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March 10, 2009



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# Candidates clamor for council seats

# After last-day filing flurry, Big Spring, Coahoma will have contested elections in May

By BILL McCLELLAN

**News Editor** 

Final-day filings left Crossroads municipalities with a host of candidates, setting up contested races in Big Spring and Coahoma.

The flurry put three candiseats up for election on the

DeLeon and Steve Campbell. Marquez, a longtime local

dates in each of the district business owner, joins incumbent Manuel Ramirez Jr., a Big Spring City Council. Big Spring VA Medical Cen-Those filing were Raul Mar- ter employee, and Terena and Joyce Crooker in a bid quez, John Huckabee, Bahola Restman, a horse trainer and for District 4.

breeder, in the race for District 2.

Huckabee, owner of Huck's Automotive, lined up with incumbent Gloria McDonald

And Bahola DeLeon, a VA Medical Center employee, and retiree Steve Campbell filed for District 6, which is also being courted by Terry

See CITY, Page 3

# School filings heat up

#### By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Two Howard County school districts will have contested trustee elections in

Monday was the final day to file for

school board elections and two candidates beat the deadline in Big Spring and Coahoma.

Edwin Ware. comptroller at Bob Brock



**Padilla** 

Ford, filed his candidacy for the Big Spring ISD District 2 race in which he will face incumbent Maria Padilla in the May 9 election. Tony Kennedy, the District 4 incumbent, will be unopposed in the election.

Four candidates will square off for three at-large seats on the Coahoma ISD school board this May. Challenger Brian Moore, the assistant chief for

See ISD, Page 3



**HERALD** photo/Steve Reagan

Marty Rice looks under the hood of a 1984 Ford bus at the old Boy's Club building on E. Third Street Saturday morning. Local Rotary club members will auction the bus, pool tables, wood shop equipment, leather working tools and many other items from the club at 10 a.m. March 21. Proceeds will go toward renovating the Kids' Zone playground in Comanche Trail Park.

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# Obama outlines education plan, tighter standards for instructors

By PHILIP ELLIOTT

**Associated Press Writer** 

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is promoting tighter standards for teachers and a reduced dropout rate for students as part of an education plan that, at least for now, lacks any new legislative component.

Obama plans to call on Americans to educate themselves as well as their children during his appearance Tuesday at the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. It is his first major speech devoted solely to education since taking office, but officials say he plans neither to detail any requirements to achieve his goals nor to change President George W. Bush's No Child Left Behind program.

Instead, a senior administration official said, Obama would speak to the importance of increasing the rigor of

Obama also planned to continue his support for charter schools, although officials call them 'laboratories of innovation.'

the standards in place and challenge states to adopt world-class standards rather than a specific standard. The official would speak only anonymously to preview the president's midmorning speech.

Schools are struggling to meet the existing requirements as millions of resi-

dents have lost their jobs and state and

local governments have seen tax reve-

nues tighten. Obama's economic stimulus plan includes a \$5 billion incentive fund to reward states for, among other things, boosting the quality of standards and state tests — much-needed money

for some states. "I know that talking about standards can make people nervous," Education Secretary Arne Duncan said recently. But he said a high school diploma has to mean something, no matter in which state the student earned it.

Obama advisers say they will use the economic woes as a way to sell the country on his agenda. A second senior administration official, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said higher standards would be part of their discussions about how to deal with Bush-era education policy, but not just yet.

See **EDUCATION**, Page 3



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# Police blotter

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

- DAVID HERNANDEZ MONTEZ, 40, of 801 Willia, was arrested Sunday on charges of aggravated robbery and public intoxication.
- CELEST JONES BINGHAM, 45, of 407 S. Lancaster, was arrested Sunday on a charge of animal at large
- THEFT was reported in the 400 block of Birdwell Lane.
  ROBBERY was reported in the 1700 block of FM
- 700.
   MANUFACTURE/DELIVERY OF A
- MANUFACTURE/DELIVERY OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
  - CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
- in the 1800 block of FM 700.
- in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 700 block of Third Street.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.
- AGGRAVATED ROBBERY was reported in the 4800 block of Highway 80.

# Sherif

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity: (Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 54 inmates.)

- KIMBERLY ANN MEANS, 17, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- JOSHUA KEITH DELGADILLO, 17, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of no driver"s license.
- TANDI JO BARBEE, 26, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for theft and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- AMBER DAWN RUSSELL, 25, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- BILLY ERVIN ROSE, 60, was transferred to the County Jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- RONALD LOUIS JONES, 54, was transferred to the County Jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- CAMMIE DENISE MCALISTER, 25, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of open alcohol container, violation of a promise to appear (two counts), ride not secured by a safety belt, displaying an expired license plate, driving while license invalid and no liability insurance.

# Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1800 block of Goliad. One person was transported to

#### SMMC.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1800 block of Goliad. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of Wright. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80. Service refused.

# 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 Ministeries, 1209 Wright St.
- Celebrate Recovery, a 12-Step program, meets from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St.
- •Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

#### Ç Ç

• 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. Nonsmoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

#### FRIDAY

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

#### SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.

Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.  $\,$ 

#### CHANGING DATES

• The local National Alliance on Mental Illness group meets every two weeks in the basement of the Howard County Library. For dates and times, contact Ramona Blassingane at 263-9748.

# **Take Note**

- Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from high school students who are graduating in May and have been accepted at Texas A&M for fall 2009. Students must be Howard County residents who plan to enroll for at least 12 hours. Deadline for applications is April 1. More information and the application may be found on the club Web site at http://bondwebs.com.
- The Family History Center (genealogy library) of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays. If you need assistance in searching out your ancestors, bring all the information you have about your family and we will be happy to assist you. For more information, contact R.A. McKay at (432) 553-8127.
- 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.

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net or (432) 267-6688 with updates.

• 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.

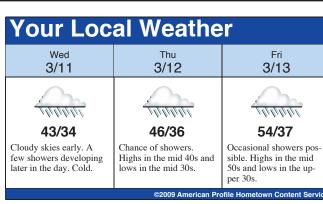
• West Texas Opportunities Inc., through a Job Access Reverse Commute project with the Texas Department of Transportation offers transportation to employment in Midland, on a limited schedule, Monday through Friday each week.

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.





# **Bulletin Board**

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

TODAY

#### TODA

• 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, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- 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.
- $\bullet$  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, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
  Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the
- Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.

   League of United Latin American Citizens LU-LAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big
- Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at
- 3203 W. Highway 80.
   The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340.
- Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

#### FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

# Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing

Monday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 8 - 23 - 27 - 32.
Bonus Ball: 5.

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

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night: Winning numbers drawn: 15 - 19 - 21 - 24 - 33. Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$26,282.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4 - 2 - 2 - 7. Sum It Up: 15.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6 - 5 - 9. Sum It Up: 20.

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# News in Brief

#### Lawmakers fight back against critics of pet projects

WASHINGTON (AP) — The idea of devoting \$1.8 million to research controlling the smell of pig dung stinks to high heaven to opponents of Congress' proclivity for pork-barrel projects.

"Pigs stink. We know why," said Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla. "We know where they live. So is that a prioritv right now?"

Spending \$380,000 in the middle of a severe recession to fix up lighthouses in Maine doesn't smell a lot better to Coburn and few other Republicans who day after day attack the 8,000 pet projects lawmakers have put into a bill setting a good part of the government's agenda for the next six months.

What's new is that more and more lawmakers are standing up to defend their earmarks as vital for people back home. Barack Obama promised during his presidential campaign to curb the practice and demanded that last month's \$787 billion stimulus bill contain "not a single pet project."

"In farm country, manure and odor management are profoundly serious challenges that can be mitigated through scientific research," Senate Agriculture Com-

mittee Chairman Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, said in a Senate speech last week.

His defense of swine odor research and a \$5.7 million earmark for school construction in Iowa covers four pages in the Congressional Record.

#### Report: 1 in 50 American children experiences homelessness

NEW YORK (AP) — One of every 50 American children experiences homelessness, according to a new report that says most states have inadequate plans to address the worsening and often-overlooked problem.

The report being released Tuesday by the National Center on Family Homelessness gives Connecticut the best ranking. Texas is at the bottom.

The report analyzes data from 2005-2006. It estimates that 1.5 million children experienced homelessness at least once that year, and says the problem is surely worse now because of the foreclosures and job losses of the deepening recession.

"If we could freeze-frame it now, it would be bad enough," said Democratic Sen. Robert Casey of Pennsylvania, who wrote a foreward to the report. "By end of this year, it will be that much worse."

### CITY

Continued from Page 1

Hansen, vice president at Howard College. The incumbent in that district, Greg Biddison, decided not to seek another

Incumbents electing not to run again was

the norm at Coahoma, where councilmen David Elmore and Ricky Stone and Mayor Bill Reed all opted out of another term. There are no shortage of candidates, however. Filing for city council were Ronnie Dodson, Elmer Lindsey, Jay Holt and Ray Lee. Casting a bid to replace Reed, a longtime fixture at city hall, were Warren Wallace and Linda Luce.

