn	The Closer	Movie: Friday, Nia Long	Suite Life Montana	NFL Live Women's College Basketball	College Basketball	
7 :PM :30	The Bachelor	The Bachelor	Cuidado- Angel	24	Big Bang How I Met	Doña Bar- bara	Chuck	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy	Israel Harris	Frank Patter- son-America	Destroyed Destroyed Rampage!	Movie: Apollo 13, Kevin Bacon	CSI: Crime Scn	The Closer	Movie: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	Strongest Strongest Strongest	College Basketball: Baylor at Texas.	
8 :PM :30	(:02) The Bachelor	(:02) The Bachelor	Cristina	TMZ	CSI: Miami	Sin Senos El Cartel	Medium	Name Name	Light of the Southwest	The Glenn Miller Spec- tacular	Nature's Deadliest	Movie: Mystic River, Kevin Bacon	Police Shootout	The Closer	Rip the Run- way '09	Strongest Strongest Strongest	College Basketball: Baylor at Texas.	
9 :PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond King-Hill	News Late Show	Noticias Decisiones de	News Tonight Show	Seinfeld Sex &	Israel Sala	Charlie Rose	Made Made	Movie: Mystic River, Kevin Bacon	Special Forces	Bones	Movie: Friday, Nia Long	Strongest Strongest Strongest	SportsCentr	
10 :PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kim- mel Live	Insider Jimmy Kim- mel Live	La Hora de La Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night- Jim	Movie: Scream, Courteney Cox	Uri Harel Mark	Smiley Smiley	Destroyed Destroyed Rampage!	CSI: NY	Saving Grace	Harlem	Movie: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	NASCAR Now	NFL Live Final	
11 :AM :30	News Paid	Basco Paid	Clasicos Humor	Friends Consumer	Entertain mag	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Movie: The Dark	Light of the Southwest	Nature's Deadliest	Movie: Hook, Julia Roberts	Amazing Video	Cold Case	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	Poker	SportsCentr	

DENNIS THE MENACE



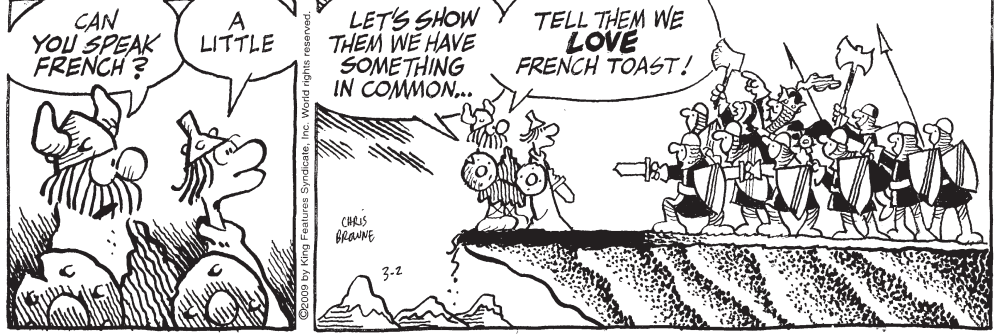
"YOU WERE EXTREMELY NICE TODAY, DENNIS." "GEE, I MUST BE COMIN' DOWN WITH SOMETHIN'."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Those action figures are being played with by some NON-action figures."

