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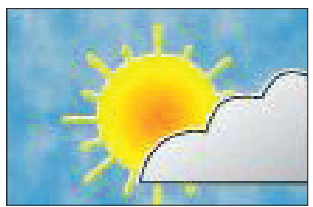
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HIGH SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 11, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 57

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CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Candidate filing period slow at best

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Filings for area municipal elections have been slow since opening Monday morning, according to election officials, with only a handful of political hopefuls tossing their hats in the ring.

According to officials with the city of Big Spring, no one — including incumbents — has filed to run in the city's upcoming election.

Two seats are up for grabs on the city's council — posts held by Mayor Russ McEwen and District 5 Councilman Troy Tompkins. Both McEwen and Tompkins have indicated they plan to run for re-election.

Three seats are up for election in the city of Coahoma. At-large seats held by Linda Luce, R.L. Coates and Brandon Atkins will be on the May ballot.

See **FILING**, Page 3



Muddy, snowy grounds did not keep these ducks from making their daily rounds at Comanche Trail Park this morning. Forecasts call for warmer temperatures through Saturday.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Students take advantage of advanced courses

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

A significant portion of Big Spring students in particular — and Texas students in general — are taking advantage of Advanced Placement courses offered in their school districts, according to statistics

released by the Texas Education Agency.

And more of those students than ever are passing the stringent AP exams.

Texas was recognized Wednesday by the College Board as one of 20 states with the greatest percentage of

students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP exams. The tests are scored on a range of 1 through 5 and colleges and universities typically give college course credit to those who earn scores of 3 or higher.

TEA figures show that 23.5

percent of Big Spring High School students who took the AP exam during the 2007-2008 school year (the most recent data available) scored at or above criterion (3) level. Overall, 13 percent of BSHS seniors took an AP exam during that school year, figures

show.

Those percentages are above state averages, which show that 14.9 percent of high school seniors who took the AP exam in 2009 scored 3 or higher.

See **COURSES**, Page 3

Forsan ISD trustees to hear 'State of the Union' report

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

FORSAN — School trustees will hear the "State of the Union" of the district's overall financial condition and discuss possible facility needs during a special workshop scheduled for 7 p.m. today in the administration wing board room.

Randy Johnson, superintendent of Forsan Independent School District, said the information-only meeting is



Johnson

an annual event to give trustees a heads-up on the health of the district's finances.

"This is our annual 'State of the Union' address," Johnson joked. "We'll give the trustees all the facts and figures regarding finances within the district ... We thought this would be a good time to show trustees the big

picture in regards to our finances — where we are and where we're going."

Trustees also will look at the status of ongoing or proposed facility upgrades, Johnson said.

"We're looking at the status of some big projects," he said. "We recently approved a \$160,000 upgrade to make our lighting system more energy efficient, as well as \$80,000 for some bleacher expansions at the football field."

Officials also are looking at other possible facility upgrades, including installation of artificial turf at the football field and construction of an atrium at Elbow Elementary.

"We'll discuss those projects as well and see how they might effect our fund balances," Johnsons said.

Despite an increasingly cloudy outlook at the state level, Johnson was quick to note that Fisd finances are in good condition.

"We have a healthy fund balance which is well above state recommendations," Johnson said. "We've been putting money into those reserves to possibly help with our facility needs so we don't have to go to the taxpayers and ask for a bond election."

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

San Angelo man receives 327-month sentence

Special to the Herald

SAN ANGELO — Kerry Wayne Lakey, 51, of San Angelo was sentenced Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Sam R. Cummings to 327 months in prison, to be followed by a lifetime of supervised release.

The announcement was made by U.S. Attorney James T. Jacks of the Northern District of Texas. Lakey pleaded guilty in September 2009, on the morning his federal trial was to begin, to a 19-count indictment

charging various child obscenity and child pornography offenses. Lakey must also register as a sex offender.

Specifically, Lakey pleaded guilty to two counts of distribution of child obscenity, eight counts of receipt of child obscenity, three counts of possession of child obscenity, one count of transportation of child pornography, four counts of receipt of child pornography and one count of possession of child pornography.

According to documents filed with

his guilty plea, Lakey admitted that from early December 2007 through April 9, 2008, he intentionally and knowingly collected, possessed, distributed, transported and received the images of child pornography and child obscenity, as outlined in the indictment.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice,

See **GUILTY**, Page 3

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Police blotter

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

- THEODORE RIOS JR., 18, of 804 Willia, was arrested Wednesday on three local warrants and a Howard County warrant.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 700 block of Creighton.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of E. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the area of Val Verde. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of Marijo. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Abrams. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of San Antonio. One person was transported to SMMC.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 57 inmates at the time of this report.
- DERRIOUS BLACKMON, 18, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.
 - JAIME BENIGNO-LOPEZ, 29, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a fugitive warrant from Arizona for theft of means of transportation and a probation violation.
 - THEODORE RIOS, 18, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less, motion to revoke probation for criminal mischief, displaying an expired registration certificate, failure to maintain financial responsibility and no driver's license.
 - CHANCE HAYS HANSON, 22, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of passenger not secured by a safety belt, violation of a promise to appear (two counts), minor in consumption of alcohol, motion to revoke probation for harassment and bondsman off bond for evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.
 - CHARLES ROSS LACOE, 24, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of violation of bond — possession of a dangerous drug.
 - RUBEN AGUIRRE DOMINGUEZ, 41, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated — second offense.

Obituaries

Douglass Bales

Douglass Bales, 75, a resident of Irving since 1967 and formerly of Coahoma, died Monday, Feb. 8, 2010, at home.

The family will receive friends at a visitation from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home. Funeral service will be held at noon Saturday, Feb. 13, 2010, at Plymouth Park Baptist Church with the Rev. Ken Branam and the Rev. Robert Corser officiating. Interment will be at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery.

He was born Oct. 13, 1934, in Fort Worth. The son of J.R. "Bo" and Dorothy Bales, he married Loveta Bryant on Dec. 25, 1965, in Gainesville. Douglass graduated from Coahoma High School in 1953 and attended SMU until he was drafted into the Army on Feb. 14, 1957. He returned to SMU in 1967 to complete his bachelor and masters degrees in public administration in 1971.

He was an assistant city manager in Irving from 1987 until retirement in February 2000. He had been a member of Plymouth Park Baptist Church since 1969.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Martha Jane Bales Cunningham Easterday.

He is survived by his wife, Loveta Bales of Irving; son, Phillip Bales and wife Judy of Big Lake; daughters, Carla Diaz and husband Lorenzo of Midland and Mary Michelle Bales of Irving; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister, Claudine Tucker and husband Jim; and brother, Jerry Don Bales and wife Tony, all of Sand Springs.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Gideon's International, P.O. Box 170395, Irving 75017-0395, or to Plymouth Park Baptist Church Missions, 1714 North Story Road, Irving 75061.

Your Local Weather

Fri 2/12	Sat 2/13	Sun 2/14
54/34	62/33	47/30
Partly cloudy skies. High 54F. Winds light and variable.	Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 30s.	A few clouds. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the low 30s.

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State briefs

Snow slows travel across Texas

DALLAS (AP) — Snow blanketed parts of Texas in a winter storm that slowed traffic and led to the cancellation of hundreds of flights.

The National Weather Service says snow was reported Thursday morning in Amarillo, Lubbock, Tyler and the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

American Airlines spokesman Steve Schlachter (SHLAWK'-ter) told The Associated Press that the Fort Worth-based carrier had canceled 478 flights systemwide Thursday.

Southwest Airlines, with its main hub at Dallas Love Field, said it was monitoring the weather system. Southwest advised travelers in the Baltimore-Washington, Philadelphia and New York City areas that many of its flights had been canceled Thursday.

Texas Christian University in Fort Worth was closed for the day "due to icy road conditions."

Prisons part of state budget cutting

AUSTIN (AP) — Closing some Texas prisons is an option as the correctional system faces a Monday deadline to put together a budget-cutting plan.

Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Joe Straus asked all state agencies in January to offer proposals cutting 5 percent of their budgets by Feb. 15. Texas is facing a projected state budget shortfall of at least \$10 billion.