There will not be any city elections at Forsan or Stanton.

In Forsan, incumbents Mary Gressett, Fred Hogan and Marty Whetsel filed to run for another term but have no challengers. In Stanton, at-large incumbent Tommy Haislip and District 4 incumbent Steven Villa filed. They also have no opponents.

Election day will be May 9 with early voting set April 27 through May 5.

Continued from Page 1

health administration at the Big Spring VA Medical Center, joined incumbents Jody Reid, Alan Wright and Kirk Allen on the May 9 bal-

The only other contested school board race in this area will be at Sands Consolidated Independent School District — and that race attracted the largest field.

Sands CISD voters will select three at-large trustees from among seven candidates May 9. Incumbents Amy Parker and Tommy Staggs will be joined on the ballot by challengers Wes

Nate Avey, Hughes, Matt Snell, Rick Timmins and Bill Barnes, Superintendent Wayne Blount said.

Forsan ISD will likely cancel its trustee election after no candidates stepped up to challenge incumbents Lewis Boeker and Misty Rhoten for their at-large seats, said Judy Park, superintendent secretary for the district.

As of Friday, Stanton ISD had no contested races for three positions up for election in May. Incumbents Ramiro Reyes (District 2) and James "Pinky" Jones (at-large) have filed for re-election, while challenger Danny Ireton has filed for the District 6 seat being vacated by incumbent Reggie Franklin, who is not seeking another term.

Attempts to contact Stanton ISD officials today were unsuccessful.

Glasscock County and Grady school districts will have elections in November, while Howard College will not have trustee elections

this year, officials said.

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

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# **EDUCATION**

Continued from Page 1

White House aides characterized the president's speech on Tuesday as a first step in an agenda to change American schools. Aides say the president will again call for the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by the year 2020, as well as pre-kindergarten programs that would send children to classrooms prepared to learn.

Obama also planned to continue his support for charter schools, although officials call them "laboratories of innovation." Educators' unions generally oppose charter schools because they divert tax dollars away from public schools, one spot where he splits with the traditionally Democratic Party-backing constituency.

He also was set to draw criti-

cism from unions for his proposals for an "innovative compensation" plan that would pay some teachers more than others. Such a merit-based pay system is anathema to teachers' groups and likely to earn Obama a rebuke.

Other items Obama planned to mention would be a simpler form for federal financial aid to college, increased investment in technology and changes to higher education. All were parts of his campaign platform.

Aides said Obama would not propose new spending during the speech, although he already has taken steps on education. His \$787 billion economic stimulus package provides \$41 billion in grants to local school districts. He also plans to send \$79 billion in state fiscal relief to prevent cuts in state aid and another \$21 billion for school modernization.

Make a wish! The full moon in Virgo is like a supportive and delightfully practical friend who can improve your world with the simplest of fixes. And if you don't quite know where to start, the full Virgo moon will help you focus vour attention so that you may analyze

your situation to determine the most efficient route to the

new you. ARIES (March 21-April

19). You believe that your relation-

ship should be about the same in private as it is in public, though this is rarely the case for most people. Consider the differences between these two scenarios and fix what needs fixing.

HOLIDAY

**M**ATHIS

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). No one has an exclusive contract on your time except you. You are a free agent, even if there are people who need you and rely you. Take your schedule back into your own hands.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You know what you need to do, and yet motivation is pretty low. This is an invitation to change your goal to something much juicier. If that's not possible, then add an irresistible

incentive.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There is no ness. Be extra mindful time for fluff. And yet, a certain amount of small talk and social nicety will be necessary to complete tasks without seeming like a heartless robot. You can stay on purpose and still be compassionate.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You have reached your maximum point of seriousness and it's time to go the other direction. Seek a flirty, funny, silly influence to get you back to your usual buoyant self.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Someone close to you is in dire need of a reprimand. Everyone can see the problem, but no one wants to be the one to fix it. If the job gets turned over to you, you'll handle it in your typical style — quiet and classy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It takes a heightened awareness to find the answers you seek. Use all of your observational powers, including your olfactory sense, to solve this mystery. It's like you can smell

Tomorrow's Horoscope the truth. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Needing to

be the best can help you break records and push back limitations. It can also cause tunnel vision and inadvertent rudeof the space and feelings of those around you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). In certain instances it has been easy for you to let go of negative baggage. The current nugget of emotional dead weight you're trying to drop might require more work. Celebrate your small steps.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You haven't quite hit on the exact right endeavor to pursue yet. Brainstorming

is a highly productive use of your energy. When it's a fantastic idea, all the elements will fall in place and you'll do very well.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It seems that someone is pressuring you to move before you are ready. Take your time. Just because someone else has a different sense of pacing than you do doesn't mean that your pace is wrong.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Wanting something too much causes insecurity. If you feel yourself trying too hard, back up and get grounded. You're enough as you are right this moment. Anything else you do will be icing on the cake.

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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."

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

# Solons eye non-existant vote problem

exas Democrats are rallying their troops; Republicans are sounding their trumpets. Both want a big show of force at the Capitol when the Texas Senate hears testimony Tuesday on legislation that would require voters to present photo identification when they vote.

There hasn't been a huge outbreak of people trying to impersonate voters, but the item was deemed an emergency bigger than the state's sinking economy, bigger than education or any number of other issues you can mention but won't hear about once the brawl starts.

The legislation has the votes to pass easily out of the Senate. The test was earlier when senators voted to abandon a long-standing tradition that bills must enjoy the support of two-thirds of the 31-member Senate to be considered.

Senate tradition went down on an 18-13 vote in January. Only Sen. John Corona, R-Dallas, broke ranks with his party. Corona said then that he supports voter ID but opposed trashing

So there is little doubt that some sort of voter ID bill will leave the Senate. What happens to the legislation in the House, where Republicans hold a two-vote majority, remains to be seen.

A bill that makes it through both houses and will surely be signed by the governor won't be out of the legal woods, though. Texas is subject to the federal Voting Rights Act, and changes in election law must be approved by the U.S. Department of Justice. A U.S. Supreme Court decision upheld a voter ID bill in Indiana, but that state is not covered by the federal voter protec-

Republican House leaders are already looking for ways to armor plate a voter ID bill before it undergoes Justice Department scrutiny. A phase-in period, provisions for free identification cards and exceptions are all being explored, using Justice David Souter's dissent in the Indiana decision as a guide. The much bigger question is a simple "Why?"

There are occasional cases of voter fraud, but most involve mail-in ballots and occur on such a small scale that they barely register.

Steve Bickerstaff, an election law expert, maintains that in election contests, lawyers go digging for possible fraud because tainted ballots could nullify the election the result challengers seek. Asked whether he had ever encountered a case of voter impersonation in his career spanning three decades, Bickerstaff said no.

Bottom line: There will be a bill, perhaps even however farfetched it may seem one that a brand new Justice Department will bless. However, enacting it will be a time-consuming, shrilly partisan exercise that won't improve the Texas economy, Texas education system or Texas health care. Indeed, the bipartisan cooperation necessary to tackle these problems will be put on the chopping block starting Tuesday when senators hear testimony on a bill that is pretty much a foregone conclusion.

Legislation like this stokes emotion but solves little. But then, Texas legislators have far more experience solving nonexistent problems than resolving real ones.

> THE AMERICAN-STATESMAN AUSTIN

# A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson 15 percent now.

When others give us a frosty reception, Lord, may we show them Your love instead of returning the favor.

# Defense budget testing Obama

hen President Barack Obama addressed a joint session of Congress in February, one of the more extraordinary lines of his speech came buried in the middle. In a

passage about cutting government waste, Obama pledged to "reform our defense budget so that we're not paying for Cold War-era weapons systems we don't use." The idea that



we should continue funding multibillion-dollar weapons programs to fight an enemy gone for 20 years seems simple. But the task will prove more difficult than it

Mr. Obama's first test will come with a decision over the Air Force's F-22 Raptor, a supersonic stealth jet designed back in the 1980s to fight the Soviets. The F-22 has survived the end of the Cold War but hasn't seen a day of combat in Iraq and would be of little use rooting out Al Qaida along the Afghan-Pakistan bor-Meanwhile, the cost of the

plane has swelled to over \$350 million per unit, and we have spent over \$60 billion to buy just 180 planes—less than the 750 or so we were promised at about twice the estimated price.

In short, the F-22 is a model case for a Cold War weapon we don't use.

The administration faced a deadline of March 1 (after the time of this writing) to decide whether to buy another 200 planes from Lockheed Martin and Boeing or to pull the plug.

Right on cue, reports emerged before Obama's speech of Lockheed Martin and Boeing advertising a website called "www. preserveraptorjobs.com," calling on the public to write their congressional representatives demanding the government renew its contract—rebranded as a jobs engine.

The notion that we should use the Pentagon as a massive, government funded jobs program instead of our first line of national security is ludicrous. Yet, this is the political world of military spending.