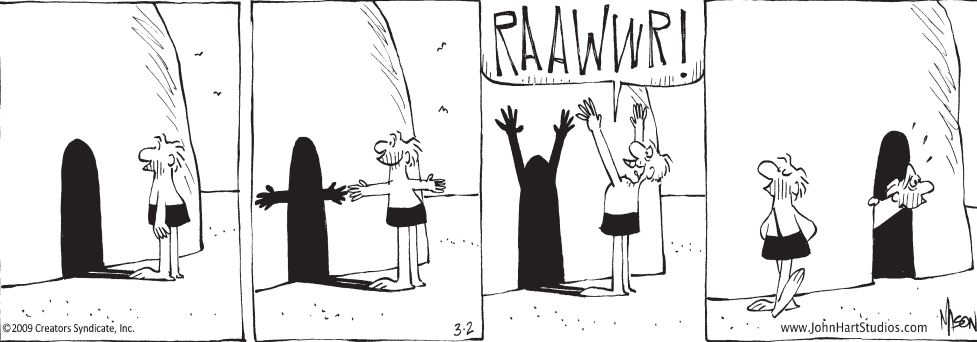
HAGAR



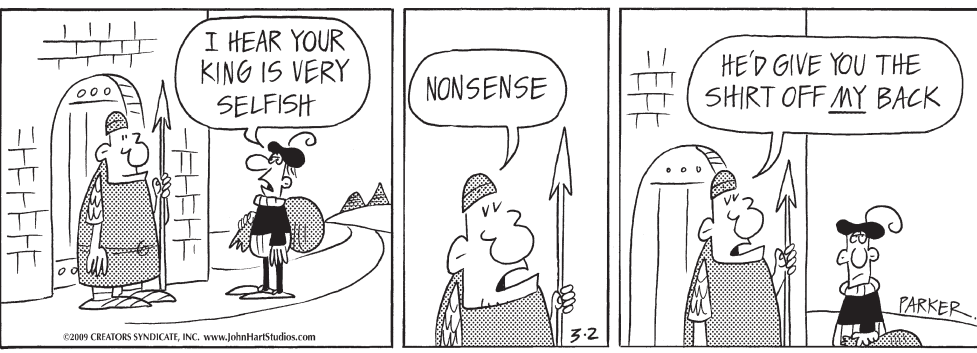
BLONDIE



BC



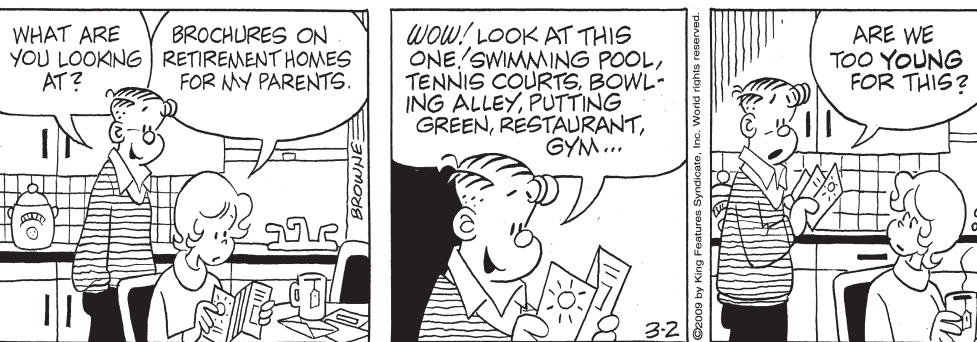
WIZARD OF ID



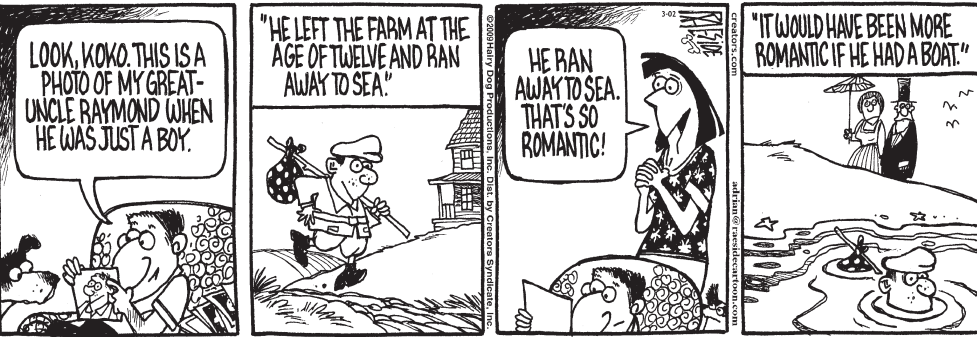
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