The Austin American-Statesman reported Thursday that Texas prison officials are looking for perhaps as much as \$300 million in cutbacks in the 112-unit system.

"Closing prisons? It's absolutely on the table," said House Corrections Committee Chairman Jim McReynolds of Lufkin. "As tight as our budget situation looks, we cannot unravel the fledgling system

of diversion and treatment programs that are paying big dividends now for the states. And there's only one other place to look prison operations."

Brad Livingston, executive director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, has said that any budget reductions would not compromise public safety or agency operations.

"We certainly can't compromise public safety, and I'm opposed to closing prisons just to save a buck," said Senate Criminal Justice Committee Chairman John Whitmire of Houston.

Agents find marijuana in framed portrait of Jesus

EL PASO (AP) — The U.S. Border Patrol says agents found a stash of marijuana coming across the border in El Paso in an unusual spot: tucked behind a framed portrait of Jesus.

A Border Patrol statement issued Wednesday says the bust was made just before 3 p.m. Tuesday at the Bridge of the Americas in El Paso. A 22-year-old Mexican woman arrived at the port of entry from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, in a sport-utility vehicle. According to the statement, she told agents that she had nothing to declare but some framed art.

Cesar the drug-sniffing dog found otherwise. He was drawn to three framed pictures of Jesus Christ in the SUV. Agents found 30 bundles totalling about 31 pounds behind the backing of the three pictures.

The Border Patrol says it turned the woman to El Paso police for prosecution.

Former Texas Rep. Wilson dies

DALLAS (AP) — Charlie Wilson, the fun-loving Texas congressman whose backroom dealmaking

funneled millions of dollars in weapons to Afghanistan, allowing the country's underdog mujahedeen rebels to beat back the mighty Soviet Red Army, died Wednesday. He was 76.

Wilson died at Memorial Medical Center-Lufkin after having difficulty breathing after attending a meeting in the eastern Texas town where he lived, said hospital spokeswoman Yana Ogletree. Wilson was pronounced dead on arrival, and the preliminary cause of death was cardiopulmonary arrest, she said.

Wilson represented Texas' 2nd Congressional District in the U.S. House from 1973 to 1996 and was known in Washington as "Good Time Charlie" for his reputation as a hard-drinking womanizer. He once called former congresswoman Pat Schroeder "Babycakes," and tried to take a beauty queen with him on a government trip to Afghanistan.

Wilson, a Democrat, was considered both a progressive and a defense hawk. While his efforts to arm the mujahedeen in the 1980s were a success — spurring a victory that helped speed the downfall of the Soviet Union — he was unable to keep the money flowing after the Soviets left. Afghanistan plunged into chaos, creating an opening eventually filled by the Taliban, which harbored al-Qaida terrorists.

After the Sept. 11 attacks — carried out by al-Qaida terrorists trained in Afghanistan — the U.S. ended up invading the country it had once helped liberate.

"People like me didn't fulfill our responsibilities once the war was over," Wilson said in a September 2001 interview with The Associated Press. "We allowed this vacuum to occur in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which enraged a lot of people. That was as much my fault as it was a lot of others."

FILING

Continued from Page 1

Luce and Coates have not yet announced whether they will run for re-election, while Atkins has indicated he will not seek another term in the office.

The Coahoma race has only drawn one filing at this time, according to city officials. Howard County resident Zach Johnson, a firefighter with the

county's volunteer fire department, has tossed his political hat in the ring.

In Forsan, three seats will be on the ballot this year. Mayor Roger Hudgens and council members Allie Lansford and Dianna Walker have all filed to run for re-election. According to Hudgens, no challengers have filed to run at this time.

In Stanton, Mayor Lester Baker's seat on the council will be on the ballot, along with council members Ronnie Christian (District 1), Michelle Kidd

(District 2) and James Jenkins (District 3). None of the four have indicated whether they plan to run for re-election, and according to officials with the Martin County Elections Office, no challengers have filed.

Early voting in both municipal and educational board elections is slated for April 26 through May 4. All Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan early voting will take place at the Howard County Courthouse in the elections office, located on the third floor.

The deadline for political hopefuls to file their candidacy is March 8, according to Howard County Elections Administrator Sandra Bloom.

Election day is May 8. For more information on the election or voter registration, contact the Howard County Elections Office at 264-2273.

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

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COURSES

Continued from Page 1

Coahoma High School reported that 1 percent of its graduating class in 2007-2008 took the AP exams, but those results were not released because of confidentiality restrictions, Superintendent Randy Brown said.

TEA figures show that no Forsan High School

seniors took the AP exam in 2007-2008.

Randy Johnson, superintendent of Forsan schools, said the school district has decided within the past few years to concentrate on dual-credit courses through Howard College rather than offering AP classes at Forsan.

"We started looking at statistics and we found that kids who took the AP courses weren't receiving that much col-

lege credit," Johnson said. "So we shifted our attention to dual credit courses.

"A majority of those courses will transfer out of Howard to ... four-year colleges or universities," Johnson said. "We find that better suits our students' needs."

Among students in Texas' high school graduating Class of 2009, 76,875 or 28.7 percent took at least one

AP exam during high school, compared to 26.5 percent for the nation, TEA officials said. That represents a substantial increase from five years ago when 53,339 or 21.8 percent of the state's graduating seniors took an AP test sometime during their high school career.

That 2009 information was not broken down by individual campuses.

SUBWAY

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GUILTY

Continued from Page 1

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The case was investigated by the FBI, with assistance from the San Angelo Police Department and the Texas Department of Public Safety. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Steven M. Sucsy and Amy Burch of the Lubbock U.S. Attorney's Office were in charge of the prosecution.

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

Valentine's Day is celebrated in several different ways. School-aged children exchange cards and have class parties. Couples eat romantic dinners and give cards, candies and other meaningful gifts. Floral arrangements, hugs and kisses transcend all age boundaries as special attention is given to love and romance.

Of course, love should be an every-day lifestyle. In the words of I Corinthians 13, "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails."

The love of Christ is more than an annual, emotional rush; it is an eternal commitment. "By this we know love, because he laid down His life for us..." (1 John 3:16).

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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

Our community colleges aren't part of problem

Word came down last month, in the form of a letter co-signed by Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and Speaker of the House Joe Straus, that Howard College officials, as well as administrators of other Texas higher learning institutions need to trim their budgets.

State leaders are asking Texas' community colleges, universities and selected other agencies to look for ways to trim 5 percent of their expenses to help the state weather the economic downturn.

Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said it was unsure whether the cuts would be required or merely suggested. After a meeting with fellow community college presidents in Austin, however, the cuts are looking more like a certainty, although administrators are awaiting final details.

"The state leadership wants each community college to submit their own plan (for the budget cuts)," Sparks explained.

"But we're still unsure whether the reduction will be for each of the next two years or the biennium as a whole."

As a result, local college officials have begun looking at ways to cut the requested 5 percent from their budget.

Each school and agency's plans are due by Monday, and at some time after that, college officials will know not what to expect, but what they'll have to do.

Locally, losing 5 percent of the state's appropriation would result in an economic hit of around \$600,000 to Howard College and South-West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, according to Sparks.

Such a cut in revenue will definitely hurt, particularly for the state's community colleges, which tend to budget very conservatively, due in large part to having local tax bases.

Sparks was pretty philosophical about the situation, saying, "Building budgets is about making choices and if it comes to that, we certainly will choose accordingly."

But we have to wonder what's really going on here.

Most of us have seen Gov. Perry's campaign advertisements on television, discussing how good the Texas economy is overall, and that his fiscal leadership has resulted in a budget surplus for the state.

If that's the case, why have Sparks and others been asked to cut their budgets by 5 percent?

While we realize that budget tightening is always the aim in Austin these days, you would think Perry, Dewhurst and Straus would realize the state's community colleges aren't part of any perceived problem.

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we have boundless enthusiasm and confidence in our walk with You, Lord.

Amen

Age discrimination for the young

The age of adulthood — and the rights and responsibilities that come with it — is largely a matter of opinion. Age 18 traditionally separates minors from adults. But one can't legally buy a drink in America until age 21. Meanwhile, many states are now sending minors into the adult criminal justice system, even for nonviolent crimes.