In January, Fox News released a story quoting a senior defense official saying that the new administration was planning on cutting over \$50 billion in defense. This report came on the same day Obama was scheduled to meet with the Joint Chiefs of

A Republican spokesman for the House Armed Services Committee blasted out an email with the Fox report, and the Associated Press circulated a story nationwide.

In truth, however, the numbers proposed in the president's budget actually showed the administration increasing defense spending, just not to the full "wish list" requested by Pentagon bureaucrats looking to boost their bottom line.

The political setup was obvious: opponents of the administration and people who have thrived off bloated Pentagon

programs—through big defense contracts and congressional pork—were looking to box the new president into a corner by making him look weak on defense.

The problem is that America desperately needs substantial cuts in defense and a top-tobottom overhaul of the Pentagon. But any serious attempt at reform is bound to face the same fierce and dishonest resistance.

The amount the administration is thinking of spending next year on the Pentagon is in the neighborhood of \$537 billion (with nine zeroes), more than the \$513 billion from this year.

Neither of these figures includes the spending on two simultaneous wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, nor do they account for the tens of billions dedicated to homeland security and nuclear weapons, all of which fall in the category of national security. And underneath this mountain of taxpayer money is a Pentagon that has grown to its largest size since World War II and cannot even complete a government

Only in the up-is-down, downis-up world of military spending can a leader increase funding for a gargantuan government agency and be accused of cutting it. But these are the realities Obama will face as he promises to cut weapons we don't need.

With the F-22, we'll discover soon enough whether words will meet action.

Vice Admiral Jack Shanahan (Ret.) is the former commander of the U.S. Second Fleet.



# Corporate execs overpaid, undertaxed

'n today's mad world, underpaid workers are bailing out banks and corporations run by overpaid, undertaxed bosses who milked their companies and our country like cash cows.

While workers across America were losing jobs, homes and health insurance, Merrill Lynch paid nearly 700 employees more than \$1 million each in bonuses last year, amounting to a \$3.6 billion bonus bonanza while Merrill lost \$27 billion.



HOLLY SKLAR

Workers have been sacrificing for years.

Average worker paychecks are worth less now than in 1973, but CEOs and other rich Americans not only make much more, they pay less in taxes. Average fulltime workers made \$41,198 in 1973 and \$37,606 in 2008, adjusted for inflation.

CEOs made 45 times as much as workers in 1973 and more than 300 times as much as workers now. The top tax rate was 70 percent in 1973 and just 35 percent now; taxpayers pay the top rate on the portion of taxable income that falls within the highest bracket and pay lower rate s on income below that. The top rate for capital gains

on the sale of stock and other assets was 36.5 percent in 1973 and

Irrational pay and tax cuts have generated a massive redistribution of income and wealth from workers to CEOs, hedge

Amen fund managers and others in the

richest 1 percent.

By 2006, the richest 1 percent had increased their share of the nation's income to the secondhighest level on record.

The only year higher was 1928 - on the eve of the Great Depression.

According to the latest IRS data, excluding tax-exempt interest income from state and local government bonds, the richest 400 taxpayers had an average adjusted gross income of \$263 million each on their federal income tax returns in 2006 — up from \$221 million in 2005 and \$67 million in 1992, adjusted for inflation. Remember, that's annual income, not accumulated wealth. This \$263 million comes to more than \$5 million a week.

In 2006, the 400 ultrarich were taxed at an average rate of 17 percent — down from 26 percent in 1992. The ultrarich get most of their income from capital gains. The capital gains tax was cut from 28 percent in 1992 to 20 percent in 1997 and cut again to 15 percent in 2003. To make matters worse, the rich cheat more on their taxes. "Forbes" recently reported on a study using IRS data showing that taxpayers with income between \$500,000 and \$1 million a year understated their adjusted gross incomes by 21 percent in 2001, compared to 8 percent for those earning \$50,000 to \$100,000, and lower rates for those earning less.

We should raise taxes at the top so the nation's richest bosses no longer pay lower effective rates than workers and we can start reversing the obscene rise in inequality rather than rein-

forcing it. President Obama's

\$500,000 for senior executives at

plan to cap CEO cash pay at

companies on the government dole sounds better than it is, affecting few firms and full of

loopholes. At the very least, President Obama should not delay restoring the top tax rate to the 39.6 percent rate that prevailed in 2000. The Bush tax cuts saved the top 1 percent nearly half a trillion dollars between 2001 and 2008, reports Citizens for Tax Justice.

The \$79.5 billion in tax cuts for the top 1 percent in 2008 was more than the budgets of the Department of Education and Environmental Protection Agency combined. In 2008, it took an annual income greater than \$462,000 just to get into the top 1 percent. Even better, we should add a top rate of 50 percent on income above \$1 million, as advocated by Netflix CEO Reed Hastings among others.

People for whom \$1 million and above is an annual paycheck should pay more so people for whom \$1 million is an unattainable lifetime fortune don't have

If we don't start taxing the wealthy more now, then you can be sure that the mountain of debt created by tax cuts and the bailout will be used to drive 'entitlement reform."

Workers' last forms of security Social Security and Medicare — will be on the chopping block to pay for the wreck the truly entitled made of our economy.

Holly Sklar is co-author of "A Just Minimum Wage: Good for Workers, Business and Our Future" (www.letjusticeroll.org) and "Raise the Floor: Wages and Policies That Work for All of Us." hsklar@aol.com.

# Bird Poop:

# Barn owls are rescued from chimney

As the calendar turned to March, we anticipated the surge of phone calls regarding birds trapped in chimneys. With the

in chimney avian breeding season came the discovery and panic of homeowners throughout the county. Suddenly, they had an uninvited



Bebe McCasland

guest.
Driving east of town one year, I headed toward my first encounter with this spring event. As I left my vehicle, a homeowner pleaded with me to see if I could get the bird up the chimney to freedom by using a rope. She

even had a ladder already positioned for my climb to the rooftop. Knowing that this effort was futile, I started

upward to appease the woman. Having been given a long, thick rope the width of a hoe handle, I doubted that it could be extended far enough down the chimney. It was unlikely for the bird to grip and pull itself upward. Although I was correct, the view from the rooftop was breathtaking.

To the southwest was Signal Peak and South Mountain. In between was nothing but open, undeveloped land. The brush country, spotted with mesquites, gullies and the rising bluffs beyond, offered the best hunting for this nocturnal bird of prey.

After securing the thick hemp to the outside of the chimney, I looked down the flue to discover it empty. A voice from below advised that whenever her husband had looked down the chimney, the bird had jumped from the damper to the grate in the fireplace. If anyone were in the room, the bird would jump upward and retreat above the damper for safe-keeping. This hide-and-seek game had been going on for two days.

Telling the woman that the bird could not even jump high enough to access the heavy rope, I assured her that we could grant the barn owl its freedom without damaging her home. After dark, the front door and glass doors on the fireplace would be left wide open. No lights would be left on in the house. If they wanted to watch the owl leave, they could sit perfectly still on the couch. Since their entry offered a direct flight from the hearth to the outdoors, I felt the owl would leave quickly.

Late that evening my phone rang. "It was the most beautiful thing we've ever seen," the lady said. The owl had jumped on to the grate, then the hearth, shortly after the house had become quiet and dark. Since it could see the smallest mouse in the dark of night, the bird easily recognized its chance for freedom. With its long, broad wings, it had flown silently through their den and out the door.

Future rescues would not be as easy. North of town on the road to Vealmoor, a barn owl stood on a fireplace floor. Having come through the damper, it was trapped with no place to hide. The entry/exit to the house was not readily available.

In this case, Art held a sheet around me as I slowly opened the fireplace doors. Not seeing the possibility of escape on either side of me, the bird paced back and forth. Successfully grabbing the raptor, I carried it outside.

Before release, the homeowner could appreciate the golden or tawny appearance of the barn owl's back and wings. Intermixed with this color were hues of gray. The mottling with bits of black and white enhanced this elegant night creature. Its long, heart-shaped face, rimmed with a dark border around white facial disks, intrigued our host.

With a movement upward, I let go of the bird's legs. Immediately it began a graceful flight toward a distant mesquite. Learning that the owl could fly in the late afternoon light, the homeowner knew that once the sky darkened, the raptor, with its extraordinary sight and hearing, would hunt their farmland for mice, rats and rabbits.

A few years later, two owl calls in a matter of days took me to opposite ends of the county. To the north, a "barnie" required some planning. Having to get situated inside a fireplace, I grabbed sheets, gloves and carrier. After covering the homeowners' light-colored carpet, I crumpled myself on the hearth floor. Then I realized I had forgotten my mask. The sooty dust from my movements would be unpleasant. I'd have to



As it takes flight at dusk, the buffy white underparts of a barn owl give it a ghostly appearance. Calling to its mate with an eerie shriek, the bird has earned a place in literature as well as being championed for rodent control.

work quickly.