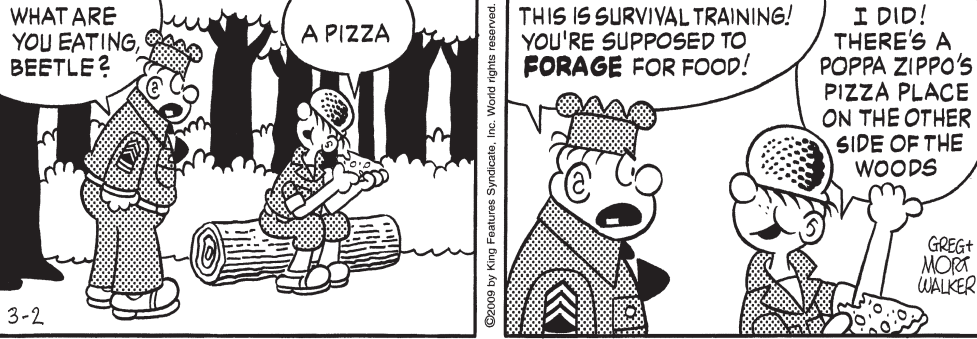
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, March 2, the 61st day of 2009. There are 304 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 2, 1939, Roman Catholic Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli was elected Pope on his 63rd birthday; he took the name Pius XII.

On this date: In 1793, the first president of the Republic of Texas, Sam Houston, was born near Lexington, Va.

In 1836, the Republic of Texas formally declared its independence from Mexico.

In 1877, Republican Rutherford B. Hayes was declared the winner of the 1876 presidential election over Democrat Samuel J. Tilden, even though Tilden had won the popular vote.

In 1899, Mount Rainier National Park in Washington state was established.

In 1917, Puerto Ricans were granted U.S. citizenship as

President Woodrow Wilson signed the Jones-Shafroth Act.

In 1939, the Massachusetts legislature voted to ratify the Bill of Rights, 147 years after the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution had gone into effect. (Georgia and Connecticut soon followed.)

In 1943, the World War II Battle of the Bismarck Sea began; U.S. and Australian warplanes were able to inflict heavy damage on a Japanese convoy.

In 1958, a multinational expedition led by British explorer Vivian Fuchs completed the first overland crossing of Antarctica by way of the South Pole in 99 days.

In 1977, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted a strict code of ethics.

In 1989, representatives from the 12 European Community nations agreed to ban all production of CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) by the end of the 20th century.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Jennifer Jones is 90. Bluegrass singer-musician Doc Watson is 86. Actor John Cullum is 79. Author Tom Wolfe is 79. Former Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev is 78. Actress

Barbara Luna is 70. Actor Jon Finch is 68. Author John Irving is 67. Singer Lou Reed is 67.

Actress Cassie Yates is 58. Actress Laraine Newman is 57. Sen. Russell Feingold, D-Wis., is 56. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar is 54. Singer Jay Osmond is 54. Pop musician John Cowsill (The Cowsills) is 53. Tennis player Kevin Curren is 51. Country singer Larry Stewart (Restless Heart) is 50. Rock singer Jon Bon Jovi is 47. Blues singer-musician Alvin Youngblood Hart is 46. Actor Daniel Craig is 41. Rock musician Casey (Jimmie's Chicken Shack) is 33. Rock singer Chris Martin (Coldplay) is 32. Actress Heather McComb is 32. Actress Bryce Dallas Howard is 28.