Some laws make no sense. For instance, 20 states ban driving while cell-phonning, but only for those under 18. Not only is this activity dangerous for all drivers, teen brains are actually better wired for multitasking than those of 60-year-olds. Many elderly people can no longer safely operate vehicles, but no state automatically takes the keys away for reason of advanced age.

Our society's age-specific approaches often boil down to curbing the freedoms of the young — and increasing their punishments. Such contradictions bother Brian Wilcox, director of the Center on Children, Families and the Law at the University of Nebraska.

"Sometimes we draw these lines because policy makers want to do something about an issue but don't want to offend all the constituents out there," Wilcox told me. "They take the easy route by going after young

people."

Wilcox is especially wary of treating younger adolescents as adults in court. Neuroscience finds that portions of the brain are still developing up through age 25. These areas control "executive decision making," which is the ability to consider a wide range of options and consequences.

"An immature decision maker will often respond with the first course of action that comes to mind," Wilcox says. People of all ages might immediately feel anger after being provoked, but a more mature person will think through the alternatives before acting.

Teens and young adults are better prospects for rehabilitation because they are still forming patterns and habits.

Wilcox points to studies showing that for teens convicted of similar crimes, those that go into the adult system are far more likely to engage in extreme criminal activity when they get out — and end up back in jail.

What happens is that when a teen commits a monstrous crime, it is looped on the cable channels for days. The public imagines a mob of adolescent super-predators and demands they be treated as adults. Some young offenders cannot be safely released into society, of course, but the vast majority of juvenile crimes are against property.

The drinking age has long been a tug-of-war. Is a 19-year-old mature enough to fight in Afghanistan but not to order beer in a bar? Almost every other country

sets the drinking age at 18.

The presidents of 135 colleges have called for lowering the drinking age from 21. They note that the age restriction hasn't stopped binge drinking on campus and argue, not without reason, that it has turned alcohol into forbidden fruit begging to be picked. Perhaps teaching young adults how to drink in moderation is the better way to go.

Rules on permissible ages to have sex have lost much rationality. In 10 states, a single 20-year-old man breaks the law by having sex with a 17-year-old. But, sad to say, many girls today have amassed considerable sexual experience before even graduating from junior high. Is a 15-year-old girl who has had numerous sexual partners to be protected from a 20-year-old male who may not have?

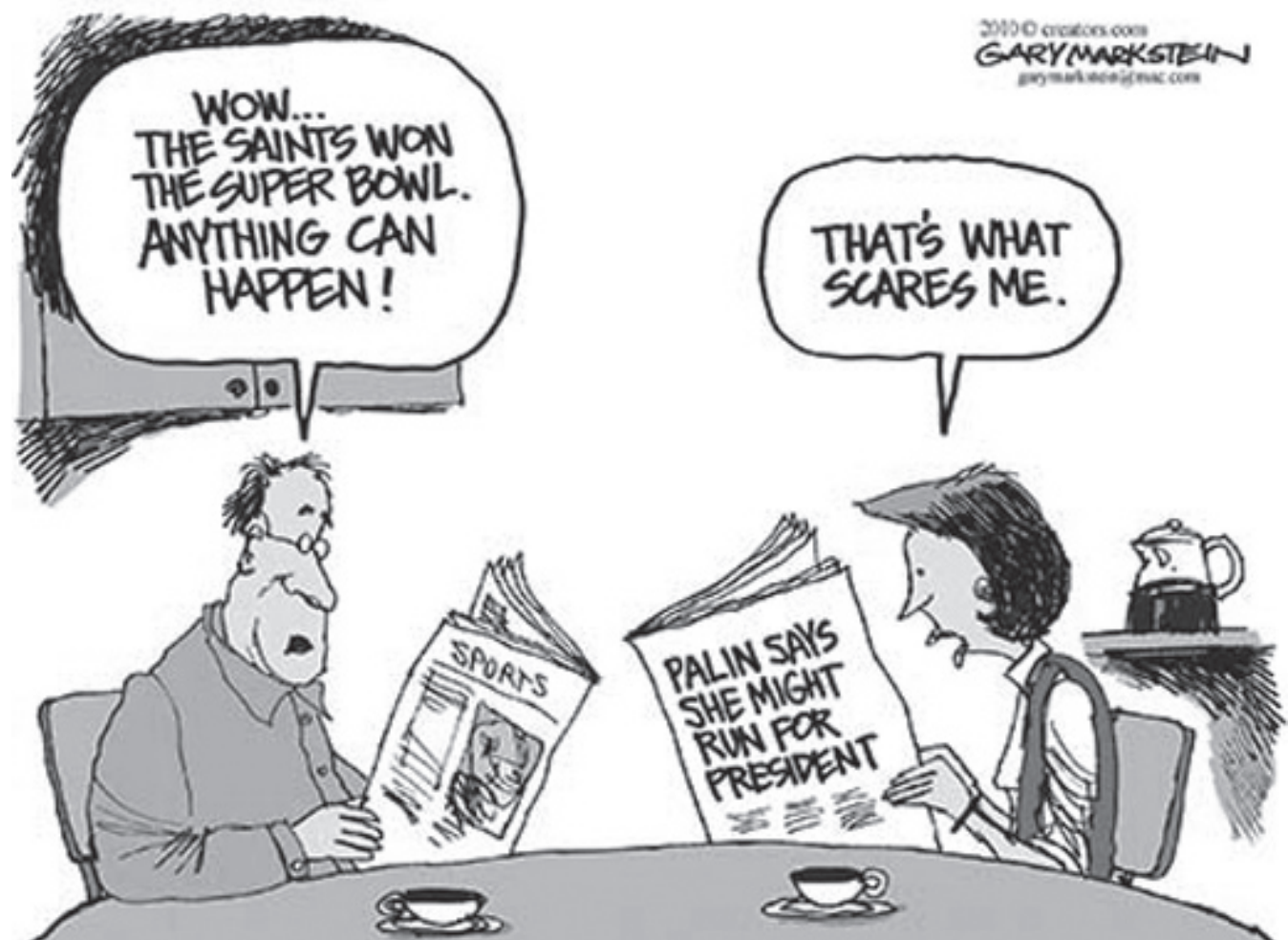
"In a perfect world, we'd have things designed around peoples' capacity," Wilcox said. Some 18-year-olds can drink responsibly, and some 30-year-olds can't.

In our imperfect world, the law has to draw lines, however arbitrary. But laws that only appear to address a problem by burdening young people aren't wise, and they aren't fair.

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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The value of diversity is real

Diversity is not just a nice thing. It isn't just about fairness or equal opportunity. Diversity is good business, essential business, especially for companies that market to women — or are covered by them.

If you have any doubt, consider the iPad.

Is there a woman in America who did not laugh, or at least roll her eyes, the minute she heard that the newest, hottest tablet computer from one of America's most ingenious companies was going to sound like a feminine hygiene product? The iKotex is what most people I know are calling it, with apologies to Kotex.

So where were those women? The short answer is that, plainly, they were not in the room. Go to Apple's home page and look at the pictures and bios of key executives. I'll tell you who you'll find: Steve, Timothy, Scott, Jonathan, Ron, Bob, Peter, Mark, Philip, Bertrand and Bruce. All white, all men. If there is a "top" woman at Apple, at best she's No. 12.

The video released by Apple to trumpet the genius of the iPad (it really does) is equally un-diverse. Only men use the iPad. Only men talk about the iPad. It's almost as bad as the name.

That might work if you were selling jock straps. It doesn't work if you want American consumers — half of whom are women — to buy your product. Even car companies, notoriously male at the top, use women in their promotional campaigns. Did they really think we wouldn't notice?

This is not a new issue at Apple. Every year in my law school class on gender discrimination, we review the latest Catalyst survey of Fortune 500 and Fortune 1000 companies in America that still have no women on their boards of directors, or no women among the top earners. Every year, Apple showed up on both lists.