The man and his wife held another sheet over the opening to contain the dust and keep the owl from getting into their den if it slipped past me. Ready to reach up into the damper area, I heard the husband caution, "Wait just a minute!" As he pulled the sheet back, he handed me a mask. "You're going to need this."

Grateful for his kindness, I reached up into the damper. In trying to escape the gloved hand that kept coming toward it, the barn owl jumped over my wrist several times. Wondering if I'd ever get my hand around its leg. I was surprised when it suddenly jumped from the damper on to my legs. As we stared at each other, I marveled at its penetrating black eyes. Since I was partially prone on the brick, the owl wasn't as frightened as if I had been upright. After grabbing its legs. I thanked the couple for all their effort as I placed it in a carrier.

To the south, Art and I wondered about the coloration of a fire-place's glass doors as I folded myself inside. Above the damper, another barn owl eluded capture. Resting for a moment, I removed a glove and felt of the darkened glass. The same material was on the damper and hearth.

Resuming my effort, I managed to grab a leg, then felt the impact of the owl's other foot as it struck and wouldn't let go. Turning, I used my other hand to force the

bird against the wall of the chimney. With its wings folded and held with one hand, I used my other to extract the wiggling, screaming raptor through the opening. Once outside, the bird readily left. On the way back to our vehicle, I told Art what he suspected was true. The homeowner had been cooking in the fireplace. Hot grease had coated the glass, damper, hearth, and eventually my clothes and gloves. If a prize were given

for the most owls in a fireplace, the winner would be a few years ago in the Tubbs area. Three owls had taken

residence inside a rough, stone chimney. which they could easily access because of the uneven placement of the materials. Hearing them inside, the homeowner had dismantled a stove that had been carefully housed inside. Managing to get into the den, one owl was netted and another soon joined it. When the third owl decided to investigate the house, the homeowner opened a door and the bird took advantage of it.

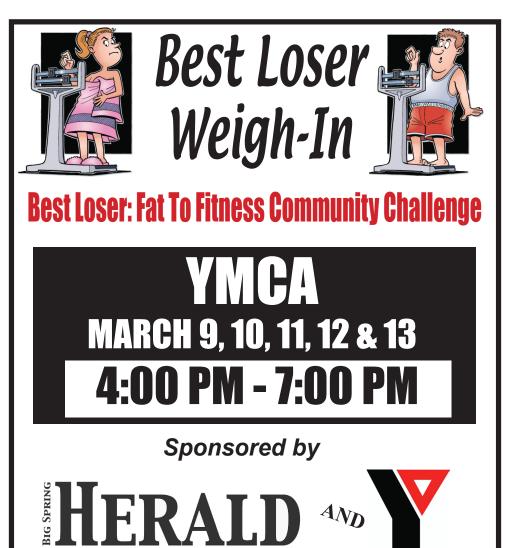
As each barn owl has been rescued from a fireplace, we advised a cover for the chimney. With wooden barns and frame houses disappearing, metal structures with roll-up doors are replacing them. Adaptable, the owls seek other nest sites in which to raise their young: hangars, recessed areas in bluffs, attics of new homes under construction, and chimneys.

rescues, I expect when I croak, I'll come back as a chimney sweep. Surely my apprenticeship has been met.

After numerous

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

Of Big Spring, Texas





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#### Wacky Facts

🗭 Legend says that each leaf of the clover means something: the first is for hope, the second for faith, the third for love and the fourth for luck.

According to the Guinness World Records, the highest number of leaves found on a clover is 14! — kaboose.com



Chatter Box

"Geographically, Ireland is a medium-sized rural island that is slowly but steadily being consumed by sheep."

- Humorist Dave Barry, brainyquote.com



# to catch a 2000 Cenoun

It's an alarming trend that shows no sign of abating: every year, more and more people fall victim to leprechaun-related mischief around St. Patrick's Day. "It's never the same," reports Margaret Bentley, of Painesville, Ohio. "The chil-

dren talk about it for weeks in advance, wondering what things the leprechaun will do when he visits our house." Similarly, the kids in the Dezotell family of Seekonk, Mass., can only imagine what the next St. Patrick's Day home

leprechaun hat pit trap

invasion will bring. Green milk? Green toilet water? Green footprints? Trails of

Leprechauns have

big egos, so a giant

shamrock confetti? "One year the kids woke up with green kiss marks on their foreheads," recalls mom Monique, still clearly shaken.

Is it any surprise, then, that kids like 8-year-old Jacob Dezotell have decided to fight back? Every St. Patrick's Day since he was in kindergarten, Jacob and his sister, Elise, 7, have tried to capture a leprechaun. Despite powerful bait (Lucky Charms cereal!), their traps have caught only chocolate gold coins and candy bars, accompanied by notes taunting them with "Good try," or "Can't catch me!" As everyone knows, leprechauns hoard pots of gold, and if caught, must reveal the treasure's location to their captor. But that's not the



So that the top doesn't give

way too soon, use a light-

Because the elusive elves are always leaving him chocolate, he figures they must have even more of that than gold!

It's for the sake of Jacob, Elise and all the other St. Patrick's Day mischief fighters that we offer here a state-ofthe-art leprechaun trap. It is easily made from ordinary household materials and uses lures and baits drawn from the latest research in leprechaun psychology. Take our design and customize it to make something unique: leprechauns won't be fooled by the same trap twice!

— JoEllen Mitchell, FamilyFun magazine

#### In The News

# **Dear President** Obama

Last month, the National Education Association (NEA) and kidthing.com asked young people around the world to share their thoughts with President Barack Obama. More than 4,500 kids sent letters and drawings expressing their hopes and dreams for the nation. A special selection of 150 of these letters and drawings appears in a new digital book, "Dear Mr. President."



#### **VOICES OF THE FUTURE**

The collection is available for free on the kidthing Web site at kidthing.com/DMP. (If you are 13 or younger, a parent or guardian must download the kidthing media player for you.) A limited-edition print copy of the book will be sent to the Obama family.

"The children conveyed incredible sensitivity and understanding with respect to the difficult tasks and challenges facing this new president," said Larry Hitchcock, the head of kidthing. "I believe President Obama will be proud of their commitment and patriotism and, most of all, I believe he will welcome the opportunity to hear their thoughts for our future."

## FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA

Entries poured in from the United States to Japan, and everywhere in between. The letters shared concerns about the environment, the war and equality for all people. Sasha, 10, from California, asked Obama if he could "try to make a greener planet and try to bring home the troops." Ohio student Alexander, 11, had medicine on his mind: "My dream is that a cure for cancer will be found." And Amanda, 7, from New Jersey, hopes that Obama can "make America a better place."

"The 'Dear Mr. President' project has empowered students to be a voice for change in America by writing their own piece of history," said NEA President Dennis Van Roekel.

Here is a peek at some of the letters featured in the "Dear Mr. President" digital book.

#### Destiny, 12, of Medford, N.Y., wrote:

"I hope Mr. Barack Obama will one day create a holiday for children from around the world could meet up in one place and get to know one another for one day. The reason for this hope is to get children who are disliked, alone, sick, or even abandoned to meet other children and have someone to talk to that's just like them, and have to play with and have a real best friend."

#### Manish Suryapalam, 9, of Downingtown, Pa., wrote:

"We should not chop down trees because lots of carbon-dioxide will create the green house effect. (make holes in the atmosphere.) Trees stop this from happening by taking in carbon dioxide and releasing (sic) oxygon (sic) for us to breath. (sic) Since solar panel powered cars are invented you should tell people to use them instead of normal cars because gas creates global warming, and you should also lower the price on solar panel powered cars."

Vickie An

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#### weight bait, such as a version of their own crumpled piece of gold foil. hat is irresistible to them. Once they step on the false top, Our hat, a recycled you'll have caught a oatmeal container, is 10-gallon prize. wrapped with green felt secured with doublesided tape. To make the trap, Natural materials we cut a make these hole in woodland creathe lid. tures feel at then home. cun-Our ladder ningly is made from contwigs held cealed it together with with a wood glue. circle of green felt that will give way when the leprechaun steps on it. Do Not Climb Ladder The little guys love to break rules. Warning signs are sure to lure them in.





HEATH ROBBINS/ FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE

Help!

# Hey, no cheating!

**DEAR AMERICAN GIRL:** The girl who sits next to me in class always cheats off my paper! Our teacher told her to stop, but she said she doesn't cheat. I can't move, so what can I do? — Not Fair

copy yours. However, if you are having a

hard time focusing on your work because of

■ Talk to your teacher again. This time, ask if you can use a blank cover sheet. As you take the test, slide the cover sheet over your answers so no one can see them. With a little luck, your neighbor will find it easier to do her own work than to

this girl, ask to move seats.

■ Tell your gym teacher how you feel and ask her to try other ways of choosing teams. You could split up alphabetically, or by whose birthdays come before June 30 and whose come after. You could even line up from shortest to tallest

**DEAR AMERICAN GIRL:** I'm

always picked last in gym. It

really hurts. What can I do?

and put every other person on the same team. No matter what happens, if you try your best when you play, you're a winner.

