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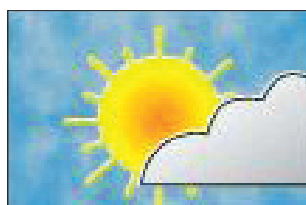
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THE BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

MARCH 13, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 86

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All Aboard!

Make tracks to Heritage Museum's latest exhibit

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

If there hadn't been a T&P, there might not have been a Big Spring.

An exhibit honoring the T&P Railroad Co. and its role in the founding of this community will be the subject of a two-month-long exhibit at Heritage Museum.

The exhibit, titled "All Aboard," examines the company and its workers and how they contributed to Big Spring's early years.

Museum Curator Tammy Schrecengost said the exhibit will debut during a two-hour ceremony Thursday evening and run through May 23.

"We've had a lot of requests for an exhibit like this," Schrecengost said. "It's such



Schrecengost

an important part of our town, especially in its early years."

Big Spring can trace its roots as a community back to 1881, when the T&P Railroad first came through the area. A depot was built within a few years and the community gradually grew outward from there.

"I think that's what really started Big Spring — when the T&P arrived," Schrecengost said.

While the railroad is celebrated in a permanent display at Heritage Museum, it has been expanded for the

See **EXHIBIT**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Heritage Museum Curator Tammy Schrecengost works on a photo display that will be part of the museum's latest exhibit. "All Aboard," which debuts Thursday, traces the role the railroad played in Big Spring history.

Feeling unlucky?

5 Friday the 13th 'facts'

Feeling unlucky today?

The origin of the link between bad luck and Friday the 13th is murky. The whole thing might date to Biblical times (the 13th guest at the Last Supper betrayed Jesus). By the Middle Ages, both Friday and 13 were considered bearers of bad fortune. Here are five of our favorite Friday-the-13th facts:

1. Fear of Friday the 13th — one of the most popular myths in science — is called paraskavedekatriaphobia as well as friggatriskaidekaphobia. Triskaidekaphobia is fear of the number 13.

2. Many hospitals have no room 13, while some tall buildings skip the 13th floor and some airline terminals omit Gate 13.

3. President Franklin D. Roosevelt would not travel on the 13th day of any month and would never host 13 guests at a meal. Napoleon and President Herbert Hoover were also triskaidekaphobic, with an abnormal fear of the number 13.

4. Mark Twain once was the 13th guest at a dinner party. A friend warned him not to go. "It was bad luck," Twain later told the friend. "They only had food for 12."

5. The number 13 suffers from its position after 12, according to numerologists who consider the latter to be a complete number — 12 months in a year, 12 signs of the zodiac, 12 gods of Olympus, 12 labors of Hercules, 12 tribes of Israel, 12 apostles of Jesus, 12 days of Christmas and 12 eggs in a dozen.

Courtesy of LiveScience.com



AP photo

Gov. Rick Perry said he will reject \$555 million that would increase unemployment benefits because Texans would have to continue to pay after the stimulus runs out.

INDEX

Comics 6B
Classified 4-5B
Features 5A
Obituaries 2A
Opinion 4A
Sports 1-4B



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Perry rejects stimulus for unemployment

By **MONICA RHOR**

Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON — Texas Gov. Rick Perry plans to turn down \$555 million that would expand state unemployment benefits, saying the money would have required the state to keep funding the expanded benefits after the stimulus money ran out.

Perry, an outspoken critic of President Barack Obama's \$787 billion stimulus bill, accepted most of the roughly \$17 billion slated for Texas in the plan.

But the governor turned down the unemployment benefits because he said they would require the state to increase the tax burden on Texas businesses.

"During these tough times, Texas employers are working harder than ever to move products to market, make payroll and create jobs," Perry said at a news conference at Bering's, an upscale Houston hardware store. "The last thing they need is government burdening them with higher taxes and expanded obligations."

Perry is the latest Republican governor to turn down federal stimulus money. Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal said he would not accept nearly \$100 million in stimulus money to expand unemployment benefits. South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford asked for a federal waiver Thursday to spend \$700 million in stimulus money to pay down state debt and said if the waiver wasn't approved he would not pursue the money.

See **PERRY**, Page 3A

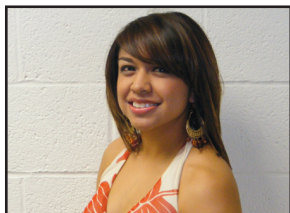
"During these tough times, Texas employers are working harder than ever to move products to market, make payroll and create jobs. The last thing they need is government burdening them with higher taxes and expanded obligations"

—Gov. Rick Perry

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HC baseball moves to No. 1

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

For the first time in the history of the program, Howard College's baseball team has ascended to the top spot in the NJCAA national poll. The Hawks are currently 20 games into the season and are yet to have been beaten. They're also 8-0 and on top of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference standings. "It's something we haven't talked

about all year," said Howard College Head Coach Britt Smith. "We expected to be really good. We're not too concerned with the ranking right now. It's really good for the school. It's great to be No. 1. As far as the team goes, we're really focused on each individual game." As usual, one of the reasons the Hawks are having so much success is their prowess at the plate. Howard ranked fourth nationally in team batting average, hitting .399.

Howard is led by Caleb Nine and Bryan Johns at the plate. Nine leads the team with a .463 average, while Johns bats .455 and leads Howard with six home runs and 35 RBI. However, Smith feels the Hawks aren't even touching the potential they have in the batter's box. "I'll be honest, we've just been OK batting," said Smith. "Last year's team hit well because we had seven

See NO. 1, Page 2B

Weather forces schedule changes

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

Weather effects us all and sporting events throughout the state were victimized by inclement conditions Thursday. Howard College softball saw its Western Junior College Athletic Conference season opener against Midland College postponed two days. The Hawks were scheduled to start WJCAC play today in Midland, but with forecasts looking grim, the doubleheader opener was moved to 1 p.m. Sunday. The four-game series will conclude with a second doubleheader at Howard's Foundation Field Monday.

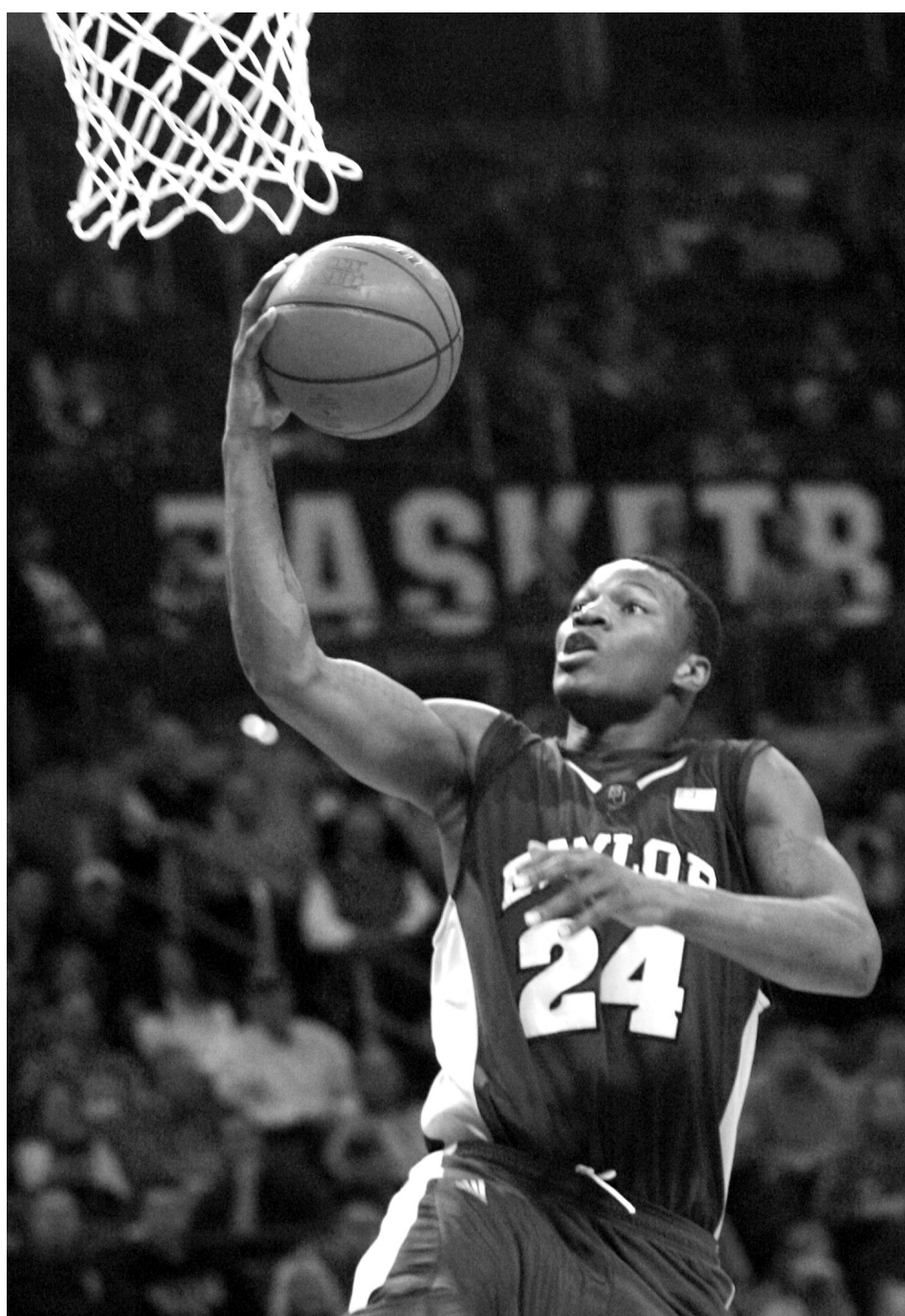
Rain forces changes for BSHS, CHS tourney plans

The 14th Annual West Texas March Classic didn't go off without a hitch, either. Wet conditions have changed the baseball tournament completely. Plans to use Midland High's Zachery Field for four games Thursday were scratched after it was determined too wet to play on. Then there was the issue only nine of the 13 participating teams were ready to play Thursday, including Big Spring. Coahoma, Seminole, Clint and Sweetwater were unable to attend the first day. The teams available for action persevered and five games took place at Greenwood with a 90-minute time limit. Big Spring played the second game of the day, falling by one run to Saginaw, 4-3. The Steers are set to play a doubleheader tonight at Greenwood, squaring off against Sweetwater at 4:30 p.m., then matching up against Lubbock Cooper at 7 p.m. Big Spring faced Cooper earlier this season and lost, 12-1, at Lubbock. Coahoma was scheduled to start its tournament experience at 9 a.m. today at Greenwood against Borger. The Bulldogs would then move to Citibank Ballpark to face Lubbock Cooper at 1 p.m. Coahoma's final game is set for 9 a.m. against Slaton at Greenwood. Of course, this schedule only works if weather permits.

Baylor upends No. 11 KU

By JEFF LATZKE
AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Coach Scott Drew says everyone on Baylor can hear when LaceDarius Dunn is open. No. 11 Kansas does, too. The Jayhawks just couldn't do enough to stop him. Dunn hit six 3-pointers and scored 24 points, leading a late surge as Baylor rallied after blowing a 17-point lead to stun No. 11 Kansas 71-64 in the Big 12 tournament quarterfinals on Thursday. "We kept telling ourselves we can't get down and just can't give up," said Dunn, who is constantly calling for the ball when he's not defended. "We just kept fighting, and it turned out great for us." It was the first time in the tournament's 13-year history that Kansas lost its opening game, and the first time that a No. 9 seed had taken down the top seed. "It's disappointing," Tyshawn Taylor said. "We worked real hard to get here, and we let this one slip away from us." The three-time defending champions made up the deficit quickly and led by five before Dunn fueled a decisive 12-0 run for the Bears (19-13). Kansas (25-7) became only the second top-seeded team to lose its opening



AP photo/Sue Ogrocki
Baylor's LaceDarius Dunn (24) goes for the basket against Kansas in the second half during an NCAA basketball game at the Big 12 Conference men's tournament in Oklahoma City Thursday.

Seven Buffs named to 2-A All-District squad

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

FORSAN — Forsan's first berth in the boys basketball regional tournament will be celebrated at the school for years to come. The team was honored earlier this week when the District 2-A coaches released their all-district awards. The list was highlighted by senior Jeremy Robbins, who was named the league's Most Valuable Player. The other four starters — seniors Alex

Huckabee and Nathan Atkerson, junior Evan Burton and sophomore Tristian Clay — were all elected to the first team. Just to cap things off, Jeremy Freitag and Jace Sandridge — Forsan's sixth and seventh players off the bench — were given honorable mention. Robbins averaged 17 points and nine rebounds a game as a 6-2 guard. He was a three-year varsity player, winning district Newcomer of the Year as a sophomore and Defensive Player MVP as a junior.