Finally, in 2008, Apple announced that Andrea Jung, the CEO of Avon (a very un-Apple-like company that is full of women who sell to women, starting at the top), was joining Steve Jobs, Bill Campbell, Millard Drexler, Al Gore, Arthur D. Levinson, Eric Schmidt and Jerry York on its board of directors. Google's Schmidt has since left the board, leaving Andrea and the guys.

I am sure that each and every one of the men who serves in a key position at Apple is more than qualified for his position. But qualifications need to be defined more broadly if they are to reflect accurately what the business really needs. If half of your business depends on women, then there is something wrong with any definition of qualifica-

tions that doesn't take account of diversity.

I am absolutely certain that no one at Apple sat down and decided that women should be excluded from all the top positions. My guess is that the issue just never came up. That's the problem. These days, most discrimination is so totally unconscious that the people involved don't even know they're discriminating. It's just that when they think about who the most qualified person is, they think of someone just like themselves. And when they're sitting in a room full of people who look just like them, it doesn't occur to them that someone is missing.

I know a lot of women who spend their days in front of Apple computers who are almost embarrassed that the company they so love and admire could frankly be so blind and stupid. And finding out why doesn't make it better. This is Apple's chance to change.

Some years ago, a friend was having dinner with a group of male movie executives and agents, when George Burns stopped at their table. He looked at the group, shook his head, and in that special way laughed and said: "Get a dame."

George had Gracie. Apple needs to find some dames. They will make a great company better.

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XFR

Jaguar adds performance R model to luxury XF series

There is a lot of new news to report on Jaguar's popular XF series for the 2010 model year — topping the list is the addition of new engines that are absolutely incredible.

However, the most exciting news is the addition of the XFR, the first XF model to carry the "R" badge, which defines Jaguar's most performance-focused models.

For this review, I had the pleasure (and I do mean it was a pleasure) to spend a week behind the wheel of the 2010 Jaguar XFR.

Powered by a 510 horsepower supercharged V-8 engine, the rear-wheel drive sedan delivers a stunning 0-60 mph time 4.7 seconds with an electronically regulated top speed of 155 mpg.

Mated to an incredible 6-speed automatic transmission and packaged in a top-tier luxury platform, the supercharged XFR is rated as an Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle and delivers an EPA fuel

economy rating of 15 mpg city, 23 mpg highway — not bad for a 510 horsepower sedan that's as quick and nimble as the predatory cat the company is named for.

The XFR is an absolute blast to drive.

As a flagship performance luxury sedan, it features Jaguar's Active Differential Control and Adaptive Dynamics, the electronically controlled differential and suspension system work together to optimize traction under hard acceleration and cornering.

It also incorporates Jaguar Drive Selector transmission interface. When you press the start button, the shift selector pops up from the center console, literally in the palm of your hand. With the turn of the dial, the driver selects the gear setting. You also have the ability for manual shifting during the drive via the paddle shifters mounted on the heated steering wheel.

Yes, I said heated steering wheel.

And yes, I tested this fea-



The new 2010 Jaguar XFR performance sedan.

ture numerous times during the evaluation period, along with the heated and air conditioned sport leather seats that fit your body like a glove.

I'm also a big fan of the Bowers & Wilkins 440-watt audio system with 14 speakers and Dolby ProLogic II surround sound.

While the XFR is the performance flagship of Jaguar's XF lineup, it's important to remember this is a premium luxury sedan.

Everything about this vehicle is first class — from the materials to the fit, finish and craftsmanship to the high-tech amenities. From the minute you open the door, you know immediately you're in the Big Leagues.

I'm also impressed with the new navigation system that now includes turn-by-turn instructions in the message center, clearly indicat-

ing the route with a combination of junction icon, distance countdown details and the street or road name.

Priced at \$80,000 (which includes destination and delivery charge), Jaguar packed a lot of vehicle into the price. I never look at the price until after the test drive. I was really expecting six figures. While \$80,000 is a lot of money (especially for a mild-mannered reporter trying to put three kids through college), the XFR is a heck of a value.

For those in the market for a luxury performance sedan, the XFR is an absolute must for the test drive list. Two very big thumbs up!

Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for more than 20 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association.

RIDE & DRIVE
with Neal White



THE NUTS AND BOLTS



MODEL: 2010 Jaguar XFR 5-seat luxury performance sedan	SUSPENSION: Active Dynamics suspension system.
PRICE RANGE: \$80,000	TRACTION CONTROL: Stability control system
ENGINE: 5.0-L supercharged V8 (510 horsepower/461 torque)	BRAKES: ABS
TRANSMISSION: 6-speed automatic with paddle shifters	LENGTH: 195.3 inches
EPA: 15 mpg city, 23 mpg highway	WIDTH: 80.8 inches
FUEL: Premium unleaded	HEIGHT: 57.5 inches
	WEIGHT: 5,170 lbs.
	TRACK: 61.4/61.8 (front/rear)
	FUEL TANK: 18.4 gallons
	TIRES: 20-inch
	0-60 MPH: 4.7 seconds
	1/4 MILE: 13.1 seconds
	TOP SPEED: 155 mph

Kasual Kooking with Kris

Welcome readers to my world, where I enjoy simple, sometimes quick, but always delicious meals.

The recipe today is one that can be prepared any day of the week, or for that special occasion like the one coming up — to let

your special someone know you care and are thinking of them without the hard work ... shhh, it's our secret.

The variations for this recipe can easily be added or removed: boneless/skinless chicken breast, sliced mushrooms, shrimp,

canned or fresh oysters and even fresh grilled tuna steaks sliced, makes this delicious instead of the everyday ho hum, what's for dinner.

The base of this sauce is for a fancy term white sauce, but to most Texans it's called gravy, combining butter, flour and liquid of water and/or milk.

I use lemon juice/lemon zest and white wine (any drinking wine) in this recipe which goes well with any of the variations, but by removing the lemon and wine flavor you still have your delicious, simple white Alfredo sauce. The magic is in the garlic. Enjoy!

—Kris Soliz

Creamy Lemon Alfredo With Pasta
1 stick butter

3 garlic cloves minced
1 tbsp lemon zest
1/2 cup lemon juice
4 tbsp flour
1/2 cup white wine (drinking wine)
1 1/2 cup water
1/2 cup of 2% milk or heavy cream
1/2 cup of shredded parmesan cheese
1-2 boxes or 1-2 lbs of choice of pasta (short, long doesn't matter)

While pasta is cooking according to directions, combine butter and minced garlic in a large pot on med-med/high heat, allowing garlic to lightly saute. When butter is melted, whisk in the flour and let cook for about one minute. Continue whisking and add lemon juice/zest and wine, then add 1 cup of the water, reserving the remaining water to add later if the sauce

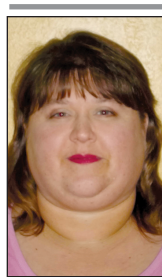
becomes too thick.

Whisking often, let the sauce come to a soft rolling boil and turn heat to medium, continuing to thicken. Add milk and cheese and more water for desired

thinness. When the sauce is of desired consistency, keep warm until pasta is done.

Drain pasta and place into serving bowl. Add sauce, stirring gently until pasta is coated.

Serve with fresh green salad or veggio of choice and French bread.



KRIS SOLIZ



Guest Speakers

April Renée

Keynote speaker for VIC (Vaccine Information Coalition) & former President of TAAP (the Autism Autoimmunity Project). Her presentation is over 20 years of research and facts of exposing the dangers, including the upcoming H1N1 swine

&

Gary L. Tunsky

Cellular Disease Specialist

International speaker/author and represents (PHT) Precision Healing Technologies. He is a traditional naturopath and has a 24-year diverse background in a wide array of healing arts. He has opened up new doors to the world of customized human cell restoration treatment protocols. His non-toxic, non-invasive cellular treatment strategies are directed to a wide spectrum of degenerative, metabolic and autoimmune disorders that are so prevalent in the 21st century. He will be scheduling private consultations after the event.

**First United Methodist
Garrett Hall Bldg.
400 Scurry**

Open To Public

Saturday, Feb. 13, 2010 • 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Limited Seating, so please RSVP by calling Pastor Hernandez @ 432-935-0341

VIC (Vaccine Information Coalition)

"Please learn from our mistake and educate **BEFORE** you vaccinate!"