Visit "Fun for Girls" at americangirlmagazine.com to get or give advice. © 2009 American Girl, LLC. All rights reserved.

Why do people wear shamrocks on St. Patrick's Day? Regular rocks are too heavy! Why are Why leprechauns so hard can't to get along with? you borrow Because they're very money from . short-tempered! a leprechaun? Because they're always a little . - BASICJOKES.COM short! What is out on the lawn all summer and is Irish? Paddy O'Furniture!

Laugh Lines



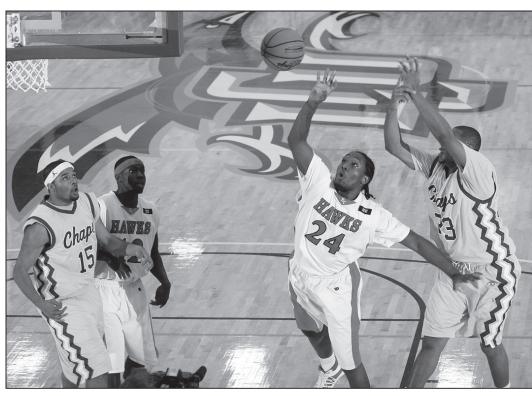
FO

изменз: ѕнемноск, сервесньии, іпіѕн, рот ог соср

# SPRING HERALD

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

Page 7 Tuesday, March 10, 2009



**HERALD** photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College forward Markeys Deans (24) shoots for two with Midland's David Terrell (23) guarding him. Mildand's Kavon Lytch (15) battles with Howard's Latrail McCoy for positioning for the rebound Monday at Lubbock Christian University's Rip Griffin Center. Howard lost to Midland, 60-48, in the semifinals of the Region V Tournament.

# Chaps eliminate Howard, 60-48

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK - Midland College's and Howard College's men's basketball teams know each other well and it showed Monday night.

The Hawks and Chaps fought on the hardwood for a third time this season, but this time it was for a bid to the Region V Tournament championship game at Lubbock Christian University's Rip Griffin Center.

In an extremely physical game, the Chaps landed a couple more uppercuts than the Hawks, pulling out a 60-48 victory.

The Hawks struggled to score throughout the game, shooting 29.6 percent from the field. Meanwhile, Midland shot better than 60 per-

"When you play against great teams, they often expose your weaknesses," said Howard Head Coach Mark Adams. "That's what Midland did to us today. We have struggled to score at times this season and I just couldn't figure out how to get the offense going today."

Howard and Midland were tied at 22 at intermission, but a slow start to the second half ended up costing the Hawks.

Midland scored 10 of the first 14 points posted in the second 20-minute frame, taking a 34-26 advan-

See **HOWARD**, page 12

# One to go

# Howard women advance to Region V final

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK - Four years ago, Howard College's women's basketball team didn't even win a single Western Junior College Athletic Conference

Now, the Hawks are one game away from claiming a Region V title and moving on to the National Tournament in Salina, Kan.

Howard College was dominant in the second half of a semifinal game at the Region V Tournament at Lubbock Christian University's Rip Griffin Center, routing Collin County Community College, 76-52.

The game was tied at intermission, 30-all, but the Hawks methodically distanced themselves from the Lady Cougars in the second half for the convincing 24-point victory.

"We really turned up the heat defensively in the second period and pulled away from them," said Howard Head Coach Earl Diddle. "Collin County is a good team. They have a lot of skillful offensive players and they gave us some trouble in the first half. I'm really proud of how our girls played defense in the second half. They came out focused and really wanted this

See HC, page 12



Howard College's Miesha Blackshear lays in two points in the Hawks' 76-52 victory over Collin County Community College in the semifinals of the Region V Tournament at Lubbock Christian University Monday. Howard plays Odessa College in finals of the regional tournament at 5 p.m. today.

# CHS rallies past BSHS

**Herald Staff Reports** 

COAHOMA - Local weather reports for Monday indicate there was no precipitation in Coahoma.

However, the threat of it was enough to call off a softball game and the ending came with some controversy.

Coahoma's Bulldogettes claimed a 7-6 victory over Big Spring in a game shortened by a mutual agreement among the two schools athletic directors with the threat of a storm looming.

The fifth inning wasn't completed, though, and a brief debate was had between the two coaches for the team as to who the rightful winner

Big Spring led 6-2 heading into the bottom of the fifth inning, when the Coahoma bats finally caught fire, scoring five runs before the game was called.

In the end, a rule was found in the NFHS Softball Rules Book explaining the situation, which awards the victory to Coahoma.

The Lady Steers got on the board first, taking a 1-run advantage in the top of the second inning. Coahoma tied the game in the bottom of the third, but saw Big Spring explode for five runs in the top of the fourth.

Down 6-1, Coahoma scored six runs in the next two innings to pick up the win. It's the eighth consecutive victory for the Bulldogettes.

Heather Newton got the win, giving up six runs five earned – in five innings pitched on 10 hits, while

See **SOFTBALL**, page 12

# Sports in brief

#### **BSGSA** registration continues Saturday

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

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

The fee covers full uniform.

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

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

#### Lady Steers boosters meeting March 16 at ATC

The Big Spring Lady Steers Booster Club is meeting at 5:45 p.m. March 16 in the Athletic Training

All parents of Lady Steers athletes in junior high or high school are encouraged to attend.

#### Moss Creek hosting ATV and side-by-side races

The Texas Crossroads Racing Circuit is having an event hosted by Moss Creek Lake March 22.

Events feature a variety of ATV and side-by-side vehicles. Registration starts at 7 a.m. with the first races taking place at 8 a.m. A required \$15 for TCRC membership will be charged along with entrance fees for each individual race.

For more information or directions to to event, visit www.texascrc.net.

#### **BSCC** hosting 3-person scramble April 4-5

The Big Spring Country Club is hosting a 3-person scramble tournament April 4-5 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days.

Entry fee is \$60 per player plus golf cart. Private carts are welcome.

Entry includes barbecue on the course April 4 and practice rounds the day before.

Field will e flighted by first round score withe number of flights being determined by the number of entries.

8

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Coastal Transport is now seeking individuals to deliver petroleum product in and around surrounding areas of Big Spring. Must be 23 years of age, have a Class A license with Tanker and Haz-Mat endorsements with 1 year tractor/trailer experience. Please contact Russell

1-888-527-7221 for more information.



DRIVERS WANTED. We need drivers now and get hired on the spot, subject to qualifications. We have best delivery compensation in the business. Make cash every day. Great part time and full time shifts. Health Insurance plan. Great starting wage- \$7.00 an hour, plus delivery compensation, plus tips. We more than compensate for high gas prices. Got experience? Work for Papa or the Hut? Come on over and get an additional hiring bonus. Senior citizens and stay at home Moms always welcome. Apply at Domino's Pizza.

EZ PAWN, Now Hiring 2 Full time & 1 Part Time Sales and Loan Representatives. Must have High School/GED, pass background & drug test. Apply online at www.ezpawnjobs.com FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. Call after 7:00 p.m. (432)684-5418.

FOOD SERVICE Manager. Experience necessary. Salary, Benefits. Fax resume to (817)656-9327. Apply in person Student Center, Howard College.

FOOD **SERVICE** Workers needed. Experience neces-Flexible Great Pay, hours. Apply in person Student Center, Howard College

HOUSEKEEPER/ LAUNDRY Attendant wanted. Please apply at the Comfort Inn at 2900 East I-20. Must be reliable and pass background check.

LOOKING FOR energetic person to clean house twice a month. Must be thorough and pay great attention to detail. Call (432)264-6352.

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehabilitation is now seeking a full time 10/6 Charge Nurse. This position will offer retirement, paid vacation, health insurance bonus, great starting pay and a friendly working environment. Stop by or fill out an application online www.parkviewnursing.net 3200 Parkway

432.263.4041 **PART-TIME JANITORIAL** Dependable. Work. Call (432)213-1186, (432)267-6027.

#### **Help Wanted**

#### MT/ MLT

Mitchell County Hospital District in Colorado City seeks Certified Medical Technologists (MT) or Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT) to join our team. Competitive salary and excellent benefits package. Experience preferred. Please send resume to: Karl Stinson, CEO, 997 W. 1-20, Colorado TX 79512, or fax: City, (325)728-8974. Applications are also available online at www.mitchellcounty hospital.com

**NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE** Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

NOW HIRING Bartenders and Cocktail waitresses. Must be Call the San Franciscan Bar & Grill at (432)267-1767 or 213-0946.

PARKPLACE RETIREMENT Living is seeking a creative, energetic individual for the position of Waitstaff/Cook. The position involves the day to day activities of a restaurant style dietary department. Pay based on experience. Apply in person at 501 W. 17th. Street.

#### **PIZZA INN**

EARN \$12-\$14 PER HOUR DELIVERING PIZZA'S. \$100 HIRING BONUS. MUST BE 18YRS. OLD WITH CLEAN DRIVING RECORD. ALSO TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG. NO PHONE CALLS.