"Jeremy was the lead of this team," said Forsan Head Coach Terry McDonald. "His size as a guard gave opponents matchup problems. He could get hot and take over a game, making opponents double team him most of the year." Of all the memorable moments for Robbins in his senior season, the most unforgettable might have come when he jumped over an Iraan player and dunked the ball. Clearing out the lane for Robbins was Nathan Atkerson, whose 6-4

frame made a difference in the paint, according to McDonald. "Nathan is a big body and gave us a great inside presence," McDonald said. "He did a very good job of changing opponents' shots inside." Perhaps Atkerson's most impressive defensive performance of the season came against 6-7 B.J. Davis of Sudan in the regional quarterfinals. Davis averaged 16 points and 10 rebounds a game entering the

See FORSAN, Page 2B

Sports in brief

Send-off banquet for Howard women scheduled

The Howard College women's basketball team will be leaving Saturday for the NJCAA National Tournament in Salina, Kan. A banquet will be held for the team at 6 p.m. Friday in the foyer of the Coliseum. The public is invited to attend. Anyone wanting to help with the meal can contact Stan Feaster at 816-9480. Howard was seeded sixth in the tourney and will face Kaskaskia College (Ill.) in the first round of the double-elimination bracket.

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 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 Saturday will include a \$10 extra charge. For more information, contact Lucy Ramirez at 466-3670.

Monthly CGA tournament set for Sunday

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association has scheduled its monthly tournament at the municipal course at Comanche Trail Park Sunday. Registration is at 9:30 a.m. with play starting at 10 a.m. Cost is \$20. It will be played in a 3-man scramble format. Teams will be made at the course.

Lady Steers boosters meeting Monday at ATC

The Big Spring Lady Steers Booster Club is meeting at 5:45 p.m. Monday in the Athletic Training Center. 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.texasrcr.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 be flighted by first round score with number of flights determined by entries.

Obituaries

Russell McKiski



Russell McKiski, 62, of Big Spring died Wednesday, March 11, 2009, at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with Deacon Johnny Arguello officiating.

He was born Sept. 24, 1946, in Stamford to Nancy and Russell McKiski Sr. He attended Texas Tech University and was a veteran of the U. S. Army. He owned and operated McKiski Music for more than 30 years.

He is survived by the loving mother of his children, Francis McKiski of Big Spring; two sons, Travis McKiski and Mark McKiski, both of Big Spring; two daughters, Denise Gonzales of Big Spring and Denita Vierra and her husband Robert of Odessa; one sister, Kay Luttimen and her husband Gail of Denver; two nieces, Julie Miller and her husband Scott, and Jill Luttimen, all of Denver; and five grandchildren, Ryan Flores, Patrick Robles, Cecily Vierra, Kiera Vierra and Timothy Vierra.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Paid obituary

John Nichols Jr.



John P. "Chuck" Nichols Jr., 79, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 12, 2009, at his residence. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. R. T. Havener, First Assembly of God Church, officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born March 22, 1929, in Knott to Myrtle and John P. Nichols Sr. He married Flo Dean Jan. 10, 1999. He farmed all of his life in Knott. He was a member of the Sheriff's Posse. He was a lifetime resident of Howard County and was a member of the Assembly of God Church.

He is survived by his wife, Flo Nichols of Big Spring; loving daughter by choice and her loving family, Lois Kennedy; two sons, Robert Nichols and his wife Pam of Big Spring, and Danny Nichols and his wife Angelina of San Angelo; one brother, Donald "Tink" Nichols and his wife Lucille of Knott; two sisters, Inez Sample of Big Spring and Johnnie Mae Ray of Canyon; three grandsons, John Paul Nichols and Jim Bob Nichols, both of Big Spring, and Danny Nichols Jr. of San Angelo; three granddaughters, Angie Nichols, Libby Nichols, and Haley Nichols, all of San Angelo; and a host of nieces and nephews including his special nephew, Charles Peugh and his wife Martha.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death two brothers: Barney Nichols and Claude Nichols; and two sisters: Kathryn Grantham and Edith Condon.

Pallbearers will be Dwyre Kennedy, John Nichols, Bo Bennett, LeRoy Perkins, Mike Johnson and Loy Long. Honorary pallbearer will be Charles Peugh.

The family will have lunch at the First Assembly of God Church, Saturday at 12:30 PM.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

James Campbell

James A. Campbell, 71, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 12, 2009, in a Midland hospital. Memorial funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 14, 2009, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church with the Rev. Barbara Kirk-Norris officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday, March 13, 2009, at the funeral home.

He was born Feb. 27, 1938, in Albuquerque, N.M. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a bachelor of fine arts degree in 1973. He dedicated his life to the underprivileged, working many years for the Big Spring State Hospital and later at West Texas Centers for MHMR, and was a sponsor of Al-a-teen for many years. He traveled extensively throughout Latin America. He was well known for his realistic paintings and received awards as "Best of Show" in Abilene, Austin, Midland and Big Spring.

Survivors include his twin brother, John Campbell and wife, Cathy, of Corpus Christi; nephew, Mark Campbell and wife, Jennifer, of Plano; niece, Karen Oberwortmann and husband, John, of Round Rock; and grand nephews Holden and Walker Campbell, and Jack and James Oberwortmann.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be made to a favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Police blotter

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

- YCIDRO VILLAREAL III, 41, of Odessa, was arrested Thursday on a warrant for assault causing bodily injury – family violence and charges of burglary of a habitation with intent to commit another felony and violation of a protective order.

- JOHN PANTOJA, 18, of 1106 E. 12th St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less in a drug free zone.

- JOE GUTIERREZ, 21, of 805 Lancaster, was arrested Thursday, on a charge of disorderly conduct – language.

- DONALD KARAVATOS, 20, of 707 E. Sixth St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less in a drug free zone.

- RICKEY RICHTERS, 25, of 700 Pacific, was arrested Thursday on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.

- DAVID REY GONZALES, 20, of 805 Lancaster, was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.

- VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER was reported in the 400 block of Abrams.

- THEFT was reported in the 1200 block of 11th Place.

- POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA – TWO OUNCES OR LESS IN A DRUG FREE ZONE was reported in the 500 block of 10th Street.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION INTENDING OTHER FELONY was reported in the 400 block of Abrams.

- ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY – FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 700 block of 17th Street.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 48 inmates at the time of this report.

- KAILA ROCHELLE EDWARDS, 19, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of violation of a promise to appear (two counts), driving while license invalid (two counts), speeding and issuance of a bad check.

- CASH JUARA CORBELL, 21, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance – more than four grams, less than 200 grams.

- JESUS MUNOZ-BERNAL, 41, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a Webb County warrant for possession of a controlled substance.

- LIONSO LEE JIMENEZ III, 30, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of parole.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of W. 15th Street. Service refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1200 block of Frazier.

Take Note

- Family Math Night open house will be held from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Coahoma Elementary School. There will be games for the entire family. Learn while you play with your children. Coahoma Lion's Club Pancake Dinner will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Everyone is invited.

- Michael Quinn Sullivan will be the guest speaker at a meeting of the West Texas Pachyderms, set for 7 p.m. March 18 in Howard College's Hall Auditorium. Admission is free. For more information, contact Melanie Gambrell at 267-7387.

- 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.

Your Local Weather

Sat 3/14	Sun 3/15	Mon 3/16
52/37	74/39	77/52
Cloudy skies early will become partly cloudy later in the day. High 52F.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the upper 70s and the low 40s.

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Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY

- The Big Spring-Howard County Retired Teacher's Association meets in the Cactus Room at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

- 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.

- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffett.

- DAV and Auxiliary Chapter 47 meets at 6:30 p.m. at 610 Abrams St.

- Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

- Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m. in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend.

- Howard County Master Gardeners meet at 5:30 p.m. in the basement of the county courthouse. The public is invited.

- Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend.

- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

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, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 31-24-37-21-29.
Number matching five of five: 0.

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 17-19-28-34. Bonus Ball: 9.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1.
Prize: \$2,150,000

Winning ticket purchased in: La Marque

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
0-5-0-2. Sum It Up: 7

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:
1-7-2. Sum It Up: 10

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NO. 1

Continued from Page 1B

returning starters. We have a lot of new guys we're trying to teach our hitting. I don't know that we'll get to the point we were at last year, but we're getting better and better each week. We're still in the teaching phase right now and probably will improve throughout the season."

However, the other facets of baseball are also top notch for Howard this season.

The Hawks boast a pitching staff that has allowed more than three runs in a game twice in their 20 games this season.

McLennan Community College

posted eight runs on Howard in the second game of the season and most recently New Mexico Military Institute managed five March 7 in a 17-5 rout.

The Hawks have two shutout victories this season and have allowed just one run in a game four times.

As a staff, Howard's pitchers have an earned-run average around 2.30, giving up up less than five hits a game while walking just 38 batters. The staff has struck out 181 opponents.

The opposition has an on-base percentage of just .291.

"Both of the games we gave up more than three runs in were played in severely windy conditions," Smith explained. "McLennan scored six runs in one inning and had two wind-blown home runs. Against NMMI, we

probably shouldn't have been playing because it was so windy. Four of the five runs we gave up in that game were unearned. Our opponents have a .291 on-base percentage. That would be a great batting average, but as an on-base percentage, that's really incredible.

"Our pitching has been nothing short of spectacular," he continued. "It's almost unbelievable."

Howard was supposed to be playing at a tournament in Tyler over the weekend, but it was postponed due to inclement weather.

"We were really looking forward to playing in that tournament because of the competition we would have faced," said Smith. "Tyler is ranked in the top five in Division III. Des Moines was going to be there and they're first in Division II."

The Hawks continue conference play March 20-21 with a four-game series against El Paso Community College at Jack Barber Field.

A doubleheader will be played with first pitch coming at noon each day.

"Our biggest opponent is going to be in our dugout," said Smith. "We've got some tough teams in the conference, but it comes down to a matter of us showing up to play everyday. We're focused on the little picture right now. We're taking this game by game. We haven't talked about a conference title or a region title. Our ultimate goal is to win a national title, but we're not talking about that right now either. We want to win each game we play. If we take care of those little things, then everything else will fall into place."

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

contest, but Atkerson held him well under his average, allowing him to score just eight points.

Huckabee is a 6-2 guard, who averaged six points a game. His ability to sink shots from the perimeter as well as his length was a key cog to this team, according to McDonald.

"Alex gave us a steady presence on the floor," McDonald said. "He has great wingspan and deflects a lot of

passes, allowing us to get into our transition game. He's also the best free throw shooter on the team."

Burton was the second leading scorer and rebounder on the team. He averaged 11 points and eight rebounds per game.

"Evan is a 6-2 forward who give opponents matchup problems," McDonald raved. "He handles the ball well and is very good at getting to the basket. He's one of our most aggressive and smartest players."

Clay was the team's top 3-point shooter, posting eight points a game, while handling point guard duties

and dishing out four assists per contest.

Clay scored 24 points against Sudan in the regional quarterfinals, knocking down six treys.

"Tristian did a great job of directing the offense this season," McDonald remarked. "He's one of the big reasons teams could not press us this year."

Seniors Freitag and Sandridge were Forsan's top contributors off the bench and each made a difference on the floor in their own way.

"Jeremy is very quick and gave opponents fits with his defense,"

McDonald explained. "He could come off the bench and change the tempo of the game when things were going to slow. Jace is an undersized forward at 5-9, but his aggressiveness and leaping ability allowing him to do a good job against bigger opponents. He made good decisions all season and was strong on the boards."

Six of the players named to this team graduate this season, but McDonald is confident in the core he'll have returning in Burton and Clay as well as a junior varsity team that didn't lose a district game this season.

BAYLOR

Continued from Page 1B

game at the Big 12 tournament. Baylor was also responsible for the other upset, beating Iowa State in 2001. That was the Bears' only other trip to the tournament semifinals. They'll face Texas on Friday for a chance to reach their first ever championship game.

This season opened with high hopes, and Baylor spent several weeks in the Top 25 before a complete collapse in conference play. Now, it'll take a run of four wins in four days to earn the Big 12's automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

"We didn't end the Big 12 season like we wanted to, but we couldn't hang our heads going into this," guard Henry Dugat said. "We knew coming into this that it was a new season and we had to leave it all on the line in order to accomplish what we needed to do."

After a 12-1 start to the season that included wins against Arizona State, Providence and NCAA-bound Portland State, the Bears tumbled all the way to a 5-11 record in Big 12 play.

"It was like putting a weight vest on you. It was 10 pounds after losing four games in a row. And then when we lost five in a row, it went to 20 pounds," Drew said. "It's tough when you have expectations and you're not meeting them. You're frustrated. That's how the conference season went for us."

"Now, once we got into the conference tournament, the vest came off because it's a new season."