Autism is 1 in 67 children today and it's impossible to have a genetic epidemic.

For more information visit www.vacinfo.org, email VIC@vacinfo.org or call 800-939-8227



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- Timothy D. Yeats -

For more information, go to www.yeatsforjudge.com

News in brief

Iranian president announces new advance in nuclear program

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad claimed Thursday that Iran has produced its first batch of uranium enriched to a higher level, saying his country will not be bullied by the West into curtailing its nuclear program a day after the U.S. imposed new sanctions.

Ahmadinejad reiterated to hundreds of thousands of cheering Iranians on the anniversary of the 1979 foundation of the Islamic republic that the country was now a "nuclear state," an announcement he's made before. He insisted that Iran had no intention of building nuclear weapons.

It was not clear how much enriched material had actually been produced just two days after the process was announced to have started.

The United States and some of its allies accuse Tehran of using its civilian nuclear program as a cover to build nuclear weapons but Tehran denies the charge, saying the program is just geared toward generating electricity.

"I want to announce with a loud voice here that the first package of 20 percent fuel was produced and provided to the scientists," he said.

Enriching uranium produces fuel for a nuclear power plants but can also be used to create material for atomic weapons if enriched further to 90 percent or more.

Back-to-back blizzards help East Coast eclipse seasonal snow totals

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The second of back-to-back blizzards that smothered the East Coast and eclipsed seasonal snowfall records with more than a month of winter remaining had tapered off by Thursday, although governments and schools remained closed to contend with the aftermath.

In Washington, D.C., the federal government planned to be closed for a fourth straight day, while city agencies and schools in the hardest-hit regions also scored snow days. The nation's capital joined Philadelphia and Baltimore in logging their snowiest winters in history.

"It seemed extreme, what they were predicting," said custodial worker Robert Valasquez, of South Philadelphia, as he walked to a downtown subway station on Wednesday afternoon for a ride home from his job. "How am I going to get to work tomorrow? I don't even know if it will be possible."

Road crews worked to clear Interstate 76 and I-676 in Philadelphia, which closed Wednesday to leave the city of 1.5 million residents with only

one usable major artery. Authorities said early Thursday they would reopen the two routes.

Elsewhere, emergency officials in eastern Pennsylvania reported more than 200 vehicles, mostly trucks, stranded for half of Wednesday along I-78 as snow was falling at about 2 inches an hour. Berks County Emergency Services Director Theodore Cole said gasoline, food and water were delivered to the stranded drivers before plows could clear paths for them by midnight, but the roadway remained closed.

Rally marks anniversary of Iran's Islamic Revolution, police clash with protesters

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of government supporters massed Thursday in central Tehran to mark the anniversary of the revolution that created Iran's Islamic republic, while a heavy security force that fanned across the city moved quickly to snuff out counterprotests by the opposition.

Police clashed with protesters in several sites around Tehran, firing tear gas to disperse them and paintballs to mark them for arrest, opposition Web sites reported. Dozens of hard-liners with batons and pepper spray attacked the convoy of a senior opposition leader, Mahdi Karroubi, as he tried to join the protests, his son Hossein Karroubi told The Associated Press.

The attackers — believed to be members of the Basij civilian militia — damaged several cars and smashed windows on Karroubi's car, though he escaped unharmed, he said.

Security forces also briefly detained the granddaughter of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the architect of the 1979 Islamic Revolution, and her husband, who are both senior pro-reform politicians, according to the couple's son, Ali.

The granddaughter, Zahra Eshraghi, and her husband Mohammad Reza Khatami, who is the brother of a former pro-reform president, were held for less than an hour before being released, his son told the AP.

Tehran residents also reported Internet speeds dropping dramatically and e-mail services such as Gmail being blocked in a common government tactic to foil opposition attempts to organize.

Taliban, Marines exchange fire as Afghan battle for southern town of Marjah looms

NEAR MARJAH, Afghanistan (AP) — U.S. Marines and Taliban insurgents exchanged gunfire Thursday on the outskirts of Marjah, a southern militant stronghold where American and Afghan forces are expected to launch a major attack in the coming days.

To the north, a U.S.-Afghan force led by the U.S. Army's 5th Stryker Brigade linked up with Marines on Thursday, closing off a Taliban escape route to the nearby major city of Lashkar Gah.

No casualties were reported in the scattered clashes, which broke out as Marines moved ever

closer to the edge of the farming community of 80,000 people, the linchpin of Taliban influence in the opium poppy producing province of Helmand.

Marines said the Taliban defenders were apparently trying to draw the Americans into a bigger fight before the U.S. was ready to launch the main attack.

U.S. commanders estimate they are facing between 400 and 1,000 Taliban fighters in the town, the largest in the south under militant control. Plans call for the joint U.S.-Afghan force to seize the town and quickly re-establish government control, offering services such as water, electricity and schooling to win the support of the local population.

Foreclosure rate down from December to January

The number of U.S. households facing foreclosure in January increased 15 percent from the same month last year, and a surge in cash-strapped homeowners who've fallen behind on mortgages could be on the way.

More than 315,000 households received a foreclosure-related notice in January, RealtyTrac Inc. reported Thursday. That number is down nearly 10 percent from 349,000 in December, which saw the third highest total since the company began tracking foreclosure data in 2005.

In January, one in 409 homes were sent a filing, which includes default notices, scheduled foreclosure auctions and bank repossessions. Banks repossessed more than 87,000 homes last month, down 5 percent from December but still up 31 percent from January 2009.

January marked the 11th straight month with more than 300,000 properties receiving a foreclosure filing. The numbers could stay above that level as unemployed homeowners who have tried to keep up with their mortgages finally start missing monthly payments.

Bipartisan jobs bill might help Obama and GOP but not many of the unemployed

WASHINGTON (AP) — There's a problem with the bipartisan jobs bill emerging in the Senate: It won't create many jobs.

The bill includes tax cuts to please Republicans and its passage would hand President Barack Obama a badly needed political victory. But even the Obama administration acknowledges the legislation's centerpiece — a tax cut for businesses that hire unemployed workers — would work only on the margins.

Tax experts and business leaders said companies are unlikely to hire workers just to receive a tax break. Before businesses start hiring, they need increased demand for their products, more work for their employees and more revenue to pay those workers.

"We're skeptical that it's going to be a big job creator," said Bill Rys, tax counsel for the National Federation of Independent Business. "There's certainly nothing wrong with giving a tax break to a business that's hired a new worker, especially in these tough times. But in terms of being an incentive to hire a lot of workers, we're skeptical."

The bipartisan Senate plan would exempt businesses from paying a 6.2 percent Social Security tax on the wages of new employees, as long as the workers have been unemployed at least 60 days. The tax break would run through the end of the year.

Ukraine prime minister resists calls to concede presidential election and resign

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine's embattled Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko is continuing to resist calls to concede defeat in Sunday's presidential election and resign her post.


Tymoshenko, looking tense but determined, appeared Thursday before the media for the first time since Sunday's election to chair a government meeting.

She did not comment on the elections but took a swipe at the pro-Russian opposition leader Viktor Yanukovich, her rival in the presidential race. She accused him of deceiving the public.

Refusal to admit defeat in Sunday's vote signals that the pro-Western Tymoshenko is digging in for a power struggle with Yanukovich.

An official preliminary vote count Wednesday showed Yanukovich beating Tymoshenko by a margin of 3.5 percentage points.

Contract Bridge



By Steve Becker

Camouflage

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠4			
♥A Q 10 8			
♦K 9 5 2			
♣A K 6 3			

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

SOUTH
♠A K Q J 9 7 3
♥J 9 3
♦10 4
♣5

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	4♠	

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

Part of the skill in dummy play consists of giving as little information as possible to the defenders about your hand. For example, take this deal where South is in four spades.

First let's have him play the hand incorrectly. He wins the club lead with the king and cashes the ace, discarding a diamond. He then plays four rounds of trumps and finesses the jack of hearts, losing to the king. East doesn't have to be a genius to know that he should now cash the ace of diamonds to hold South to 11

tricks.