#### **COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

CRMWD, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is seeking a Human Resources Assistant. Responsibilities include payroll, employee orientation, general health and retirement plan administration and accounting duties. Associates degree preferred. Strong computer skills required including Microsoft Successful word and excel. candidate must be a self starter, a team player, and possess the ability to multi-task. Prefer 3 to 5 years experience. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, sick, vacation and holiday leave. Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432) 267-6341, or on our website www.crmwd.org. EOE

POSITION AVAILABLE at The Boys & Girls Club. Must have outgoing personality, patience, & love children. Apply at The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club, 811 West 5th.

POST OFFICE Hiring Nationally! Avg. pay \$20/hr, \$57K/yr including Federal Benefits, OT. Optional fee-based test prep materials, not affiliated with the US Postal Service. 1-866-795-4058.

BUY•SELL•TRADE In the Big Spring Herald Classifieds

# **Help Wanted**

#### REEF

Reef Services, LLC is seeking an oilfield production chemical **Sales Representative** Must have several years experience and extensive working knowledge of production chemicals.

Class B CDL, with hazmat & tanker helpful. Salary position, company vehicles, Full benefit plan, 401k match & bonus plan.

EOE Human Resources Department P.O. Box 11347 Midland, Texas 79702 Email: hr@reefcorp.com Fax: (800)504-1840

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#### PIANO & VOICE **LESSONS**

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SHIMMY YOUR way to a healthier new you! Bellydance class starting Tuesday at 7:00PM, Techno Salon, Big Spring Mall. Contact Victoria (432)816-3546 for more information.

#### **Items for Sale**

\$250 KING Pillow top no flip mattress & box set, NEW with Warranty. 432-664-8980.

Wrought Iron Bed with Mattress set. Both New \$325. 432-664-8980.

6PC. BEDROOM set. New, still in boxes. \$450. 432-664-8980.

BRAND NEW double/full size mattress set. \$120. Twin matt set. \$100. Both new, warranty. 432-664-8980.

HUGE CHENILLE Sofa and Love Retails for \$3350 need \$1400 must see. 432-664-8980.

New Leather Sofa. Factory warranty. \$700. 432-664-8980. NAME BRAND Laptops - Absolutely Free! Get the Laptop You Deserve New! Super Thin

#### Super Fast Includes Free Shipping! Log In Now! www.SuperFreeLaptop.com Lost and Found

#### LADIES BRACELET Lost on Wed. 4th. Has Great Sentimental Value. Generous Award. Call (432)213-6833.

#### **Miscellaneous**

1978 ARGOSY RV for sale. Great camping vehicle, call 432-517-4432.

ADJUSTABLE KING- NEW bed and memory foam mattress split king, list \$5500, sell \$1990. 806-549-3110..... Cereamic tile dining set and chairs, BRAND NEW!!! \$260. 806-549-3110.....

REMAINING! Display Hot-Tubs 5 to 6 person. \$109.00 a month. Delivery/Financing. (432)563-1807.

WHY PAY Rent? 10'x16' Storage Buildings \$61.00 a month. Delivery/Financing, (432)563-3108.

SLIGHT DAMAGE--12'x20 Barn. Will Deliver. (432)563-3108.

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BOXER PUPPIES for Sale, \$100.00 each. Call 5:00pm (432)213-4909.

#### **Real Estate for Rent**

\$380/MO! BUY a 3 bed, 2 bath! 5% dn, 30 yrs, 8% apr! For listings 800-544-6258 x F086.

1505 TUCSON. Remodeled Four bedroom, two bath, CH/A. \$750.00 Month, \$500.00 deposit. No HUD, No pets non-smokers preferred. References required. (432)270-3849.

1900 ALABAMA 4 bdr, 2 bath, Newly remodeled. Fenced yard. \$800/ month, \$750/ de-Call after posit. 432-816-1255 or 263-8005.

2005 N. MONTICELLO Remodel 1, 1, 1 bath, tile flow, 1, 9, garage. \$500. month, \$500. deposit. Call (432)517-0373.

3704 CALVIN, 3 bedroom, 1 bath brick, CH/A 500. Month, \$400. Hud. No Pets. Smoker. References required. Call (432)270-3849 for more information.

408 WEST 5TH. Furnished Efficiency Apartment. Bills paid. \$365 month, \$150 deposit. No Pets. Sorry (432)263-4922.

NEW LISTING 1104 East 11th Place, Upstairs- Rear Duplex. 1 Bdrm, Efficiency w/stove, refrigerator, bdrm furniture, \$350. month, \$300. deposit. Call Jose 469-878-4967.

#### **Under New Ownership New Name TANGLEWOOD GROVE APTS** Efficiency

One- Two- Three Bedroom (Unfurnished) \*All New Appliances & Fixtures \*Security System in Place

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#### **Real Estate for Sale** 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath with Of-

fice, 2 car garage, shop, live stock barn with corrals on 4.9 acres in Ackerly. \$90,000.00 Call 432-353-4731 270-0215.

4 BEDROOM 3 bath Foreclosure Only \$44,900! For Listings 800-544-6258 x S382.

BY OWNER- 3547 Sq. Ft. Brick- 4 bdrm, 2-1/2 baths, 3 living rooms, 2 car garage, 1-1/2 acres. 8403 Gail Hwy. Below appraisal \$179,500.00. 432-270-4646.

#### **Real Estate for Sale**

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helped thousands of families begin living their dream. Call for listings in your area! Call Milton (806)790-0827. **OWNER FINANCE** 2602 Car-

ing costs! TruStar RE has

leton. 3 Bdrm, 1 bath. \$33,000.00. Easy Terms. Call Mark TruStar Agent (512)799-4003. OWNER FINANCE, 5 Bed-

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OWNER FINANCE- 2715 Central Drive, Kentwood addition, near school. 3/2, fireplace, shop, fenced. \$98,000.00 with Payments Small Down. monthly. \$851.00 Call (512)940-5200, (432)631-8100.

OWNER FINANCE. 2/1. Low monthly. Low down. 1301 Park. (325)277-4923.

SMALL 2 bdr., 1 bath, fenced yard with deck, CH/A, 432-263-6887 or 213-8220. Larger 2 bdr., 1 bath with den available soon! OWNER FINANCE,

Down, Low Monthly, Terms. 508 State Street- 2/1, 808 Settles- 3/2. Call Trent 512-426-1850. VICTORIA HOME, 2101 Run-

nels. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. 2 Lots, 12 foot ceilings, large back yard. \$89,000.00. Call (432)816-2525. WE BUY HOUSES and LAND.

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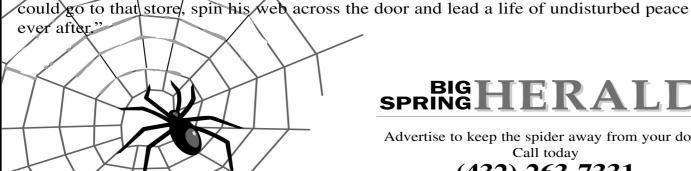
**2701 APACHE** 

16724

# The Spider During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a

spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck. Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he



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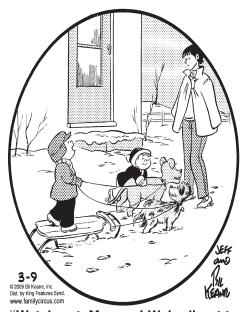
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5		News	News	Locura	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Raymond	Grohman	BBC	Cash Cab	Untouch- ables, Robert	CSI: NY	Bones		Suite Life	Basketball	SportsCenter
J	:30	ABC	ABC	Noticiero	Lopez	CBS	Noticiero	NBC	Friends	Granger	Business	Cash Cab	De Niro			BET's Top 10			
_	:PM	News	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News	12 Cora-	News	Seinfeld	Van Impe	News-Lehrer	Made	Bortino	CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Live	Suite Life	College	College
O	:30	Entertain	Fortune		Two Men	Entertain	zones	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Hagee		Made		Scn			Montana	Basketball	Basketball
_	:PM	Dancing With	Dancing With	Cuidado-	House	Big Bang	Doña Bar-	Chuck	Fam. Guy	Israel	Antiques	Destroyed	Movie: Bat-	CSI: Crime	The Closer	Movie: Two	Movie: Harry		
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8	:30					Rules	Analia		Fam. Guy	Southwest	Lens			Stripes, War-			of Secrets	Basketball:	Basketball
	:PM	(:02) Castle	(:02) Castle	Cristina	TMZ	CSI: Miami	Sin Senos	Medium	Name			Hard Time		ren Oates	Saving	Harlem		MAAC Final	
9	:30				Raymond		El Cartel		Name		Crown				Grace	Harlem			
10	:PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Israel	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: Com-	1	Bones	Hatchett	Movie: Harry	Who's Num-	SportsCenter
10	:30	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	King-Hill	Late Show	Decisiones	Tonight Show	Sex &	Sala		Made		MAN		Hatchett		ber 1?	
4.4	:PM	Insider	Jimmy Kim-	La Casa de	Law Order:		de	_	Sex &	Uri Harel	Smiley	Destroyed	Hedaya	CSI: NY	Saving	Movie: Two	the Chamber	Baseball	Final
11	:30	Jimmy Kim-	mel Live	la Risa	CI	Late Late	Decisiones	Late Night-	Movie:	Mark	Smiley	Destroyed	1		Grace	Can Play	of Secrets	Tonight	NFL Live
40	:AM	mel Live	Extra	Contra	RENO 911	Show	de	Jim	Captain Ron,	Israel	(Off Air)	Hard Time	Movie: The	Disorderly	Cold Case	That Game		NASCAR	SportsCenter
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1		Paid		Güereja	Paid	Paid	Pelicula:	Dark	Movie: The	Southwest							Dragon	Friday Night	·

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"Watch out, Mommy! We're 'bout to start our Iditarod!"