Sherron Collins scored 14 of his 16 points in the second half to lead the Jayhawks, but he airballed

a potential tying 3-pointer with 26 seconds left. Marcus Morris and Taylor added 12 points apiece for Kansas.

The Jayhawks — the defending national champions — are solidly in the NCAA tournament, so the only thing in jeopardy is whether they'll get to play close to home in Kansas City, Mo., in the first round.

"Today's a reality check. The first thing we're doing is going back, as soon as we get through at the hotel, and we're going to go to school and make all the players walk around class tomorrow with all the other students wondering why the heck they're back here already," Jayhawks coach Bill Self said.

"And then we're going to practice as hard as we've ever practiced the next two days and get them thinking about that as opposed to worrying about what just happened."

Kansas lost all five starters from last year's championship team, leaving Collins and center Cole Aldrich as the only ones with significant experience.

Collins struggled through 6-for-20 shooting, bracketing 1-for-8 stretches around one run of four straight baskets to start the second half. Aldrich took only five shots and finished with eight points and 14 rebounds.

"We're not very tough if we can't come back from this. You shouldn't base your entire psyche or your confidence level on one game," Self said. "I think we've probably got some confidence over time, but we did a bad job today as a group."

Baylor got off to a hot start behind Dunn's three 3-pointers and 11 points, and took a 30-13 lead on Curtis Jerrells' 3 from the left wing.

Aldrich then started a 9-0 Kansas comeback with four points off of offensive rebounds, and the Jayhawks were already back within 37-33 when Taylor finished the first half with a 3-pointer from the right wing. The rest of the lead was gone when Collins converted a spinning layup with his back to the basket just over 2 minutes into the second half.

Reed hit a tiebreaking 3-pointer from the right

corner with 9:40 left to put Kansas up for the first time since the opening minute, and Markieff Morris' putback stretched the lead to 58-53 before Dunn got the Bears back on track.

He had two 3-pointers and a steal for a fast-break layup in the Bears' go-ahead spurt, and his 3 from the right wing gave the Bears a 65-58 edge with 3:41 remaining.

Tyrel Reed and Collins responded with back-to-back 3-pointers to pull the Jayhawks back within one, but Mamadou Diene protected the lead by swatting away Collins' potential go-ahead shot in the lane with 1:57 left. Rogers hit a pair of free throws at the other end before Collins missed on another drive to the basket before missing everything with his final 3-point attempt.

Oklahoma State 71,
No. 6 Oklahoma 70

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — James Anderson hit two free throws with 2.3 seconds left to complete the Cowboys' upset of Oklahoma State.

Byron Eaton had 16 points and seven assists for Oklahoma State (22-10), which snapped a five-game losing streak against Oklahoma (27-5) and all but clinched an NCAA tournament berth.

Blake Griffin had 17 points and 19 rebounds for Oklahoma, but was whistled for fouling Anderson as several players tussled for a rebound after a missed shot by Eaton in the final seconds.

Syracuse 127,
UConn 117

Syracuse outlasted Connecticut in the second-longest Division I game ever, capping a Big East tournament quarterfinal doubleheader in which the second- and third-ranked teams in the country both lost.

Andy Rautins hit a 3-pointer 10 seconds into the sixth overtime Thursday night, giving the 18th-ranked Orange their first lead since regulation and they went on to a 127-117 victory over the third-ranked Huskies.



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Contract
Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You are the dealer, neither side vulnerable. What would you bid with each of the following five hands?

- ♠AQ7 ♥108 ♦AJ5 ♣KQ963
- ♠KQ7 ♥K92 ♦AQ83 ♣AJ5
- ♠Q743 ♥Q985 ♦AQ6 ♣A7
- ♠AQ108 ♥A7 ♦A42 ♣9865
- ♠KQJ9763 ♥6 ♦8 ♣KQJ5

1. **One notrump.** This indicates 15 to 17 points (many still play 16-18), balanced distribution (usually 4-3-3-3, 4-4-3-2, or 5-3-3-2) and stoppers in at least three suits. It is far better to open with one notrump than one club.

There are several reasons why the notrump call is preferred. The primary one is that the opening notrump bid immediately pinpoints the type of hand held in terms of both points and distribution. As opposed to this, a one-club bid could be based on any type of distribution and a wide range of high-card points.

Additionally, a one-club opening will present a rebid problem if partner responds with one diamond, one heart or one spade, all of which would make an accurate rebid impossible. The way to avoid such problems is to open one notrump at the outset.

2. **One diamond.** Despite the classic notrump features of your hand, the proper opening is one diamond. Hands containing 19 high-card

points do not fall into the opening one- or two-notrump category. Such hands are opened with one of suit, and the true nature of the hand is then shown at the next opportunity by jumping in notrump.

3. **One diamond.** You have no legitimate suit with which to open the bidding, since the spades and hearts are too weak to mention, the diamonds are only three cards in length, and you cannot open one club with a two-card suit. But since any 14-point hand must be opened, something must be done, and one diamond is the best choice. It has the merit of keeping the bidding low while allowing for the discovery of a major-suit fit if it exists.

4. **One club.** Here your best introductory bid is one club. It serves to keep the bidding low and allows for you to bid one spade at your next turn if partner responds with a diamond or a heart.

5. **Four spades.** This bid serves two purposes simultaneously. It is an offensive effort that may easily succeed if partner has an ace. But, more importantly, it has even greater value as a defensive bid. If partner has a weak hand, the opponents are likely to make a game. However, because of the high level at which they would have to begin bidding, there is a good chance they will miss their best contract.

Tomorrow: Heads I win, tails you lose.

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sudoku

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

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

► Legislative highlights

Tate School fight club

Facing outrage and demands for reform, the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services says it is beefing up security and surveillance in the wake of reports of organized, after-hours fights among disabled residents at a state-run facility.

The head of the agency, Commissioner Addie Horn, broke into tears as lawmakers grilled her about the alleged abuse at a state facility in Corpus Christi, where police say caretakers appeared to have organized a "fight club" in which mentally and developmentally disabled residents were encouraged to fight each other for the staff's entertainment.

Horn vowed to combat future abuses "with every fiber in my body."

Arrest warrants for six individuals in connection with the allegations were issued Thursday. All six are charged with injury to a disabled person, officials said.

Horn faced a skeptical crowd of lawmakers when she laid out plans to buy surveillance cameras, add security guards on all shifts for the first time and study additional measures such as increased lighting and uniforms for state workers.

"These were deplorable, despicable, criminal actions that should not be tolerated, that are unacceptable," said Rep. Abel Herrero, D-Corpus Christi. Herrero put Horn on the hot seat during a legislative hearing that explored the alleged abuse. Herrero said it was "disingenuous" for her to claim she was reacting

quickly to end the abuse. Herrero said he had been calling on the department since the summer of 2007 to install security cameras, an action the agency is only now undertaking. Horn said she couldn't do it sooner because federal authorities had not given their approval.

Adult stem cell bill

Stem cell advocates and religious groups seemed to find a middle ground — at least for now — in testimony Thursday on a bill supporting adult stem cell research. The legislation would create a program to coordinate and regulate adult stem cell research, and seek funding and direct grants to institutions around the state.

The bill was left pending in the Health and Human Service Committee, largely because the bill's author, Republican Sen. Jane Nelson of Flower Mound, wants to find funding for the program. If it passes, the program is expected to cost more than \$5 million a year.

The Texas Alliance for Life and Texas Catholics Conference of Bishops applauded the bill for narrowly supporting adult stem cell research. Scientists, patients and advocates thanked the author for not including language to ban other types including embryonic stem cell research.

EMS sex offenders

A law preventing registered sex offenders from becoming emergency medical services personnel took a step closer to

law when it won approval in a Senate committee Thursday.

"When we call EMS, we're in our most vulnerable states. We do not need sex offenders to be coming and tending to us when we are in our most vulnerable states," said Jimmy Bertram, the mayor of Lockhart, in testimony Thursday. During a background check last year, officials in Lockhart found out a sex offender was serving as a firefighter and emergency medical technician.

Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, filed the legislation as a direct result of an Associated Press report about the Lockhart EMT that also found the state employed eight sex offenders in EMS.

Homeowners insurance reform

Six years after the Legislature voted to make it easier for insurers to change rates for homeowners, some lawmakers are trying to tighten the system.

Legislators in a press conference outlined some of more than two dozen homeowners insurance reform bills they say will protect homeowners already struggling in a volatile economy.

"The system quite frankly is out of control. Each year homeowners pay more money for policies that cover less and less. The system is devastating the pocketbooks of households already struggling to pay their bills," said Sen. Eddie Lucio, Jr., D-Brownsville.

EXHIBIT

Continued from Page 1A

exhibit.

The exhibit will use artifacts and photos to celebrate the railroad's contribution to Big Spring history. Sections of railroad track, old uniforms, lanterns and a depot stove will be some of the items on the display. In addition, there will be plenty of photos.

Schrecengost is a big fan of the role railroads played in this community's history.

"For me, it's always the photos and I love the stories as well," she said. "The railroad workers were so dedicated to their jobs ... and T&P supported them, also and when you see all these photos, you can see how important it was to them."

For more information on the exhibit, contact the museum at 267-8255.

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

PERRY

Continued from Page 1A

Moments after Perry said he would reject the money, the House Senate Committee on Federal Economic Stabilization Funding voted 5-1 in favor of a motion encouraging the Legislature to make the necessary changes to enable the state to receive \$555 million. Republican Rep. Jim Pitts, chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, was among those voting in favor of the motion.

Perry's announcement also was immediately criticized by Democratic lawmakers and advocates for low-income residents.

"Without this federal money, Texas businesses face increased unemployment insurance taxes in bad times, and without the modest reforms in state law required to get the federal money, about 45,000 Texas workers will go without unemployment insurance," said Don Baylor, a policy analyst for the Center for Public Policy Priorities.

Sen. Kirk Watson, D-Austin, said rejecting the money "demonstrates the height of denial about the challenges confronting this state and its people."

Watson said it's now up to the Legislature, which can still try to accept the funds but risks gubernatorial veto.

"I would not jump to the conclusion that we're not going to get the money," Baylor said. "The governor's decision puts a red light in front of the Legislature, but the Legislature

still plans to go forward and hold hearings on these bills and try and get votes. The Legislature is not lying down in response to this."

However, Perry noted that Texas lawmakers had previously rejected proposals to expand unemployment benefits and criticized the stimulus money for coming with strings that would "force our legislators to enact policies they have repeatedly rejected as wrong for Texas."

"The federal government is trying to come in the back door and expand government without any debate," said Perry, who stood at a podium in the store's paint supply aisle, flanked by rows of brushes, rollers and cans of spray paint.

To receive the full amount of stimulus money available, lawmakers would need to adjust the time period used to determine whether people are eligible for benefits, using the four most recent quarters to determine how much a person gets instead of the current method that goes back 18 months.

Texas also is being asked to expand eligibility to include thousands of low-wage workers. Lawmakers have said the change would help part-time employees like single mothers, college students and senior citizens.

Perry said the requirements attached to the federal stimulus money would require a change in the state's definition of unemployment by expanding it to include part-time employees. He said such an expansion would counteract the package's objective of job creation by leading

companies to limit hiring and raise prices.

"The math is simple: employers who have to pay more taxes have less money to meet their payroll, hire new employees and grow their businesses," said Perry, who has been adamant that stimulus money not be used on items that will require continued state funding once the federal money has dried up.

Perry's decision comes despite warnings from Texas Workforce Commission Chairman Tom Pauken that the state's unemployment compensation trust fund could be operating at a deficit by October. Pauken told lawmakers recently that insolvency might not be far behind.

A year ago, almost to the date, Perry ordered a one-year suspension of the tax that replenishes the state's unemployment fund. The Texas Workforce Commission approved the cut after determining there was enough money to cover unemployment pay-

ments in 2008.

At times in the previous year, the state's unemployment rate had reached a 31-year low of 4.1 percent. In January of this year, the Texas unemployment rate jumped to 6.4 percent.

Perry said he would prevent the unemployment compensation fund from falling into insolvency by reinstating the tax paid by businesses, but refused to term that change as a tax increase.

"We have a business cycle that goes up and down," Perry said. "I lowered those taxes, now they are going back to where they were."

Perry also sought to assure unemployed Texans that they would still receive unemployment benefits.

However, a group of Democratic lawmakers

sent out a press release blasting Perry's decision and warning that the state's unemployment rate could reach 8.2 percent in 2009, leaving families in need and forcing businesses to make up the shortfall in the unemployment fund.

"Governor Perry's decision to reject the \$555 million in unemployment aid is simply deplorable," said Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston. "Texas families are hurting and are worried about how they are going to keep their homes and pay their bills. Today, Governor Perry told them: 'good luck with that.' If the Governor won't do his job,

we'll have to go around him, and I am prepared to do just that."