At this point, East can count that declarer has seven trump tricks, the A-K of clubs and the three heart tricks visible in dummy for a total of 12 tricks. So it becomes obvious to East that if he doesn't cash the diamond ace, it will go down the drain.

Now let's go back and have South play his cards a bit less revealingly. He wins the club in dummy and leads a spade to the ace. (There is no good reason to take an immediate discard on the ace of clubs, which would reveal that South started with only one club.)

Declarer next leads the three of hearts to the queen. He does not extract trumps first, which would disclose his trump holding. Also, he does not lead the jack of hearts. He allows each defender to think that the other might have the jack and that dummy's hearts might therefore not be solid.

East wins the heart queen with the king but does not know that he must now cash the ace of diamonds or lose it. From East's point of view, West might have the intermediate hearts, so East may return a spade or a club.

It is true that on this deal only 30 points are at stake, but there's no harm in perfecting your technique for those times when it really matters.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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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.

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



There are Cupids hiding in the Classifieds!!

Look for the Cupid in the Classified Pages

from now until February 14th
Count them & drop off ballot at the

HERALD

By Noon Wednesday, February 17

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Number of cupids Feb. 1 to Feb. 14 _____

Win A \$25 Gift Card

by submitting the number of correct cupids between Feb. 1 to Feb. 14.

Duke tops rival Carolina in gritty 64-54 win

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — The shots kept clanging off the rim — open look after open look — yet Mike Krzyzewski repeatedly told his Duke players not to get frustrated. Eventually, he told them, the shots would fall.

Once they did, the eighth-ranked Blue Devils grabbed control against their fiercest rival.

Jon Scheyer scored 24

points and Duke pulled away in the final minutes to beat North Carolina 64-54 on Wednesday night, snapping a three-game losing streak in the series.

Kyle Singler added 19 points for the Blue Devils (20-4, 8-2 Atlantic Coast Conference), who shot poorly all night. But boasting a bigger and tougher front line than in years past, Duke dominated the boards and got plenty of extra looks

to make up for all those misses.

It wasn't pretty offensive basketball for either team, with few three-point chances and both teams working for open looks in a game that turned into a halfcourt tussle. It was the lowest-scoring game in the series since Duke's 60-48 win in the 2002 ACC tournament.

"I thought it was a gritty performance," Krzyzewski said. "The ball was not going in

and they blocked a lot of shots. ... For us to keep up our defense and rebounding when the ball wasn't going in the basket was a big thing."

The Blue Devils had lost six of seven meetings during a stretch that seemed to signal a shift in power between the programs back to the light blue in Chapel Hill. North Carolina (13-11, 2-7) has won two national championships, including last year in Detroit,

since Duke last went to a Final Four in 2004.

Making things more satisfying for Duke, this win came on a night when the Tar Heels retired the No. 50 jersey of four-year star Tyler Hansbrough, who graduated as the storied program's leading scorer and rebounder and the top scorer in ACC history.

"It just sucks losing to these guys," said Nolan Smith, who managed 10 points on 4 for 14 shoot-

ing. "To do it the amount of games we did in a row, and now to finally get this win, it feels great. We played a great game and hopefully we can start this stretch of us winning games against them."

Much like that low-scoring game in '02, this loss only added to the Tar Heels' misery in a season that is slipping away. North Carolina has lost

See **DUKE**, Page 12

Howard to travel to NMMI tonight

Herald Staff Report

ROS WELL, N.M. — The Howard College Hawks have worn out their bus this week.

On the heels of a trip to Hobbs, N.M., on Monday to New Mexico Junior College, the Hawks travel tonight to Roswell, N.M., on a 225-mile road trip to take on New Mexico Military Institute.

The Hawks easily dispatched NMJC 69-43 Monday in Hobbs, thanks to 20 points and six steals from swingman Jae Crowder and 17 from wing Carlos Emory.

"These games are really important for us," Crowder said Monday after the NMJC game. "We can't let (NMMI) slide by on the road, and then we'll be looking forward to a big game on Monday."

That game is an all-important showdown between No. 1 Midland, — still undefeated at 25-0 — and the Hawks, who are ranked No. 4 in this week's NJCAA Division I poll. They moved up from a No. 6 ranking last week.

"At least we're putting ourselves in a position to make that a big game," head coach Mark Adams said



HERALD PHOTO/Tony Claxton

The Hawks' Jae Crowder dunks a ball Monday against New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs, N.M. Crowder and the Hawks are ranked No. 4 in the nation as they travel to New Mexico Military Institute tonight.

Monday. "But we've still got one more to go."

NMMI is 1-8 in conference and has lost its last five games, includ-

ing a 70-60 defeat at the hands of Howard in Big Spring on Jan. 18.

But at home, the Broncos nearly took down South Plains and

NMJC, losing each of those by five points or less.

Tipoff in Roswell is 8:45 p.m. local time tonight.

Norwegian aims to be best Winter Olympian

Associated Press

Ole Einar Bjoerndalen was perhaps the only athlete to leave the Turin Olympics with three medals and a sense of disappointment.

Sure, he added to his already impressive medal haul, which is now up to nine. But after this setback in 2006 — and yes, for Bjoerndalen two silvers and a bronze can be called a setback — the Norwegian biathlon star remains three gold medals short of ranking as the greatest Winter Olympian of all time.

"To medal three times is good," Bjoerndalen said in a recent phone interview. "But in Norway, it's much better to have one gold than three medals."

Especially when you're chasing history.

Having won five gold medals in first two Olympics — including a sweep of all four events at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games — Bjoerndalen was widely expected to one day break cross-country skier Bjoern Daehlie's record of eight. But even though age hasn't managed to slow the 36-year-

old Bjoerndalen down yet, time is running out on that quest.

That means there's no room for slip-ups in Vancouver.

"Bjoern was and is the biggest winter sports Olympian," Bjoerndalen said of his fellow Norwegian. "To reach him will be really difficult. But I'll do my best."

He'll have five opportunities at these games to get gold No. 6 — and possibly 7 and 8 — and is among the favorites in every race. However, few expect Bjoerndalen to repeat his feat from

2002 and monopolize the top of the podium this time. Even his own goal — the one he'll state publicly at least — is fairly modest.

"If I get to be on the podium two times I'll be happy," he said. "The level now is so strong, and it's so hard to win a race."

Regardless of how things turn out, the comparisons to Daehlie are likely to continue.

Both skiers were equally dominant when at the height of their careers and are seen as

See **OLYMPICS**, 12

Big Spring tennis earns 3rd in Andrews

Herald Staff Report

ANDREWS — Big Spring netters earned a third place finish out of eight teams competing in the Andrews Invitational last weekend.

Steers earned four medals on the weekend, finishing two first place finishes from Kristina Chang in girls singles and Jeremy Langford and Jonathan Ray in boys doubles.

Alyssa Byrd and C.J. Burleson took third in mixed doubles and Mikael Gonzales took fourth in boys singles.

Others competing include Reba Smith, girls singles; Connor Furguerson, boys singles;

Jesi Coates and Mariah Horvatic, girls doubles; Andrea Cansino and Nikita Wagner, girls doubles; Tyler McKinley and Chad Bowles, boys doubles; and Seth Yarbar and Anna Scott, mixed doubles.

Big Spring netters will be in action again this weekend in the Odessa Invitational, not the Lake View Tournament as was originally scheduled. Check the Herald for results.

Note: Junior varsity tennis scheduled for today at San Angelo Lake View High School has been canceled. The next junior varsity event is scheduled for March 30 in Snyder.

Texas: recruiting rule change slights 'Horns

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds says the Longhorns football program was 'singled out' by a new NCAA rule that drastically limits recruiting by defensive coordinator Will Muschamp, the Longhorns' head-coach-in-waiting.

The rule states assistants "publicly designated" to be the next head coach are now bound by the same recruiting rules as the current head coach. That means Muschamp can make only one off-campus visit with a prospect and it can't be during the critical spring evaluation period of April 15-May 31. Other assistants can have multiple off-campus visits.

The only other major college football program impacted by the rule is Maryland, where offensive coordinator James Franklin has been designated to succeed Ralph Friedgen.