**HAGAR** 



**BLONDIE** 







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#### BC





WIZARD OF ID



UNEMPLOYMENT 15 UP, THERE'S A HEATING OIL SHORTAGE, AND IT'S TEN DEGREES BELOW ZERO



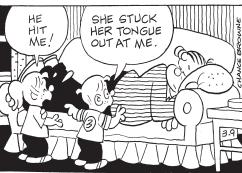
**AGNES** 







# **HI AND LOIS**





THE OTHER COAST



## **SNUFFY SMITH**





#### BEETLE BAILEY





# This Date In History

Today is Monday, March 9, the 68th day of 2009. There are 297 days left in the year. Today's Highlight History:

On March 9, 1862, during the Civil War, the ironclads USS Monitor and CSS Virginia (formerly USS Merrimac) clashed for five hours to a draw at Hampton Roads, Va.

On this date:

In 1796, the future emperor of French, Napoleon Bonaparte, married Josephine de Beauharnais (boh-ahr-NAY'). (The couple divorced in 1809.)

In 1907, Indiana's General Assembly passed America's first involuntary sterilization law, one aimed at "confirmed criminals, idiots, imbeciles, and rapists" in state custody. (This law was struck down in 1921 by the Indiana Supreme Court, but a new law was passed in 1927 that was repealed in 1974.)

In 1916, Mexican raiders led by Pancho Villa attacked Columbus, N.M., killing 18 Americans. In 1932, Eamon de Valera was

appointed head of government of the Irish Free State. In 1945, during World War II,

U.S. B-29 bombers launched incendiary bomb attacks against Japan, resulting in an estimated 100,000 deaths. In 1954, CBS newsman

Edward R. Murrow critically reviewed Wisconsin Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's anti-Communism campaign on "See It Now." In 1959, Mattel's Barbie doll,

created by Ruth Handler, made its public debut at the American International Toy Fair in New York. In 1964, the Supreme Court,

in New York Times Co. v. Sullivan, ruled that public officials who charged they'd been libeled by news reports could not recover damages unless they proved actual malice on the part of the news organiza-In 1977, about a dozen armed

Hanafi Muslims invaded three buildings in Washington D.C., killing one person and taking more than 130 hostages. (The siege ended two days later.)

In 1989, the Senate rejected

President George H.W. Bush's nomination of John Tower to be defense secretary by a vote of 53-47. (The next day, Bush tapped Wyoming Rep. Dick Cheney, who went on to win

unanimous Senate approval.) Today's Birthdays: Singeractress Keely Smith is 77. Singer Lloyd Price is 76. Actress Joyce Van Patten is 75. Actorcomedian Marty Ingels is 73. Country singer Mickey Gilley is 73. Actress Trish Van Devere is 68. Singer Mark Lindsay (Paul Revere and the Raiders) is 67. ABC anchorman Charles Gibson is 66. Rock musician Robin Trower is 64. Singer Jeffrey Osborne is 61. Country musician Jimmie Fadden (The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band) is 61.

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Answer to previous puzzle



#### **Newsday Crossword**

**61** Military

62 New

no-show,

Hampshire

neighbor

**63** "Of \_\_ I sing"

chalk from

1 Touch down

on the runway

2 Butter stand-in

3 Light-bulb unit

magical friend

**64** Dole (out)

65 Wipe the

**DOWN** 

4 CPR pro

6 Aladdin's

7 Milky gems

8 Chair part

spinners

9 Record

14

17

20

33

40

43

56

60

63

briefly

#### **ACROSS** 1 Farther down

- **6** First-place
- medal **10** Practice boxing
- 14 San Antonio
- landmark
- **15** Fencing
- weapon
- **16** Walking stick 17 Ship's carrying
- capacity
- **19** Religious ceremony
- 20 Small speck
- 21 Postal delivery
- **22** Greeted rudely
- 24 Taunts
- 25 Pub beverage
- **26** Entraps 29 Parallel-bars
- user 33 bear
- (Arctic beast) **34** Gets a
- glimpse of **36** Location
- **37** Tremendously 38 Cereal grain
- 39 "How sad!"
- **40** Teeming (with)
- **41** Yours and mine 42 Keep from
- happening
- **43** Burger topper
- 45 Stockholm
- natives **46** Fresh from
- the oven
- 47 Late-blooming flower
- **49** Uses a broom **52** Sheep sounds
- 53 Likely 56 Become weary **57** Internet surfer's
- 60 With no warranty

need

#### **HOLEY QUARTET** by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

#### **10** Idle-computer

- **11** Twosome
- **12** Poker player's payment
- 13 Marsh plant
- 18 Catches, as
- a crook
- 23 Shade tree
- 24 Prepare Parmesan,
- perhaps 26 Fire starter
- 27 "That's the
- truth!"
- 28 Up in the air 29 Obtains
- 5 More spacious 30 Was under
  - the weather **31** Fixed gaze
  - 32 Finals and midterms

15

61

64

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2009 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM

**34** Minestrone, for one

- **35** Corn portion 41 Defeated in a monitor display
  - pool race
  - 42 "Very cool!" 44 Move like a
  - rabbit 45 Top-billed
  - actor **47** Monasterv leader
  - 48 Pricev fur 49 Numerical fact,
  - for short
  - **50** 6 Down offering
  - 51 One of the **Great Lakes**
  - **53** Largest continent
  - **54** Farm enclosures
  - 55 Birch or beech
  - 58 Lamb's mom
  - 59 Armed conflict
  - 10 11 12 13

16

62

65

3/9/09

19 18 21 22 | 23 25 26 | 27 | 28 29 30 31 32 34 | 35 36 38 39 41 42 44 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 | 54 | 55 57 58

# Banned substances found on Clemens' paraphenelia

**The Associated Press** 

Performance-enhancing substances have been found on drug paraphernalia allegedly used by former personal trainer Brian McNamee on Roger Clemens, according to a published

The New York Times reported Tuesday that federal authorities found the substances on items McNamee handed over as part of the government's perjury investigation against Clemens. The newspaper cited people who have been briefed on the case. The sources spoke on condition of anonymity because they did not want

to jeopardize their access to sensitive information, the Times reported. The sources did not indicate on which items the substances were found.

McNamee last vear told prosecutors he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone in 2000 and 2001, while Clemens was a member of the New York Yankees. McNamee said he kept the materials in a Federal Express box in his basement after using them on Clemens.

Clemens said McNamee injected him only with vitamin B-12 and the painkiller lidocaine.

He has consistently denied using PEDs, which directly contradicts sworn testimony by McNamee.

The government is investigating whether Clemens lied to Congress last year when he denied using PEDs.

Last month, word leaked that prosecutors had linked Clemens' DNA to blood residue on at least one of the syringes McNamee gave the feds.

Clemens' attorney, Rusty Hardin, said he wasn't surprised by the latest finding, but he also attacked McNamee's credibility on the issue.

"Do you really think McNamee was going to fabricate this stuff and not make sure there were substances on there?" Hardin asked the Times. "The fact is Roger never used steroids

Jennifer L. Mnookin, a UCLA law professor, told the Times that if the perjury case goes to trial and a judge allows the materials to be entered as evidence, Clemens' legal team could then claim the materials were fabricated or contaminated.

"And at that point," Mnookin told the Times, "a jury will be back at square one, trying to decide whether they believe McNamee or Clemens." Mnookin also said, "All that these

tests can do is show the presence of biological materials.

"They can't tell you how, why or

## HOWARD

Continued from page 7

tage. The Chaps' lead ballooned to 14 points, 47-33, by the 6:57 mark. Howard wouldn't cut the margin to single digits again.

Midland was led by Kavon Lytch, who came off the bench to post a double-double with 18 points and 17 rebounds. Greg Hill was the only other Chap in double digits scoring with 10 points.

The Chaps move on to face South Plains College in the finals. South Plains routed Collin County Sunday, 79-63. It's the third consecutive appearance in the Region V finals for the Texans, who are the defending national champions.