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John P. "Chuck" Nichols, Jr., 79, died Thursday. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Russell McKiski, 62, died Wednesday. Vigil Services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Memorial Service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

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Benefit Auction

For our 2 year old grandson who has Cancer

Saturday, March 14th • 6:30 p.m.

Preview: 1:00 p.m. through sale time

Eastlake Style Loveseat, Rocking Chair, Wood High Chair, Trunk Coffee Table, 1950's Stereo, Child's Metal Bed, Bar Stools, King Size Mattress, Washer & Dryer, Metal Lawn Chairs, Jewelry, Large Clown Collection some Emmitt Kelley, Knives, Cosden Can, Antique Sled, Texaco Truck Banks, Cookie Jars, 1930's LIFE Magazines, Several Signs, Dolls, Lots of Glassware & Collectibles, Tools.

www.crossroadsauctionco.com

Auctioneers Note: All proceeds benefit Trustin Lefever BBQ plates and sandwiches will be served starting at 5:00 p.m. Donations still coming in, Trust Fund set up at Citizens FCU.

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Coins & Currency: Gold, Bulk Silver, Mint and Proof Sets including 1948 mint set, Morgan Dollars, Commemorative Silver Coins, Fine Collection of Old US paper Currency including Black Eagle, Lewis & Clark, Woodchopper, Gold Notes, and more, Confederate Currency and Confederate Equestrian Bond.

Items of Interest: 2 Large Vintage Phillips 66 Enamel Signs, Arrowheads, Large Collection of Rods, Reels, Tackle, Fly Rods & Reels, US Bugle, Knives, Binoculars, Cameras, Camping equipment, Trolling motors, Clay targets, Fine Civil War Prints S&N.

Tools: Power and Hand Tools, Tool Boxes, Kennedy Rolling Tool Box, Craftsman, Proto, Starrett Calipers, Gauges & Micrometers, Fluke and Simpson meters, Machinist tools, Electrical Tools, If It's A Tool, We Probably Have It!

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Jewelry: 2 Carat Loose Diamonds, Diamond Earrings, Sterling Silver Navajo and Mexican Bracelets.

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Benefit Auction

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Saturday, March 14th • 6:30 p.m.

Preview: 1:00 p.m. through sale time

Eastlake Style Loveseat, Rocking Chair, Wood High Chair, Trunk Coffee Table, 1950's Stereo, Child's Metal Bed, Bar Stools, King Size Mattress, Washer & Dryer, Metal Lawn Chairs, Jewelry, Large Clown Collection some Emmitt Kelley, Knives, Cosden Can, Antique Sled, Texaco Truck Banks, Cookie Jars, 1930's LIFE Magazines, Several Signs, Dolls, Lots of Glassware & Collectibles, Tools.

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EDITORIAL

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-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

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- Members of the Big Spring Prospectors Club, on having held their 40th annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show last weekend at the Howard County Fair Barn. The show drew visitors and vendors from all over the Southwest and featured a number of demonstrations.

- The city of Big Spring, whose crews began a \$6 million renovation of city streets Tuesday, a project that is expected to last about 13 months. The street renovation, which was approved by city voters in 2007, will affect Main, Scurry and Lancaster streets, as well as much of the downtown area.

- The Howard College Hawks, who took the Region V Women's Basketball Championship, by trouncing the Odessa College Lady Rangers. and now advance to the NJCAA National Tournament in Salina, Kan.

- Members of the Big Spring Kiwanis Club, who held their annual pancake supper last Friday night. The money raised will finance club projects throughout the year.

- Big Spring Independent School District elementary school students, who apparently cleaned out their piggy banks and donated more than \$700 in a three-day fund-raiser to help rebuild Kids' Zone at Comanche Trail Park.. There were few, if any, big-dollar donations in the effort — with \$138 of the total coming in pennies, while only \$144 was donated in paper currency.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When life forces us to the brink, Lord, may we leap towards Your word.

Amen

Nearly but not quite hardly

A couple of years ago, I was in London for some teaching and band gigs. One of the great things about going to London is the opportunity to dive head first into their train and subway system to get around town.

For a guy from Joshua, it's still a thrill to try and navigate through their multi-level, underground, concrete cave system. I wouldn't want to do it every day but its fun every now and then.

So I'm running to get to the door before it closes and within 10 feet, it shuts all the way and a moment later, takes off while I am still standing on the dock. An old man who had also failed to catch the subway poked me with his cane and said something rather brilliant.

"The thing about trains", he said in a heavy British accent, "is if you only miss it by a second — you still miss it." He tipped his hat and walked away while I tried to process what he said.

Yes there are lots of things in life where almost doesn't count at all.

So several years later, last week in fact, I find myself in the Sierra Nevada Mountains near Truckee, Calif., and I was thinking about what that old man had said.

HORSE SHOES, HAND GRENADES

Just west of Truckee is a beautiful lake known today as Donner Lake and just beside it is a mountain and a pass with the same name of Donner. I

was stomping around out there knowing this was the place where the famous Donner party camped out through the winter of 1846-47.

In case you don't know, the Donner party was a group of pioneers that got stuck there in bad weather for six months. The disaster of the Donner party rocked our nation the way the Hindenburg crash and Mount Saint Helens would later on.

Basically what happened is they rested for five days near present day Reno before attempting to summit and by the time they went to go over the pass, it was impossible. The snows had come early that year and a record 26 feet of snow fell upon those pioneers as they scrambled for pitiful shelter. Four months later most were dead and some had resorted to cannibalism to stay alive.

I stood on the very spot where several of those families had camped out. I broke my heart because when you look west you can actually see the pass, the last hill they had to get over before reaching California. For six months they looked up and saw nothing but snow.

Oh, if they had just gotten there a little bit earlier. Some say they missed it by only one day. Others argue two or three days, but as the old man told me in England, "If you only miss the train by a second, you still miss it."

THE NEAR MISS

The dictionary's definition of almost looks like this: Adverb: very nearly; all but.

I don't think there are very many things more frustrating than almost. The Brewer hates almost.



TROY
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ADDRESSES

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Washington, D.C. 20500

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Phone: (432) 213-2897
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• **KEL SELIGER**
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Texas 31st District
401 Austin, Suite 101
Big Spring, 79720
Phone: (432) 268-9909

Good-bye to a national treasure

Efforts to write a tribute to Paul Harvey, a hero to millions, are akin to firing air rifles at the sun — both will fall miserably short.

He was without peers in his field, and we give thanks that his marvelous voice graced radio air waves for more than 75 years.

Fascinated by the medium of radio since boyhood, he built his own crystal set receiver as a lad. Later in high school, he started hanging around the KVOO studios in his hometown of Tulsa, Okla. He swept the floors there before landing mike-side assignments in 1933.

Bob Greene, noted Chicago columnist/author and longtime personal friend of the 90-year-old Harvey, captured the essence of the man who for decades had more radio news listeners than anyone else on the planet.

He compared Harvey's news-casts to symphonies, underscoring not only the news maestro's unique delivery, but also his careful choice of words. Greene believes that Harvey was every bit as good a writer as broadcaster.

Harvey made hash of punctuation marks, particularly periods that were as puppets on his string.

Listeners never knew when he was going to glide right over them like a thoroughbred horse on a simple jump, or perhaps stop completely, as if waiting for a 100-car freight train to lumber by. Often Harvey's long pauses were more profound than words uttered on either side of the caverns of nothingness.

Harvey's official website is

worth checking out. With his beloved wife Lynne (he called her "Angel") at his side professionally and personally until her death last year, Harvey accrued honors numbering into the thousands.

A champion of the work ethic who rose for work at 3:30 each day, he had 25 million listeners over more than 1,500 radio stations world-wide. He was everyman's American.

If he said it, you could take it to the bank.

Forever committed to his beloved medium, Harvey gave TV a try for a while, but it wasn't for him.

Maybe he preferred stirring lazy minds to paint their own pictures from the words he presented.

He joked that he hoped that television would one day be found to cause cancer.

Tributes to Mr. Harvey are invited by the Chicago Tribune at chicagotribune.com/paulharvey. Alas, three days following his death, only 150 people had taken time to write a note.

Some of them are acid-laced diatribes from "crazies." How sad.

Harvey would have insisted on running them, however few, right along with the rest.

Successor to the late Lowell Thomas as king of radio news, Harvey also eventually exceeded him in longevity. They had much in common, both relying on subtle humor.

Complimented for his strong listenership, Thomas always demurred when praised for having more listeners than any other newsmen.

"Oh, there's a good reason," he laughed. "My newscasts precede Amos n' Andy. Many listeners hear me because they tune in early, making sure to not miss a single word of Amos n' Andy."

Harvey was even more modest than Thomas.

This week's confession of a highly caffeinated Christian comes brewing with a warning label. Be very careful of almost. Do not settle for almost when you can have the real thing.

Sometimes we church leaders will settle for the general ballpark of something and the end result is a disaster like the Donner Party.

As much as I love having a great band for praise and worship, which we do in our church, musical talent can not be substituted for real worship of the Lord.

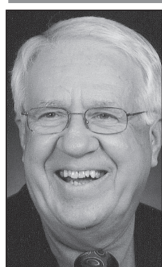
As much as I love doing huge food outreaches, handing out food without loving the people you're handing it too is only a near miss. As much as I love the Bible, knowing the 31,171 versus without knowing the heart of the one who wrote it is close but no cigar.

Almost-Christianity is not Christianity at all. If you miss Jesus by a little bit, you still have missed him all together and that is not party at all.

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing."

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

The Rev. Troy Brewer welcomes your comments. He can be reached through his Website at www.OpenDoorMinistries.org.



DR.
DON
NEWBURY

I was privileged to meet Mr. Harvey just once, more than three decades ago. We were backstage, prior to his Fort Worth address. His warm, generous spirit is warmly remembered.

His speech, like his broadcasts, mesmerized. He was a man to be "tuned in," and never "tuned out."

Radio loyalists are like that. The late Grady Nutt, preacher/comedian killed in a plane crash nearly 30 years ago, told a story about his dad who loved to hear the Stamps Quartet on the radio every day at noon.

"He set the dial squarely on the frequency, and he set the volume exactly where he wanted it," Nutt said. "Then, he sawed off the knobs."

Clearly, the elder Nutt didn't want anyone fouling up the radio knobs for the only show he cared about.

One of the Harvey tributes caught my eye. It reads:

"All candles burn out eventually, but this candle was special. It gave us hope that we might find our way through the thick darkness of life. It kept us warm when we felt cold. It made us feel safe when the cold winds blew.

Good-bye Mr. Harvey. We'll all miss you."

This radio giant believed in and worked toward better days for Americans.

His home-going leaves an irreplaceable void. But we must forge on.

He entreated us to "stand by... for NEWS!" But it will be impossible to stand by with the same sense of anticipation for who ever stands in.

Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker and writer living in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. E-mail inquiries and comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.

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Church News

First Presbyterian, Coahoma

The friendly folks at First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma invite anyone to come and worship with us. We meet at 11 a.m. Sunday to share the scriptures, sing, pray and worship, led by commissioned Lay Pastor Tom Koger

The Frolic, an evening of shared talent and fun, is set for Saturday. Bring your offering of music, poetry, stories, or whatever and a friend or two to share the fun. A light supper will accompany the talent.

The Presbyterian Women of Coahoma will meet Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the church social hall. Linda Luce will lead Lesson 7 in the Bible study, "The Oppressed Are Set Free," based on Luke 13:10-21; 14:1-6. Monika Robinson will prepare the meal.

The lectionary for the third Sunday in Lent is Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; I Corinthians 1:18-25; John 1:13-22.

Central Baptist

Central Baptist Church, located at 5108 Nichols Road, will hold a revival March 22-25.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. There will be a dinner on the grounds at noon Sunday. Bring your favorite vegetables or dessert. Dr. Stan Coffey, pastor of the Church at Quail Creek in Amarillo will be the speaker, and Joe Whitten, of His Children prison ministry, will be the worship leader.

Everyone is encouraged to attend. For more information, call (432) 935-9171. Central Baptist is located across from Elebow Elementary.

First Presbyterian, Big Spring

Wednesday activities were Bible study at 5:17 p.m. and choir practice at 6 p.m. The Youth were out of school for spring break and did not meet this week, nor will they meet Wednesday.

This week's lunch/devotional was March 11 at First United Methodist Church. Wednesday, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad, will offer lunch, devotional and communion. First Christian Church, 911 Goliad, will host the noon meeting March 25 and the April 1 event will be at St. Thomas Catholic Church, 605 North Main. Please note that the Catholic church and location are a correction from last week's news. Everyone is invited to come and share these services for Lent.

Nancy Little is in charge of "Take Ten" refreshments for Sunday.

The Session meets at 6 p.m. Monday in the church library.