"Obviously, since this legislation impacts

only two programs in the country, we feel we are being singled out," said Dodds, who first spoke to Orangebloods.com about the rule and later released a prepared statement Wednesday.

"We are exploring our options for legislative relief within the NCAA process, since we believe this places our program at a direct disadvantage. Will is our head coach-in-waiting but he is also our defensive coordinator, and this legislation restricts his ability to perform his current job duties," Dodds said.

Texas could try to have the rule changed at the next NCAA meeting in April. An NCAA spokesman did not immediately return a telephone message.

Texas announced in November 2008 that Muschamp was in line to eventually replace Mack Brown. The recruiting rule change was proposed by the Big East conference in June 2009. It was approved at the

See **TEXAS**, Page 11

Sports in brief

Girls basketball play-in game scheduled in Trent

The Big Spring Lady Steers basketball play-in game against Lake View has been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Friday in Trent.

The Lady Steers beat Lake View 45-43 in double overtime Tuesday to force a game for the last play-off spot.

The winner will move on to play Canyon High, which is ranked No. 2 in the latest 4A basketball poll.

HC softball, baseball games canceled, moved

The Howard College softball game scheduled for today in Cisco has been canceled, as has been the team's participation in the Cowtown Tourney in Fort Worth this weekend.

The Hawk baseball team's scheduled tournament in Corsicana has been moved. The Hawks will play Grayson and Navarro at San Jacinto College on Saturday and San Jacinto at the same location on Sunday. Check the *Herald* for results.

Get in free to Monday's Howard vs. Midland game

Wear red or black and get in free to the Howard Hawks' basketball game against Midland College on Monday.

Women tipoff at 5:45 p.m., followed by the No. 1 Chaps vs. the No. 4 Hawks at 7:45 p.m.

There will be a Great Western Dining spaghetti supper at 5 p.m. in the foyer. Cost is \$5 per plate.

Note: Saturday's practice game between Wall and Levelland will cost \$4 for adults, \$3 for students.



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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The conjunction of Venus and Neptune seems a dim memory now, but try not to forget about the interesting developments in love and spirituality that have recently occurred. Follow through with connections. Make a few phone calls. There's a lull in the action as the moon goes void of course, so it will be easier to get people on the line.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The very old and the very young will need your patient, gentle assistance. Helping in this way connects you to your higher self and brings a sense of peace and calm.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll apply yourself to a task for which you feel extremely capable. However, mistakes are still a possibility. So even though you believe in yourself, leave room to listen and learn from others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Each action you take, even during your downtime, contributes to your success. You start tomorrow off right by doing positive things with your evening hours.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Hopefully, you'll put yourself in a position to lead others, because you will make an excellent guide. When people wander away from what's important, you'll get them back on track.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A project or relationship is coming to its natural conclusion, at least for this chapter. Keep in mind the cyclical nature of life. Endings are also beginnings. Stay upbeat. Move toward the sun.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People put so much trust in you that they are likely to ask you to do things that are difficult and inconvenient, if not impossible. It's like they think you're a superhero. And maybe you are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Stay strong and confident. Don't be

tricked into thinking that other people know more than you. They know different, not more. And you are capable of learning whatever you need to know to grow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You've done an excellent job with a project. Make sure people hear about it. You'll find a way to talk about how happy you are with the results without sounding like you are tooting your own horn.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your scene livens up as you get something you didn't expect. You enjoy being thrown a bit off balance because it requires you to spring into action, adjusting to meet the demands of the moment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You might not fit naturally into a group or situation, but with a little ingenuity, you'll find a way to groove with the others. In fact, it's not difficult for you to carve out an incredibly cool niche for yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are talented at forecasting. Peek into the future. Consider the long-term results of your actions. Don't take the easy route unless you're sure that it is also the best route.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are on the radar for higher-ups. Someone is considering you for a special job. Socially, you are also in demand. And you're so intuitive that you may be able to feel people thinking about you.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 11). You will accomplish what you set out to do. So the key is to consciously make your goals instead of settling for the unconscious aims that come from a less ambitious and optimistic part of you. Sweet supporters come out of the woodwork over the next five weeks. A cash bonus in May gets you off to a lucrative start. Libra and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 10, 4, 23 and 18.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Both of Aquarius Jennifer Aniston's parents are actors, and yet this bright star of the screen still had to earn her way into the limelight. The assortment of odd jobs she had before she hit the big time has informed many of her acting roles and given her performances an authenticity that keeps audiences coming back for more. Aniston has her natal Venus and Saturn (love and lessons) in fiery Aries.

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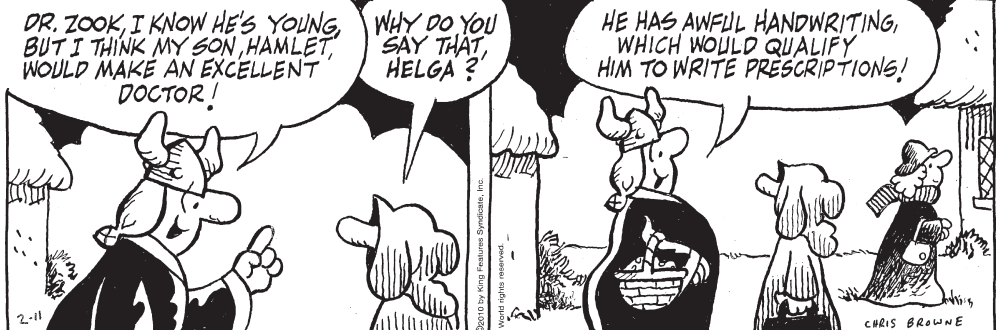
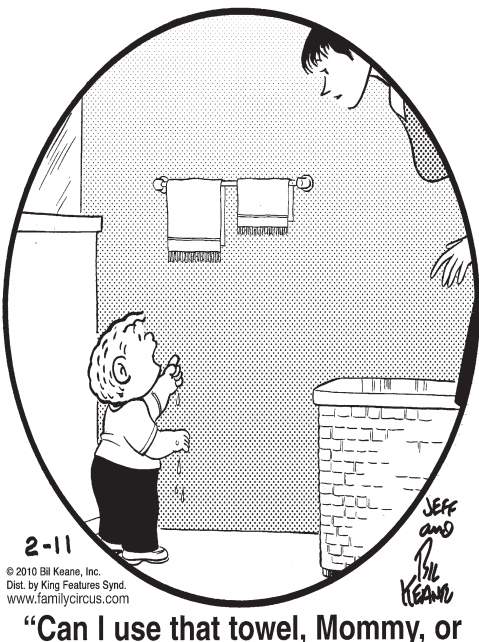
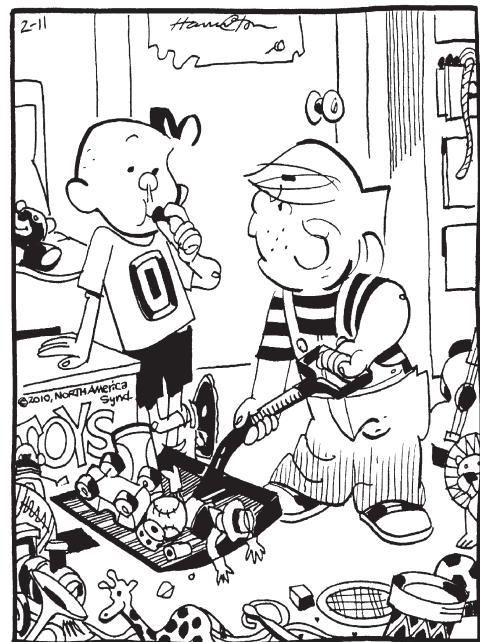
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Table with 27 columns representing different TV channels and their respective programming for the day of February 11, 2010.