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Answer to previous puzzle

SEAQUAKES	CLANS
LASTPLACE	AESOP
ASCIFI	UNITE
TTOP	SAD STARE
EST	EYETEST
BLUR	RPI
SPRAWLS	SAC NAW
CREDO	AROMA
REF	OOH DALTREY
AVE	DOE URLS
MAR	PORTRAY HAS
BLEED	AHA TIME
LENTO	LENAHORNE
ENDOW	DOGGONEIT
STAND	SCOOBYDOO

Newsday Crossword

CRITTER CLAMOR by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Biology and chemistry: Abbr.
- 5 Grade-school basics
- 9 Sheriff's group
- 14 Constructed invitation for
- 16 Take place
- 17 Poker payment
- 18 Org. for those 50+
- 19 Weighing device
- 20 Warehouse area for trucks
- 23 Biblical boat
- 24 Handed-down tale
- 25 Poke fun at
- 27 Had control of the wheel
- 30 Aspen head covering
- 33 Venomous snake
- 36 Military opponent
- 38 Major blood vessel
- 39 Wild animal's home
- 41 Even score
- 42 Christmas song
- 43 Called balls and strikes
- 45 "Bedtime" tale
- 48 Itsy-bitsy
- 49 Make untidy
- 51 Take an oath
- 53 Repeat exactly
- 55 Light currents of air
- 59 Young bear
- 60 Chocolate-and-nut candy
- 63 Appears to be
- 65 Prefix for dynamic
- 66 Jeans color
- 67 Not frilly
- 68 File-folder features
- 69 "Now it's clear!"
- 70 Send an invitation for
- 71 "So what ___ is new?"
- 72 Midterm or final
- 8 Mar. 17 honoree
- 9 Opposite of neg.
- 10 Special event
- 11 Cornfield guard
- 12 Pout
- 13 Before, in poems
- 21 Memo starter
- 22 "By all means!"
- 26 Abbr. on a "Wanted" poster
- 28 Dog docs
- 29 Gives off
- 31 Suit to ___
- 32 Lacking color
- 33 College grad
- 34 Identical
- 35 Twerp
- 37 "That hurts!"
- 40 Send again, as an application
- 44 Twosome
- 46 Rudolph's prominent feature
- 47 Three-foot measure
- 50 School-support org.
- 52 Cottontail
- 54 Make happy
- 56 Quiz answer
- 57 Some quiz answers
- 58 Clay-pigeon sport
- 59 Cartoon frames
- 61 Dinner, for one
- 62 Spheres
- 63 Resort with hot springs
- 64 ___-cone (summer treat)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
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43				44				45		46	47	48
49					50			51			52	
53					53			54		55		56
57					59			60		61	62	
63					64			65			66	
67								68			69	
70								71			72	

Are you ready for a **NEW!** Challenge?

2009 Best Loser Fat to Fitness Spring Challenge!



We are seeking teams (of 4 people any age) ready to take part and lose weight in March, April and May competing to claim

“The Best Loser” Spring Title and A Grand Prize Worth \$500 - \$1,000*!

If you are ready to start losing weight, sign up for **The Best Loser Spring Challenge!**

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

- Three official weigh-ins with the professional at YMCA where your progress will be monitored and recorded.
Weight-In Dates: First March 9-13, Second, April 6-10
Third, May 11-15

- Team photos and updates will be published. Here you'll be able to follow along with the progress of each team, and see how your team measures up.

- We will only provide your team's **total percentage** of weight loss not individuals.

- At the end of the 3-month program, the winning team will be determined by the highest percentage of weight lost, and receive the "Grand Prize."

- Contest prizes determined on number of teams.

- To join the Best Loser Spring Challenge, fill out the form below and return to us with a check or money order for \$40 no later than March 6, 2009.

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

Team Photos must be taken at The Big Spring Herald
Prior to March 9th
FINAL PHOTO MUST BE TAKEN BY MAY 15TH
(TEAM PHOTOS MUST BE TAKEN TO QUALIFY FOR PRIZES)

Mail form or drop off along with \$40 team fee to:
The Best Loser
C/O Big Spring Herald
P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721



Sign us up for the Best Loser Challenge!

Team Name (Be Creative) _____

Team Captain 1: _____ **phone:** _____

Team Member 2: _____ **phone:** _____

Team Member 3: _____ **phone:** _____

Team Member 4: _____ **phone:** _____

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*Grand Prize Predicated on number of teams