A reminder about Session committees, which include other members of the congregation: Church Life Committee meets the second Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m.; Resource Committee meets the third Monday at 5:30 p.m.; the Service Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second Thursday; and the Worship Committee meets on the second Monday at 5:30 p.m. Each of these committees welcomes input from all members of the congregation.

The lectionary for the third Sunday in Lent is Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; I Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22. A David Lantz arrangement of "Dona Nobis Pacem" will be the choir's offertory anthem. "The Lord's House," based on John 2:16, will be the topic of Rev. Bert Bronaugh's sermon.

Baptist Temple

During March, Baptist Temple is having its own version of "The Biggest Loser." During our Sunday morning worship, we are looking at different desires and behavior patterns that all of us need to lose. This Sunday, we will be focusing on "Losing My Need to be a Critic."

We have Sunday school classes for all ages and they meet at 9:45 a.m. Sunday. Our worship services are at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays. We also have activities for all ages Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Our 12-Step Recovery program meets Tuesday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. We are taking a short break from it and will re-start in a few weeks.

For more information, call us at 267-8287 or check us out on the web at btcbigspring.org

Birdwell Lane Baptist

Top of the day to you. If you are seek-

ing a church home, we invite you to visit us at 1512 Birdwell Lane. Sunday services are 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Children's church is during the morning worship for ages 3 to 12. A nursery is provided for newborns to two years old. For a ride to services, call 264-9924 or 267-7157.

We want to recognize a very dear Saint of God, Stella Lee, Tuesday. She will celebrate her 100th birthday.

Midweek service is at 7 p.m. Wednesday. For further information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

St. Paul Lutheran

Sunday worship service begins at 9 a.m. with Sunday school for all at 10:15 a.m. St. Paul Lutheran Church is located at 810 Scurry and the church hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Our services are led by Pastor Wayne K. Frost.

Small group Bible study classes are available for anyone wishing to attend. You may contact the church office between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 267-7163 for places and times and subjects.

The Lutheran Hour radio program is presented Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on 1070 FM. This is always full of good news and worship for listeners.

Special worship services in celebration of the Lenten season are April 9, Maundy Thursday, at 7 p.m. and April 10, Good Friday, at 7 p.m.

On Going Support for our Troops continue for March. Items are Gold Bond Foot Powder, Kleenex, small packets, trail mix, small to medium size. Also, AT&T phone cards or money to purchase them. This allows our troops to phone home. Items can be dropped off at St. Paul Lutheran.

East Fourth Street Baptist

We want to invite you to come visit us at East Fourth Street Baptist Church. We have several things going this month. There are several members on the mission trip in Louisiana. Please continue to pray for them as they complete their mission and return home Saturday.

Remember the Bible Study held at the pastor's house Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Stop the Masquerade and find your place at His Table Of Grace ladies seminar is March 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$25. Lunch is included. Contact the church office for more information or to register.

We are looking forward to the Associational Senior Adult Revival March 23-25 at First Baptist Church. Stan Coffey and Ty Morris will be leading the services.

If you are seeking a church home, come and let us share our worship time with you. Sundays, we begin Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Morning worship is at 11 a.m. The adult choir, RAs and GAs, Acteens and Challengers meet at 5 p.m. and evening worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study for adults, youth and children begins at 7 p.m. Saturday a men's Bible study is held at 7 a.m.

East Fourth Street Baptist Church is located at 401 E. 4th St. Keith Weaver is the pastor. Our phone number is 267-2291.

First United Methodist

As we continue with a series of Lenten services this Sunday our senior pastor, Sharon Wiese, will be joined by one of the younger members of our congregation in both the 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. services of worship. Marshall van Pelt will portray Nicodemus as he encounters Jesus, based on scripture from John 3:1-16.

Join us for "When God's People Pray and Breakthrough Prayer," a six-session, small-group study that will help us discover what the Holy Spirit can do when a church gets serious about prayer and the gospel. These groups meet at 6 p.m. Sundays and 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Community Lenten luncheons and devotions will continue after meeting last Wednesday with us in Garrett Hall. Wednesday the meeting will be at the Episcopal Church, on the 25th at the First Christian Church and April 1 at St. Thomas Catholic Church. The regular noon bible luncheons at First Methodist will not be held on those dates in order that our members might participate with other community churches.

Plans are under way for various fund-raisers to benefit our team for the Relay For Life. This year our

Avoiding negative publicity

Honest Abe, the lanky, bearded American President who supposedly kept his important legal papers inside his stove-pipe hat, was known for his wit and common sense. Although his Gettysburg address has been required reading for high-school students for a century or more, his most significant speech may have been a quip about skunks.



BONNIE WHEAT

According to Lincoln, "What kills a skunk is the publicity it gives itself."

While Lincoln may have had some kind of encounter with an odorous black and white predator with a bushy tail, he obviously was talking about two-legged skunks as well. Even those of us who try to remain anonymous give off

some kind of publicity. We either attract or repel other folks with our attitudes and actions.

The Bible makes the same point with another analogy. Jesus said, "Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor figs from thistles, are they? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit; but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:15-20 NASB).

All of us will be known by the fruit we yield, but we will also be known for the fragrance we produce. Abe Lincoln was right. If we put out negative publicity, we can expect trouble.

team banner should read "Hope for Amy" in honor of Amy Williams, who will soon undergo her second surgery for breast cancer. We ask that you support the Relay For Life effort as well as Amy and her young family with your gifts and especially your prayers.

The Epworth Sunday School class is planning a bake sale, tentatively scheduled March 29 between the two services of worship. There are some really great cooks in this group so you'll want to get there early for the tastiest treats and to support "Hope For Amy."

Be sure to visit our new Web site at www.funmcs.com for all the latest information about scheduled events and special happenings at First Methodist, where families grow in Christ.

Alive in Christ Lutheran LCMS

Our credo is "Celebrating and sharing God's love and grace in our lives."

Our worship begins at 9 a.m. with Sunday school and adult Bible class, followed with coffee and goodies at 10:15 a.m.

Pastor Bob Boyce will be preaching from the pulpit. Our scripture reader will be Kent Ivey and our acolyte will be Krystal Lozano. Angela Newton is our organist. Our elders for this week are Richard Knocke and Richard von Hassell.

During Lent, the church's worship assumes a more penitential character. The color for the season is purple, often associated with penitence. The "Hymn of Praise" is omitted from the liturgy. The word "Alleluia" is usually omitted as well. By not using the alleluia — a joyful expression meaning "Praise the Lord" — until Easter, the Lenten season is clearly set apart as a distinct time from the rest of the year. Additionally, it forms a powerful contrast with the festive celebra-

tion of Jesus' resurrection when our alleluias ring loud and clear.

Wednesday the youth confirmation classes led by Bobby Roever will continue at 5:30 p.m. and a simple meal will be served at 5:45 p.m., prior to our third Lenten service that will begin at 7 p.m.

The church is waiting in anticipation for Easter, the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The LYF youth group will be meeting March 22. Pizza and a digital scavenger hunt are planned.

The LYF are also planning for the area youth retreat to be held in Midland May 8-9. Youth from Midland, Odessa, Lamesa, Big Spring and Sweetwater are invited to attend.

Please feel free to join us during this time of fellowship and worship.

God bless you during this time of holiness and celebration.

St. Mary's Episcopal

Everyone is invited to attend worship service at St. Mary's this Sunday. Holy communion will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m.

A city wide Lenten lunch will be served at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 South Goliad, at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Parish Hall. Everyone is invited.

Also, our Evening Lenten Soup Supper and Lessons are at 6 p.m. that evening in the Parish Hall.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit our Web site at www.st-marysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 South Goliad.

First Baptist

It is with sadness that we have come to this day but come to it we have. Sunday will be the Rev. Ken Coffee's last Sunday with us. We are honor-

See **CHURCH**, Page 7A



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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Libra moon nudges us toward compromise, but not the kind of arrangement that will diminish both sides of the equation. This is no time to settle for the sake of being nice to those around us. Keep looking for the win-win deals, and where they don't exist, resolve to create them. The evening takes a sensual turn as the moon slips into Scorpio.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You want to get into an exclusive club. There are many ways to get to this goal and you will find the shortest one. The evening brings a gleaming nugget of entertainment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Other people see you busy at your project and they think it seems like a lot of work. What they don't understand is that you are happier for the labor. It's your dream

and it's so worthwhile!
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The first steps of a new venture can be scary, and that's what you love about it. The adrenaline rush sweeps you into an altered state and you are able to focus your talent on the desired accomplishment.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It is true that success goes to the persevering. And yet it is also foolish to continue down a path that is clearly not working. So, should you be tenacious, or should you change your approach? You'll know for sure by Monday.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Some people want to put on a show for others. For you, this is not a mild wish. You absolutely need to entertain — it's how you figure out who you are. The level of your need will determine how far you go.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Even if you're not exactly enthusiastic about an endeavor, venture forward anyhow. Your low expectations contribute to the magical quality of this day. Everything unfolds to delight you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Roadblocks have been erected between you and your fun. Don't waste effort trying to knock them down. Look for a new path instead and you will find a more scenic and interesting route.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). What's going well will keep getting better. You can't put your finger on why something works, but it does. There is a magic formula here, but don't try to figure it out. Happily continue on your way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov.

22-Dec. 21). Trying to be confident will have the opposite effect, and that's all right. There are times when it's appropriate to be humble — your humility allows you to learn. Your insecurity will endear you to a new ally.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Stay alert and ready. An unforeseen element could throw the proceedings out of whack. Do what common sense dictates and things get back into "whack" immediately.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Advertisements will seem particularly seductive, addressing just the problem you think you need to fix. There's probably a less expensive way to solve the problem. Wait a few days before you make a big purchase.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You may have to tear down a few old beliefs before you can build on your latest idea. It's still forming in your mind now, and a bit chaotic as it churns around. When it comes together, you will show the world.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: ARIES: You wish for your love to succeed and because of the positive thoughts you are thinking, you, too, will succeed. **TAURUS:** You feel the heartache of another person and can do something to ease it or do away with it completely. **GEMINI:** You can give of yourself without giving in to a loved one. The balance is tricky, but you'll find it.

CANCER: Know your romantic competition, but do not be intimidated. Your own strengths are ultra-attractive. **LEO:** Remember your faith, as it will help you in

relationships. **VIRGO:** Those less fortunate than you need your kindness. Giving makes you feel and appear even more beautiful. **LIBRA:** You can't be too vain now. All of the efforts you make to look good will be rewarded. **SCORPIO:** Your romantic partner really wants to help you, so why not let it happen?

SAGITTARIUS: Your happiness secret is to expect little and give a lot. **CAPRICORN:** You're agreeable when it comes to your love, but try not to say yes when you mean no. **AQUARIUS:** Someone dreams of being in your warm embrace. **PISCES:** Face your relationship fears and they will go away.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Pisces and Libra make a strong connection this weekend. These signs both appreciate a vision of beauty. Libra likes to create real scenarios that look like a dream in the form of fabulous home decor, or perhaps a vivid party theme or a truly inspired and atmospheric date. Ethereal Pisces is like an actor who fits right into the mood Libra creates and they each play out the scene magically.

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

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The Clergy Are Not Necessarily Perfect People

Dear Margo: My family is at their wits' end with a major upset, courtesy of my grandparents.

They have decided to leave everything (down to the dust on the floor) to their church, where my uncle is the pastor.

My family is not upset about the money (there really isn't that much). It is more the personal items that have sentimental value.

We cannot be 100 percent certain, but we think that my uncle had this planned all along and was just waiting for the right time to manipulate my grandparents.

He will receive it all, and he has power of attorney, as well as being the executor. He has yet to face the family and explain why he felt the need to have it all, and my grandparents are so convinced this is the right thing to do that they can't see how this is tearing everyone up.

My mother is a wreck, as her parents have left her nothing to remember them by. She was promised personal trinkets (worth nothing to anyone else, but worth the world to her because of the memories).

I am only a granddaughter, but I was promised my grandmother's button collection, which will probably be sold at an estate sale for a few bucks.

My grandparents refuse to discuss it. I live out of state and am hearing everything by phone, but I'm trying hard to keep it together for my mom. She is not angry but hurt.

Is there a way we can still receive these items? Is it wrong to pursue this? Is it wrong to ask for some small mementos? — Longing for Buttons

Dear Long: In some situations, not all the children pay attention to elderly parents, so the attentive one is favored in the will. I don't get the idea this is the case in your family. Whether or not your clergyman uncle made it his project to inherit everything we do not know. In addition,

you don't say whether or not your grandparents are of sound mind.

Because the old folks are not interested in discussing this, my only suggestion would be to ask your uncle, when there is an actual estate to be divided, if he'd consider letting various family have mementos that were promised. Perhaps he could be reminded of the Good Book's dictum that it's better to give than to receive. — Margo, benevolently

When There Are Second Chances

Dear Margo: I am a recovering heroin addict. I am going on my first month of being clean. I go to treatment daily and am actually starting to see the light at the end of my tunnel.