Howard got a game-high 19 from Denzel Barnes, who along with four other players participated in his final game as a Hawk. Markeys Deans also saw his Howard career come to an end, posting a double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

Barnes and Deans are joined by Devon Baker and Vladimir Gavranic as sophomores who will be moving on after this season.

"This is one of the best group of sophomores I have ever coached," said Adams. "They have character and toughness. It's sad when you have to say goodbye to a group as good as this one."

Barnes and Deans each expressed fondness for Howard College and its coaching staff.

"I love this team," said Barnes. "I love this program. It made me a better player and a better man in every aspect. I didn't want this season to end. It came down to some tough calls and us being a young team today. Midland didn't do anything new. They did what they've been doing all year. This time we just didn't make any shots."

Howard opened the Western Junior College Athletic Conference season 1-3 and appeared on the brink of elimination early on. However, the Hawks rallied to win 10 of their last 12 conference games, claiming the third seed out of the league for the Region V Tournament.

"This was a good year. This was a good team," said Deans. "Last year, we made it to the championship game here and lost. This year, we made it back when a lot of people said we couldn't after we

started off 1-3. It was the desire of our sophomores that drove this team back here. Denzel, Vlad, Devon and myself really wanted to get back here. We decided to step it up in practice and got the freshmen to step it up as well. Everything started clicking. Our coaches were really pushing us. We wanted to be on another level – a championship

The Hawks finish the season with a 21-8 overall record.

Midland College 60,

Howard College 48

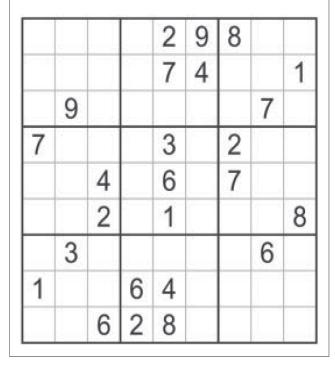
Midland College (29-3): Garrett Lever 3-5 1-4 9, Brad Kelleher 2-4 2-2 7, Marlon Louzeiro 1-1 0-0 2, Adrian Van Buren 1-2 2-4 4, Kavon Lytch 7-10 4-8 18, Larry Wilkins 0-0 1-4 1, David Terrell 3-3 1-2 7, Greg Hill 2-6 5-5 10, Bryant Evans 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 20-33 16-29 60.

Howard College (21-8): Devon Baker 3-11 0-2 7, Latrail McCoy 0-3 1-4 1. Denzel Barnes 7-17 1-2 19. Dante Menter 2-5 0-0 4. Ricardo Zanini 0-6 0-0 0, Shaad O'Garro 0-0 0-0 0, Joshua Watkins 1-2 0-0 2, Markeys Deans 2-7 7-9 11, Vladamir Gavranic 1-3 2-2 4, Melanio Ebenden 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 16-54 11-19 48

Halftime: MC 22, HC 22. 3-point goals: MC 4-9 (Lever 2-3, Kelleher 1-3, Hill 1-3,), HC 5-22 (Barnes 4-8, Baker 1-5, McCoy 0-1, Menter 0-1, Watkins 0-1, Deans 0-2). Rebounds: MC 33 (Lytch 17), HC 31 (Deans 10). Assists: MC 12 (Kelleher 3, Hill 3), HC 9 (Barnes 4). Turnovers: MC 27, HC 18. Steals: MC 7 (Lever 3), HC 8 (Barnes 3). Total fouls: MC 22, HC 20. Fouled out: None.

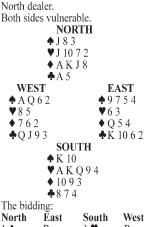
# sudoku

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.



# Contra

#### By Steve Becker Declarer Has a Blind Spot



West 1 **♦** 2 **♥** 1 **♥** 4 **♥** Pass Pass Opening lead — queen of clubs Some deals contain built-in traps

that may lure declarer to an unnecessary defeat. For this reason, declarer should carefully examine all his assets before committing himself to a particular line of play. Take this case where South got to

four hearts and West led the queen of clubs. Declarer won with the ace, cashed the ace of diamonds, drew two rounds of trumps ending in his hand, then led the ten of diamonds and let it ride. East won with the

queen, cashed the king of clubs and shifted to a spade, and West's A-Q of spades put the contract down one.

South bemoaned his bad luck in finding the queen of diamonds and both missing spade honors offside. However, with proper play, the contract was a virtual certainty from the outset. The fault lay in South's becoming overly enamored of dummy's diamonds and the potential spade discard it afforded. Had he instead looked at the hand as a whole, he would have realized that his spade holding was actually an asset rather than a liability. The correct approach is to draw

trumps ending in dummy and lead a spade toward the K-10. After East follows low, South can either finesse the ten or play the king, depending on where he thinks the ace is located. As it happens, both spade honors

are offside, so declarer cannot avoid losing two spade tricks. Nevertheless, the contract is assured. For example, suppose West wins

the ten of spades with the queen and shifts to a diamond. Declarer puts up the ace and plays a second spade to the king and ace, establishing dummy's jack. Whatever West returns, South cannot be stopped from discarding a diamond on the jack of spades, and he winds up losing only two spades and a club.

**Tomorrow:** In the arms of Morpheus. ©2009 King Features Syndicate In

## HC

Continued from page 7

win."

The only player in double figures for Collin County was Taylor Murray, who gave the Lady Cougars a spark off the bench in the first half, scoring 15 points. Murray helped Collin County fight back from a 9-point deficit with 13:34 left in the first half to tie the game at 30 by the break.

Howard led by 8, 55-47, with 7:27 to play, but held the Lady Cougars to just five more points in the final seven minutes of the game. Howard went 8 for 8 at the free throw line in the final moments to

scored 13 and led Howard with eight rebounds, eight assists and six steals. DeAndra Thomas was good for 12 points, while Danielle Cota scored 10

5 p.m. today. Odessa pulled off the biggest upset of the Region V Tournament, ousting fifth-ranked Midland College, which was expected to easily run away with the women's title, 79-74.

season, routing the Lady Wranglers in the first two meetings. Odessa was able to win in overtime, 69-59, the last time the two squads met at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The matchup pits Diddle against one of his former players, Ara Baten, who is the head coach for Odessa.

"I'm just extremely proud of Ara," said Diddle.

push the lead to 24 points. Patricia Malouff scored 13 of her game-high 20 points in the second half. Miesha Blackshear

off the bench. The Hawks meet Odessa College in the finals at

Howard faced Odessa three times during the

"He was a very successful coach at New Mexico

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#### Junior College, then decided to get out of coaching for a while. He wanted to come back and Odessa did a smart thing by hiring him. I talk to Ara all the time. He's a great friend and a good coach. He's done a terrific job with his team. They are a totally different team from the one we saw earlier

this season. "This is going to be a great game," he continued.

"You look at the three games we've played, other than a couple of minutes in the first two, it has been a closely contested matchup. I expect this one to come down to the final minutes. When you're seeing a team for the fourth time in a season, you know what each other is capable of. It all comes down to execution. Whoever executes better is who is going to win."

The winner receives a bid to the NJCAA National Tournament beginning March 17 in Salina, Kan.

Howard College 76,

Collin County Community College 52

Howard (25-7)

DeAndra Thomas 4-4 4-4 12, Chassidy Cole 3-8 2-5 8, Rachael Dryver 4-10 0-0 8, Patricia Malouff 6-12 4-4 20, Miesha Blackshear 4-16 5-6 13, NaTalia Smith 2-3 1-1 5, Danielle Cota 4-5 2-2 10, Clarissa Krum 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 27-60 18-22 76.

Collin County (20-12)

Deltrice Daniel 3-4 0-0 8, Donna Jackson 1-6 1-2 3, Erin Lewis 2-7 1-2 5, Nikki Garner 1-2 0-0 2, Codi Starks 2-7 0-0 4, Taylor Murray 4-11 4-4 15, Franchesca Simon 2-5 2-2 6, Sarah Reno 3-5 3-4 9. Totals 18-47 11-14 52.

## **SOFTBALL**

Continued from page 7

striking out five batters. Kenzie Hunt took the loss for Big Spring, allowing seven earned runs in 4.2 innings. Hunt surrendered nine hits and walked two batters, striking out three others.

Jennifer Castilaw was Coahoma's top batter, going 2 for 3 with a double and three RBI. Jacklyn Porras had two RBI for Big Spring.

010 50-6 10 0 Big Spring 001 15-7 9 2 Coahoma

Jessica Womack and Kenzie Hunt. Berkley Iden and Heather Newton. W - Newton. L - Hunt. 2B: BS - Mirella Torres, Linzee Yarbar; CHS - Newton, Breanne Conner, Jennifer Castilaw. RBI: BS - Jaclyn Porras 2, Yarbar, Jillian Valle, Hunt; CHS - Castilaw 3, Joanna Gonzales 2, Newton, Conner. SB: BS - Yarbar, Valle; CHS - Newton 2, Iden, Gonzales, Paige.

Call 263-7331, ext. 237, to submit a sports brief or item.



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**Danny Bobbitt**