I was always told of my potential for greatness in my life, and told a million times that I will be something huge. It's hard to imagine these words becoming reality.

I've been numbing my emotional baggage for years. Now there's no numbing going on and I'm starting to feel like the old me again. Any advice or words of encouragement for a struggling individual on the brink of destiny or solitude? — G-man

Dear G: I would think success for you, short term, is to stay sober and straight.

Maybe your destiny is to clean up and live a righteous life, perhaps helping others. Your being told that you were capable of great things perhaps loaded you down with other people's expectations, always a heavy burden.

I predict that when you're in the groove of sobriety the path you should take will become clearer.

I greatly admire your taking this particular bull by the horns. It is a hard slog, I am told, but well worth it. Good luck. — Margo, reassuringly

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers' daughter. All letters must be sent via e-mail to dearmargo@creators.com. Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I enjoy reading your column, and now it is finally my turn to write.

I am a 19-year-old female. My best friend is "James," who is gay. We've been friends for nearly four years and spend a lot of time together.

Additionally, we trust each other completely and tell each other absolutely everything.

I have noticed that when James introduces me to his other friends, he refers to me as his "wiffy."

He will blow off plans with his friends to be with me. He spoils me rotten by buying me things, including clothes and purses, and driving me wherever I want to go, at any time. And this is upon his insistence.

On my last birthday, I got a surprise visit from an ex-boyfriend. I told James about it, and he admitted he was jealous. He then became very curious about how far I'd ever gone with a guy.

In a different discussion, he said, "I'm so glad I met you. You changed my life. It's very rare to find anyone like you, and I mean it. Your love is exactly what I am looking for."

I often get compliments from him about my looks, and he brags about me to his friends. James also apparently decided that he wants to transfer to my college and move into an apartment with me.

He is very protective, and sometimes it almost seems he acts like I'm his girlfriend. I have hinted at this a few times and asked whether he views me as someone he would want to date, and his answers are a little murky.

James had a boyfriend, but they broke up several months ago. I wouldn't



KATHY MITCHELL MARCY SUGAR

trade this friendship for anything in the world, and I love him dearly regardless of his sexual orientation.

But I can't help wondering if he's actually interested in me. What do you think? — Purple Maryland

Dear Maryland: James may be confused about his sexuality and sending mixed signals. It's also possible you are misinterpreting his affection for you as something more.

Are you interested in him as a boyfriend? If so, you need him to clarify his intentions. If not, consider him to have no ulterior motive and simply accept that he likes you and wants to be involved in your life.

Dear Annie: This event has not happened yet, but I would like to know the answer before it does. My ex-husband left after 36 years of marriage.

We divorced and he has since remarried. As he is the father of my children, would it be good manners for me to go to the funeral home when he dies? — Just Curious

Dear Curious: Only if it would not upset his wife. If your children would like you to be there to support them, they should ask their

stepmother if she would mind.

Dear Annie: I enjoy your column, but feel you missed the mark in your response to "Not a Mentor," the 14-year-old girl who said her friend copies everything she does, but isn't as talented.

My daughter also has a friend who follows her around and attempts to engage in whatever activities my daughter is doing.

I don't believe the issue is that her friend isn't as adept, but rather that the friend smothers her with attention, which is strangling, thereby putting stress on the friendship.

I told my daughter that above all else she needed to be kind, but that she also needed to be honest and talk to her friend and let her know how difficult it is to be a constant mentor and that she needs some space.

It has been a trial for my daughter, but little by little, her friend is learning to understand. — Mom of Teenage Girl

Dear Mom: We're not sure the circumstances are the same, but we admire the way you and your daughter are handling her situation. Thanks for sharing.

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

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Isaiah 43:13

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great love for us by sending Christ
to die for us while we were
still sinners?"

Romans 5:8

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*Sin is no longer your master, for you
are no longer subject to the law,
which enslaves you to sin.
Instead, you are free by God's grace.*

Romans 6: 14

Those who trust God's action in
them find that God's spirit is in
them - living and breathing God!

Romans 8:6 - The Message

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*For I can do everything with
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Philippians 4:13

*"Perfect love expels all fear"
(1 John 4:18)*

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*May your roots go down deep into the soil
of God's marvelous love. And may you
have the power to understand, as all God's
people should, how wide his love really, how
high, and how deep his love really is.*

Ephesians 3:17-18

He chose us from the beginning,
and all things happen just
as he decided long ago.

Ephesians 1:11

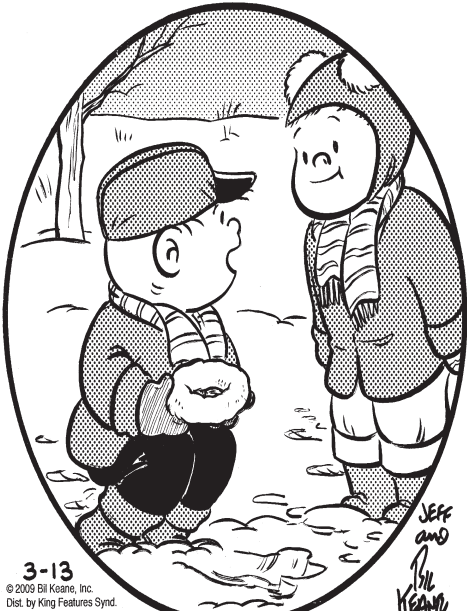
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5:PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Lopez Lopez	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Raymond Friends	In Touch-Dr	BBC Business	Cash Cab	Movie: 48 HRS., Annette O'Toole	CSI: NY	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Montana	League Final	SportsCenter
6:PM	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld	Sprna	News-Lehrer	Assembly	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order		Montana	Score	College Basketball: ACC Quarterfinal	College Basketball: Big East Semifinal
7:PM	Entertain	Fortune		Two Men	Entertain	Millionaire	Howie Do	Fam. Guy	Hagee	Update	Wash Wk Sala	Movie: First NOW	CSI: Crime Scn	Movie: Mission: Impossible III, Ving Rhames	Movie: Sunset Park, Carol Kane	Suite Life	College Basketball: WAC Semifinal	College Basketball: Big East Semifinal -- Teams TBA
8:PM	Wife Swap	Wife Swap	Cuidado-Angel	Sarah Connor	Ghost Whisperer	Doña Barbara	Howie Do	Fam. Guy	Update	Wash Wk Sala	Movie: First NOW	CSI: Crime Scn	Movie: Mission: Impossible III, Ving Rhames	Movie: Sunset Park, Carol Kane	Suite Life	College Basketball: WAC Semifinal	College Basketball: Big East Semifinal -- Teams TBA	
9:PM	Supernanny	Supernanny	Mañana es	(01) Dollhouse	Flashpoint	El Rostro de Analia	Friday Night Lights	Movie: Independence Day, Jeff Goldblum	Light of the Southwest	Bill Moyers Journal	American Loggers	Breaking Bad	Real Vice	Movie: Mission: Impossible III, Ving Rhames	Movie: Big Fat Liar	Suite Life	Score	SportsCenter
10:PM	20/20	20/20	Rosa	TMZ	NUMB3RS	Sin Senos	Dateline	Tonight Show	Church Cortes	Charlie Rose	Made	Movie: Sabretooth, John Rhys-Davies	Disorderly Con.	Movie: Mission: Impossible III, Ving Rhames	Movie: Big Fat Liar	Suite Life	Score	SportsCenter
11:PM	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Late Show	Sex & Sanchez	Smiley	Dirty Jobs	MAN	MAN	Movie: Sunset Park, Carol Kane	Cory	College Basketball: WAC Semifinal	Final	
12:AM	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Extra	Madre	RENO 911	Late Late Show	Mr. Bean	Late Night-Jim	Sex & Sanchez (12:10)	Update	(Off Air)	American Loggers	Game	Game	Movie: Minority Report, Samantha Morton	Kim	College Basketball	SportsCenter	
1:AM	Basco	Mujer...	Friends	Entertain	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Best of Light of the Southwest											

DENNIS THE MENACE



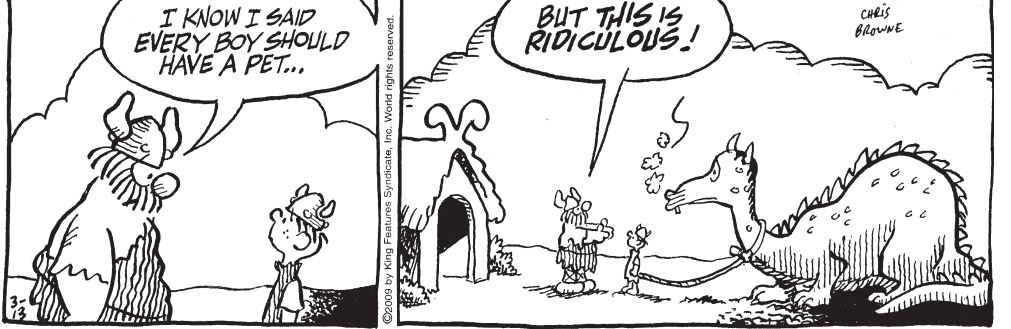
"DENNIS IS TURNING SIX? WHAT A COINCIDENCE. SO IS MY ULCER!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

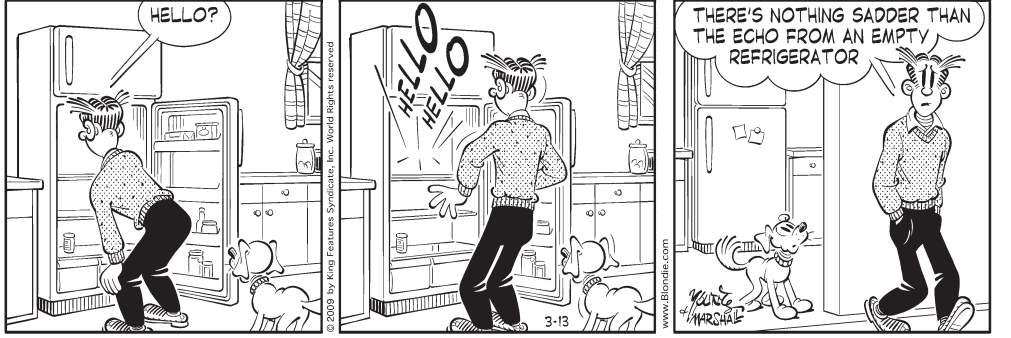


"Look, I made you a snownut."

HAGAR



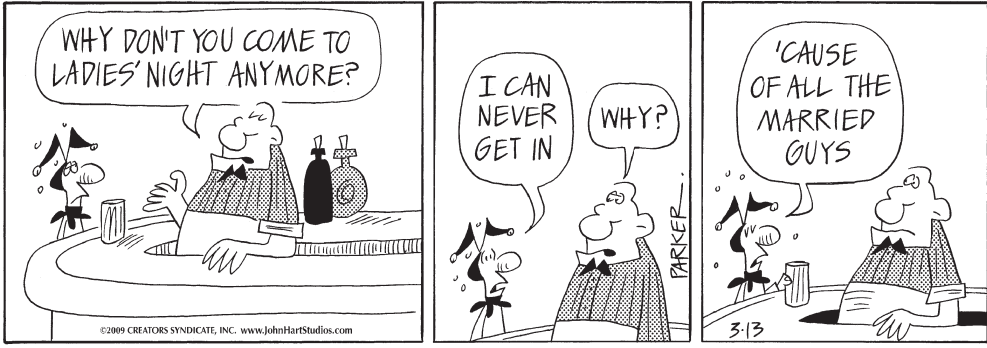
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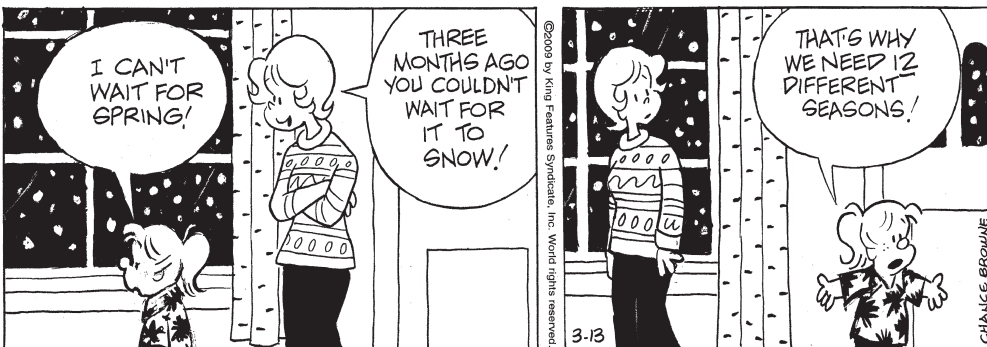
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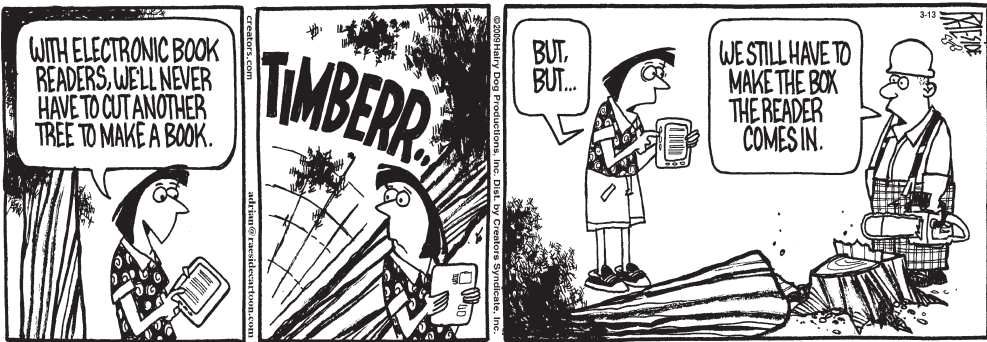
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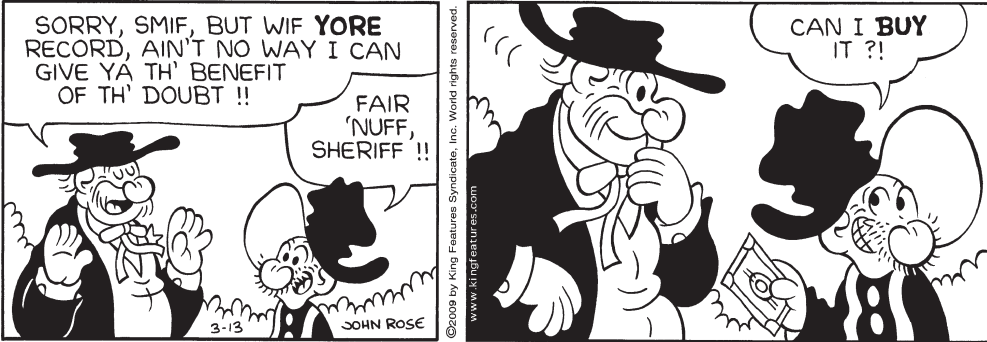
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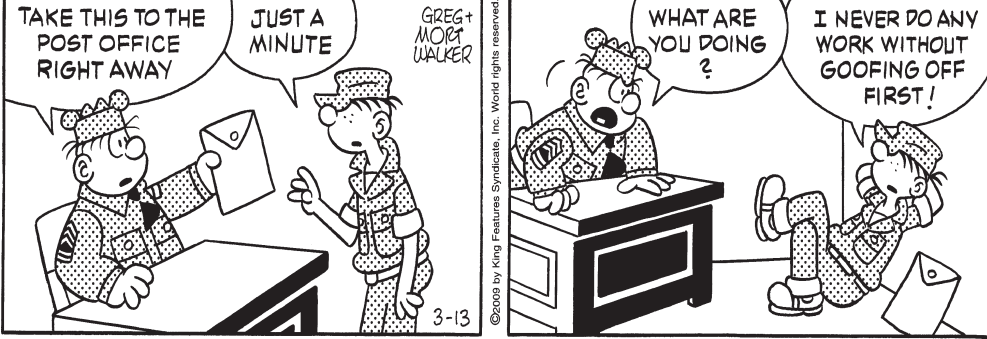
THE OTHER COAST



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This Date In History

Today is Friday, March 13, the 72nd day of 2009. There are 293 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 13, 1933, banks began to reopen after a "holiday" declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

On this date: In 1781, the planet Uranus was discovered by Sir William Herschel.

In 1884, Congress officially adopted Eastern Standard Time for the District of Columbia.

In 1901, the 23rd president of the United States, Benjamin Harrison, died in Indianapolis at age 67.

In 1925, the Tennessee General Assembly approved a bill prohibiting the teaching of the theory of evolution. (Gov. Austin Peay signed the measure on March 21.)

In 1928, hundreds of people died when the San Francisco Valley in California was inundated with water after the St.

Francis Dam burst just before midnight the evening of March 12.

In 1964, bar manager Catherine "Kitty" Genovese, 28, was stabbed to death near her home in the New York City borough of Queens; the case generated controversy over the supposed failure of Genovese's neighbors to respond to her cries for help.

In 1969, the Apollo 9 astronauts splashed down, ending a mission that included the successful testing of the lunar module.

In 1980, Ford Motor Co. Chairman Henry Ford II announced he was stepping down, the same day a jury in Winamac, Ind., found his company innocent of reckless homicide in the fiery deaths of three young women in a Ford Pinto.

In 1988, yielding to student protests, the board of trustees of Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., a liberal arts college for the hearing-impaired, chose I. King Jordan to become the school's first deaf president.

In 1996, a gunman burst into an elementary school in Dunblane, Scotland, and

opened fire, killing 16 children and one teacher before killing himself.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Roy Haynes is 84. Country singer Jan Howard is 79. Songwriter Mike Stoller is 76. Singer-songwriter Neil Sedaka is 70. Actor William H. Macy is 59. Actress Deborah Raffin is 56. Comedian Robin Duke is 55. Actress Glenna Headly is 54. Actress Dana Delany is 53. Rock musician Adam Clayton (U2) is 49. Jazz musician Terence Blanchard is 47. Actor Christopher Collet is 41. Rock musician Matt McDonough (Mudvayne) is 40. Actress Annabeth Gish is 38. Actress Tracy Wells is 38. Rapper-actor Common is 37.

Answer to previous puzzle

FADE	MOWER	PAL
POLED	ERASE	ELI
JUST	DESERTS	TOO
SLOE	RAM	EATEN
COMB	CELLI	
STRAIGHT	LINE	
MELEE	RATS	GRE
USED	MAINE	CZAR
MAE	MASS	MOOSE
UPRIGHT	PIANO	
YALIE	ESPN	
CREEK	GEL	OTTO
LAY	FAIR	WEATHER
AVE	EDDIE	HEARS
MED	DOONE	ASTI

Newsday Crossword FLORA AND FAUNA by Shirley Soloway Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 '60s TV bandleader

5 West Wing wife

9 Gauntlets and such

14 Weapon with a push button

15 Milk-and-cookies choice

16 Sierra

17 Peter Pan princess

19 Two of Henry's six

20 Latitude

21 Real dolt

23 Steinbeck character

24 Awakenings author

26 Familiarize

28 Spots for lecterns

31 City near Chicago

32 German one

33 Propelled, perhaps

37 Handle clumsily

40 Sharp insult

41 Pace

42 Tomato type

43 Sound of disapproval

44 Attacks vigorously

45 Broadcast technology

46 Time Machine people

48 Black-tie, for example

50 Prairie Home Companion home

52 Suggest

54 Youngster on a farm

55 Egyptian port

57 Sleeping

61 Hoist

63 Homeowner's bane

65 Small stuff

66 Rob of the Brat Pack

67 Commits a hockey no-no

68 At the ready

69 Not much

70 Expenditure

7 Poe subject

8 "Walking the dog" need

9 Like

10 After the Bath artist

11 Tropical trees

12 a million

13 Put back to zero, maybe

18 Back

22 State trees of Virginia

25 Marsh plants

27 Cut out

28 Balance

29 Some lipids

30 Window-garden choice

34 "You there!" abbr.

36 Choose, with "for"

38 Tsp., e.g.

39 Undulating

42 Aristotle's subject

44 Bud's partner

47 Belarus neighbor

49 Call up

50 Bozo

51 Front-wheel adjustment

52 Tycoon from Texarkana

53 Japanese conductor

56 Jackie Robinson's sch.

58 Tex-Mex snack

59 Exploits

60 "You there!" skill

64 Place for oysters

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

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Home sweet home

Keep Big Spring Beautiful was the title of a recent half-page ad that appeared in the Big Spring Herald, written by Ms. Pat Simmons. Pat was urging all of us to be a part of the Keep Big Spring Beautiful project, and to become participants by improving the surroundings of our homes and yards. And I applaud her for this, as well as the many other efforts she has founded.



JERRIE
STOCKS

In the Book of Genesis, chapter 2, God talks about forming man and putting him in the Garden of Eden "to dress it and to keep it." Adam's first assignment, as head of his domain was to oversee the garden and keep it beautiful just as God had commanded. So likewise, as citizens of this planet and community, we are to be good stewards by keeping our homes as beautiful and clean as possible, both inside and out.

The Bible has much to say about our home life in passages far too numerous to mention here. Simply stated, how our homes are presented to our neighborhoods reveals what is on the inside of each of us. Our happiness at home depends largely on our attitudes toward our homes. If we view home as nothing more than a motel room where we go to get a night's sleep, a quick shower and a cup of coffee as we rush out the door the next morning, that is exactly how our homes will feel to us and others.

In truth, our homes should be special sanctuaries reflecting the love and care given to them from the front door entrance to the back yard fence. Home should be a small paradise on earth, a relaxing haven, a romantic love nest, and a shelter from the cold and the heat. It should be the place we long to go when there is no other place to go. Our home should be our own private oasis, for it is only when we are at home that we can do as we like.

I feel certain that the majority of us have a caring attitude toward our neighborhoods, and most often this attitude is reflected in our work patterns, as well as in our daily conduct toward others. However, this same attitude should be reflected in the condition of our homes and yards, as well. The physical structure we call home need not be expensive or in the finest neighborhood to be attractive and inviting. I've seen many mobile homes with well-kept lawns, potted plants, trees and attractive entrances. The message is to convey the thought of not only caring for your home and its surroundings, but also one of showing respect toward your neighborhood.

One of the biggest mistakes we often make is too much statuary and ornamentation in the yard. Remember, less is more. Simplicity in yard art is generally a more attractive look. The same holds true inside our homes. Don't allow clutter or too many pictures and accessories to overpower the rooms.

It is not always good to follow the trends seen in the magazines. Remember that the magazine's main objective is to create a buy/sell situation between the readers and their advertisers. That said however, most home and garden magazines do present correct and lovely room and yard decorating. Many demonstrate how to use the ordinary in extraordinary ways. Tastefully followed, these tips can create a sense of charm and love, without clutter or fanfare. Correctly done, your home can take on a look that creates a new attitude and interest for you and your family.

Don't deprive yourself of the joy that comes with creating a beautiful home. Do all chores with an interest in a job well done. Savor the time spent, and live with a fresh attitude and interest in your neighborhood. This will create a more positive image of you and your property.

In retrospect, our homes are a lot like our bodies; they need care, otherwise, they begin to deteriorate and look old and neglected. Keeping your home in good shape is an investment that will pay off in the future.

The city of Big Spring is a unique community. It is picturesque with its valleys and hills, Scenic and South Mountains, and the unique building locations. And of course there is the infamous "Big Spring" and Cosden Lake. It thrills me to see some of the old downtown buildings being renovated and new life being breathed into the Settles Hotel. One thing is certain, we do not resemble our neighbors to the east, west, north or south. The surrounding territory has the feel of a much different locale. Big Spring is indeed unique. Let us proudly revel in and build upon its charming quaintness. And may we all strive to Keep Big Spring Beautiful.

God bless

Club News

Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association

The Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association will meet Monday at Howard College's Cactus Room. At 11:30 a.m. there will be a Dutch treat lunch, followed by the meeting at noon.

Forsan and Coahoma ISD superintendents will update members on activities and plans for their school districts.

Plans to attend the State RTA Convention in Dallas will be finalized. The convention will be held March 28 through 31.

The BSA RTA sincerely invites any interested person or retiree to come to our meeting and see what we are about. Our meetings are short and interesting. We usually dismiss by 1 p.m.

Howard County Master Gardeners

Howard County Master Gardeners will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the basement of the courthouse. Anyone interested in the organization is invited to attend. Socializing and refreshments begin at 5:30 p.m.

The Master Gardeners are as nice a group of people you would ever want to meet. Our backgrounds and professions are varied, but we have a common love — to get dirt under our fingernails and watch God's work unfold as the seasons change. We love to chitchat about what's growing and blooming in our yards. That includes the undesirable. Just because we are Master Gardeners (and some of us are Master Gardener wannabes), doesn't mean we don't have our own crop of weeds that continue to plague our landscapes.

Let's talk weeds. A rather philosophical observation made during one of the training classes was "a 'weed' to one person is not necessarily a 'weed' to another." There's a particular plant (the name escapes me at this moment) that I unwillingly cultivate every year that has a petite purple bloom and enmasse, it can be quite appealing. Once a sizable area has been covered by the plant, I figure you might just as well relax and enjoy the greenery. Master Gardeners always have projects either

started or in the planning stages in their mind. Guess our motto could be: "A gardener's work is never done!" How profound and accurate is that?

Our group meets monthly and we routinely schedule work days to congregate at one project or another and do whatever it is that is needed at the time. We plant, prune, dig, trim and visit all the while we are beautifying an area of Howard County.

We try to have an annual garden tour where we travel to several homes in the area and admire their flowers, shrubs, water features, gazebos, patios, lawns, etc. And the best part of these get-togethers is the food. Our love of good food is a common trait found among the HC Master Gardeners.

We also have an annual Plant Sale which is coming up the last weekend of April. We love to see the crowds of plant-lovers who show up early that Saturday morning to see what we have to sale, but also to visit and talk gardening.

If you might be interested in finding out what our club is all about, please come join us next Tuesday and at the very least enjoy a snack or two.

Big Spring Art Association

The Big Spring Art Association met Feb. 17 in the basement of the Howard County Library for its monthly meeting. The area-wide art show and awards were the main discussion of the business meeting. The program that evening was an excellent watercolor video of a sunflower by Terry Madden. Jean Money was the hostess for the evening, serving chili and cornbread.

This month, March 17, the meeting will be held as usual at the Howard County Library in the

basement at 7 p.m. The art show will be the main topic of discussion in the business portion of the meeting. Then Kay Smith, local artist, will present the program on "101 Ways to Sell Your Art."

Kay owns her studio, Brushworks, located on Scurry Street, where she paints and teaches. She holds signature status with the Southwestern, Texas and Wyoming Watercolor Societies. Kay is also a co-founder of our local Caboose Watercolor Society and a member of BSAA. To read more about Kay Smith, visit these sites online: <http://www.kaysmith-brushworks.us/artist.html> and <http://watercolor-online.com/Artists/kaysmith/index.phtml>

We invite all who are interested in art/photography to visit with us this Tuesday, March 17.

TOPS TX No. 21

TOPS TX No. 21 met Monday, March 9, with 11 members present. The meeting came to order when Leader Laura Sickles called for the TOPS cheer. The TOPS pledge was led by Duffy Yancey and followed by the KOPS pledge, led by Laura Sickles.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, corrected and approved by the membership.

A reading by Pam Klaus was given titled "It's My Time."

The business portion of the meeting reminded us of last week's election of officers for the year 2009-2010 were Leader Laura Sickles, Co-Leader L Linda Stapel, Treasurer Frank Sickles and Secretary Carol Smith. Installation will be March 30. All Members are invited to attend a supper afterwards.

Roll call by Huggetta Roberts told us that Linda Stapel was the best weekly loser.

A fun program was then presented by Frank and Laura Sickles titled "TOPS Jeopardy." The winners were presented stationary as prizes. It was a fun time for all.

For information about TOPS meetings, time, days and place, please call 432-213-1342 or Olneee Menges, 432-263-6819. All visitors are welcome.

If you have a weight problem, we can help. We need you and you need us.



Kay Smith

Parent's Corner: Succeeding at goals

For the past couple of weeks I have been writing on setting goals and thinking about how tomorrow begins today. It has been fairly well documented that if we want to change something in our lives we should enact that change for 21 days. Set the goal and for 21 days follow these steps:

1. Write down specifically what it is you want. Make sure it's a single goal and clearly defined. You needn't show it to anyone, but carry it with you so that you can look at it several times a day. Think about it in a cheerful, relaxed, positive way each morning when you get up and immediately you have something to work for, something to get out of bed for, something to live for. Look at it every chance you get during the day and just before going to bed at night. As you look at it, remember that you will become what you think about, and since you're thinking about your goal, you realize that soon it will be yours. In fact, it's really yours the moment you



DARRELL
RYAN

write it down and begin to think about it.

2. Stop thinking about what it is you fear. Each time a fearful or negative thought comes into your mind, replace it with a mental picture of your positive and worthwhile goal. There will come a time when you'll feel like giving up. It's easier for a human being to think negatively than positively. That's why only 5 percent are successful. You must begin now to place yourself in that group. Think and act as though it were impossible to fail, no matter what your goal; just keep it before you every day, you'll be surprised at the results.

3. Success is accomplishing your goal; but you must remember that your goal should be measured by the quality and quantity of service you render.

Most people will tell you that they want to be successful without understanding this law. They want something for nothing, or a free ride. Success is in direct proportion to our service and our attitude. Most people have this law backwards. It's like the man who stands in front of the stove and says to it: "Give me heat and then I'll add the wood." Many people take the same attitude toward life.

We've got to put the fuel in before we can expect heat.

Likewise, we've got to be of service first before we can expect success. Be of service ... build ... work ... dream ... create. Don't start your test until you've made up your mind to stick with it.

If you should fail during your first 21 days — by that I mean suddenly find yourself overwhelmed by negative thoughts — simply start over again from that point and go 21 more days. Gradually, your new habit will form, and you find that you are in that wonderful minority to whom virtually nothing is impossible.

Above all ... don't worry. Worry brings fear, and fear is crippling. The only thing that can cause you to worry during your test is trying to do it all yourself. Know that all you have to do is hold your goal before you; everything else will take care of itself. Each time you do this it will become more a part of you. And remember, obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off the goal.

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

CHURCH

Continued from Page 5A

ing Ken with a luncheon after the morning service. He will be presenting a concert of gospel music that evening, and we invite you to come hear him preach in the morning and sing in the evening. We have been blessed by his presence among us and will miss him.

Having said that, we are excited about the arrival of our new pastor,

the Rev. Mark Lindsey, who will be here March 29 to begin his ministry with First Baptist Church. We invite you to join us as we continue to grow God's kingdom.

There are programs at FBC for all ages at all times. If you'd like further information, call the church office at 267-8223.

Senior Adult Revival

Crossroads Baptist Association is sponsoring the Senior Adult Revival from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. March 23-25 at First Baptist Church.

Dr. Stan Coffee, pastor of the church at Quail Creek in Amarillo, will be the guest speaker. Ty Morros, director of the Singing Men of West Texas, will be the worship leader.

Each service will begin with great music and will be followed by a meal. This is no charge for lunch. Invite your friends, acquaintances and others for a time of refreshing and renewal during this first Associational Senior Adult Revival. A love offering will be gathered.

For more information, call (432) 935-9171.

News in brief

Obama to outline goals for Afghan war

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is close to announcing a redrawn strategy for a war in Afghanistan that the president says the United States is not winning, focusing on enlisting Pakistan in the fight against extremism and trimming U.S. expectations for military victory, administration, defense and intelligence officials said.

The White House expects to announce new objectives for the flagging war as soon as next week that place an onus on next-door Pakistan to contain extremism, defense and administration officials said Thursday.

President Barack Obama was expected to explain the redrawn U.S. objectives to NATO allies when he attends a NATO summit in Europe next month.

The in-house review coordinated by the White House National Security Council lays out objectives over three years to five years, although that doesn't necessarily mean the U.S. military could leave in that time,

defense officials said.

The White House objectives were expected to roughly parallel 15 goals contained in a 20-page classified report to the White House from the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Among them were getting rid of terrorist safe havens in Pakistan and adopting a regional approach to reducing the threat of terrorism and extremism in both countries.

Anna Nicole Smith's boyfriend, 2 doctors charged with plot to give Smith drugs before death

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Anna Nicole Smith's boyfriend Howard K. Stern and two doctors were charged Thursday with giving thousands of prescription drugs to the former Playboy Playmate in the years leading up to her fatal drug overdose in 2007.

Stern and doctors Sandeep Kapoor and Khristine Eroshevich were each charged with three felony counts of conspiracy and several other charges of fraudulent prescriptions. Prosecutors said the doctors gave the

drugs — including opiates and sedatives — to Stern, who then gave them to Smith.

The prescriptions were issued between June 2004 and January 2007, just weeks before Smith's death.

"These individuals repeatedly and excessively furnished thousands of prescription pills to Anna Nicole Smith, often for no legitimate medical purpose," California Attorney General Jerry Brown said in a statement.

Brown's spokesman, Scott Gerber, told The Associated Press that Stern and Kapoor surrendered Thursday night and posted \$20,000 bond, and that Eroshevich will surrender Monday. An arraignment date was not set.

Madoff pleads guilty to Ponzi scheme, apologizes and is taken off to jail in handcuffs

NEW YORK (AP) — Bernard Madoff went from a \$7 million penthouse to a tiny jail cell with cinderblock walls and linoleum floors after confessing he carried out what may be the biggest fraud in Wall Street history to escape the pain of a recession.

The change in lifestyle for the 70-year-old financier was welcomed Thursday by angry investors who packed into a federal courtroom to watch Madoff plead guilty to cheating nearly 5,000 investors out of billions of dollars.

"I am painfully aware that I have deeply hurt many, many people, including the members of my family, my closest friends, business associates and the thousands of clients who gave me their money," he told U.S. District Judge Denny Chin.

"I cannot adequately express how sorry I am for what I have done," he said just before Chin ordered him to prison to await a June 16 sentencing when he will face up to 150 years in prison.

His lawyers filed a notice of appeal to a federal appeals court to get it to reconsider Chin's decision.

Confidence-builder in chief: Obama uses tone of calm as he reassures those with worries

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is embracing a mantle of confidence-builder in chief. Whether he is meeting with his own economic advisers or worried business leaders, his message is meant to be calm and reassuring — even in the wake of more bad economic news.

Obama will have another opportunity to assert his optimism after he meets Friday with Paul Volcker, the former Federal Reserve chairman who now guides the president's economic recovery advisory board. Volcker was preparing to brief Obama and his economic team on how the \$787 billion stimulus package is working.

Speaking to a gathering of the

nation's CEOs on Thursday, Obama defended his plans for pulling the economy out of a downward spiral, saying that his long-term view gives him reason to maintain optimism despite an uptick in unemployment and falling economic indicators.

"I've never bought into these Malthusian, woe, Chicken Little, the earth is falling. I tend to be pretty optimistic," said Obama, once a long-shot candidate for the White House. "I wouldn't be here if I weren't pretty optimistic."

The president boldly declared that the national crisis is "not as bad as we think."

Japan protests North Korea's satellite launch plan, warns it could shoot it down

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Japan strongly protested North Korea's planned satellite launch, warning Friday it could shoot down the rocket after Pyongyang said it would fly over Japan and designated a "danger" zone off the country's coast.

North Korea has given U.N. agencies coordinates forming two zones where parts of its multiple-stage rocket would fall, unveiling its plan to fire the projectile over Japan toward the Pacific Ocean in the launch set for sometime between April 4-8.

One of the "danger" zones where the rocket's first stage is expected to fall lies in waters less than 75 miles (120 kilometers) from Japan's northwestern shore, according to coordinates released by the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Maritime Organization on Thursday.

The other zone lies in the middle of the Pacific between Japan and Hawaii.

Michelle Obama begins advocacy as first lady with meetings with soldiers, families

FORT BRAGG, N.C. (AP) — The nation owes not only gratitude but tangible assistance to the nation's military and their families, and she'll make that a focus of her time in the White House, first lady Michelle Obama says.

Underscoring her commitment to the plight of America's military families, Mrs. Obama used a trip to Fort Bragg as a stage for her first television interviews since the inauguration. One with ABC's "Good Morning America" was to air Friday.

In the interview she said she wanted military families to know they have a friend in the White House.

"It hurts. It hurts," Mrs. Obama said of hearing about military families on food stamps. "These are people who are willing to send their loved ones off to, perhaps, give their lives — the ultimate sacrifice. But yet, they're living back at home on food stamps. It's not right, and it's not where we should be as a nation."

Benefit Auction & Dinner
Sat. March 14th
5:00 Brisket Dinner
6:30 Auction
All proceeds go to Trustin's Fund.

If you have any items that you would like to donate to the auction you can drop it off on the dock at Crossroads Auction 6607 N. Service Rd

Or call David at 432-264-9900 or Dorothy at 432-631-0626



TRUSTIN LEE LEFEVER

Trustin is 2 and has been diagnosed with Phabdomyosarcoma, a deep soft tissue cancer that affects children ages 1 -5 and teens 15 - 19. The cancer that runs through his tiny body is inoperable and has reached stage 3. The tumor runs from the top of his soft palette in his mouth to the sinus cavity in his forehead. The doctors say with 48 weeks of chemotherapy and radiation treatments he has a 2/3 chance of full recovery.

He is from Big Spring, Texas and is being treated at Cook Children's Hospital in Ft. Worth. Though the prognosis is good, the family has already accumulated an insurmountable number of expenses between the CareFlight from Midland and treatment at Cooks. His parents Cody and Morgan Lefever, will never be able to pay the debt they owe, so we are asking for any assistance from anyone willing to help. All funds will go directly to his care and all details can be verified locally with David and Rhonda Lefever of Big Springs, TX at Crossroads Auction Co. (432)264-9900 or (432)263-8200.

Thank you and God Bless.

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