DENNIS THE MENACE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

HAGAR



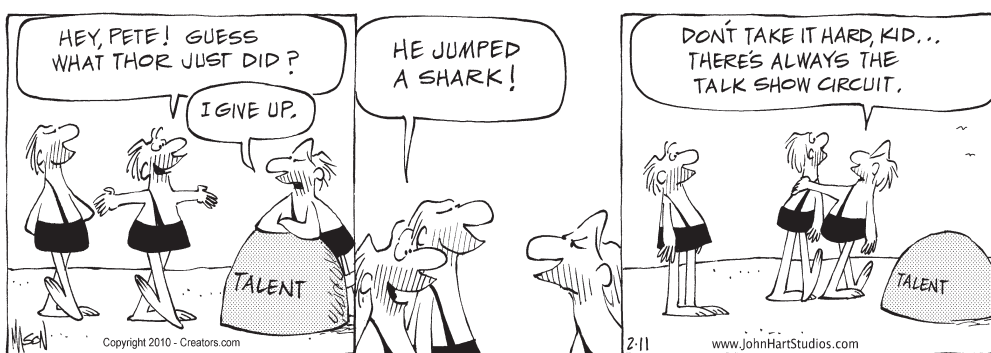
"THIS WORKS GREAT! OPEN THE TOY CHEST, JOEY!"

"Can I use that towel, Mommy, or is it just for normal people?"

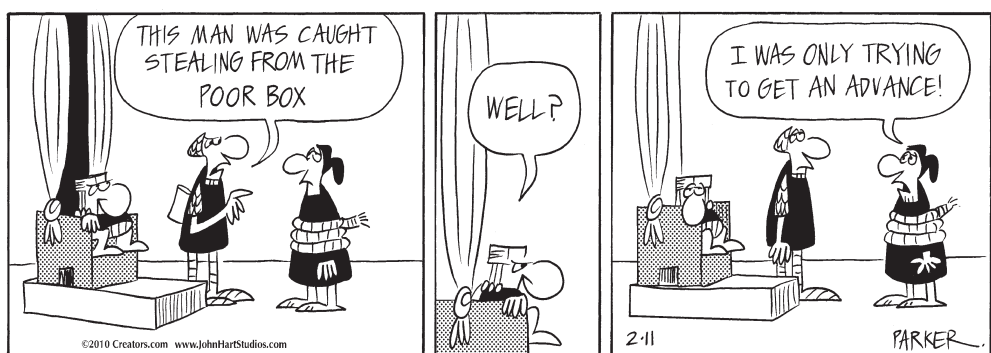
BLONDIE



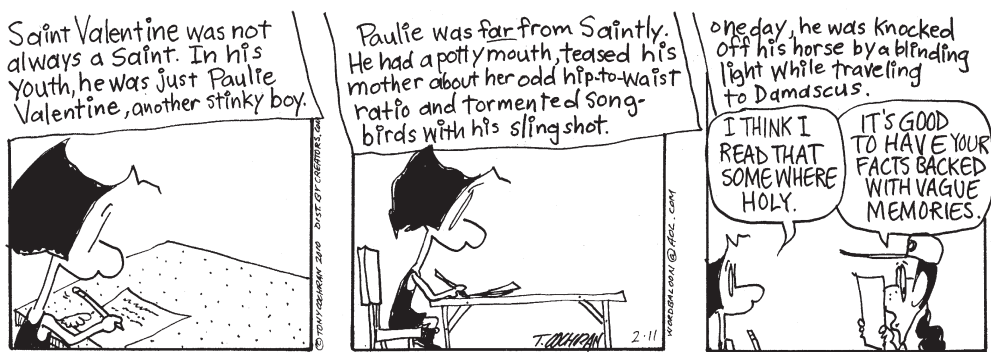
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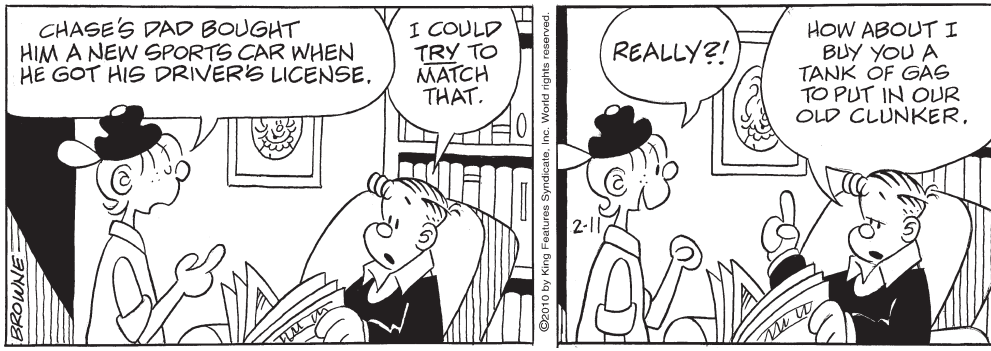
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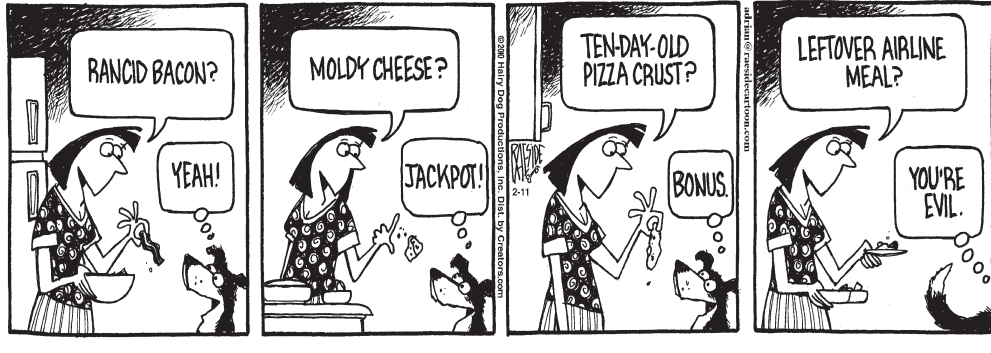
AGNES



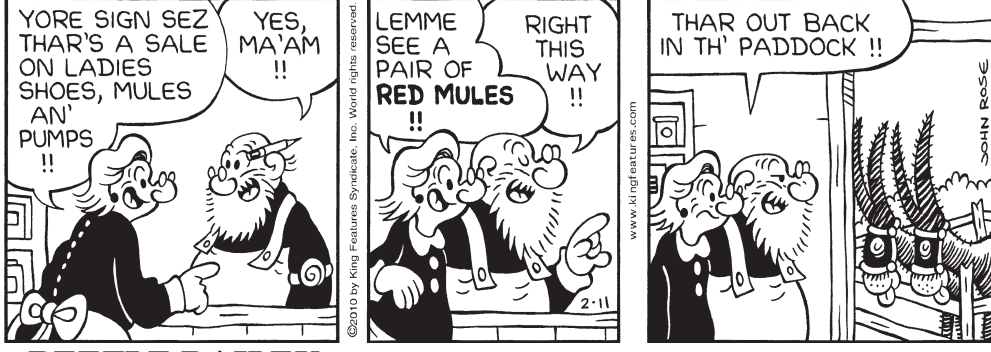
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Feb. 11, the 42nd day of 2010. There are 323 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 11, 1960, "Tonight Show" host Jack Paar stunned his audience by walking off the program in a dispute with NBC over its decision to censor an anecdote he'd quoted the night before...

accepted that the visions were of the Virgin Mary.)

In 1861, President-elect Abraham Lincoln departed Springfield, Ill. for Washington.

In 1929, the Lateran Treaty was signed, with Italy recognizing the independence and sovereignty of Vatican City.

In 1937, a six-week-old sit-down strike against General Motors ended, with the company agreeing to recognize the United Automobile Workers Union.

In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin signed the Yalta Agreement during World War II.

In 1975, Margaret Thatcher was elected leader of Britain's opposition Conservative Party.

In 1979, followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (hoh-MAY-nee) seized power in Iran.

In 1989, Reverend Barbara C. Harris became the first woman consecrated as a bishop in the Episcopal Church, in a ceremony held in Boston.

In 1990, South African black activist Nelson Mandela was freed after 27 years in captivity.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Leslie Nielsen is 84. Actor Conrad Janis is 82. Actress Tina Louise is 76. Actor Burt Reynolds is 74. Songwriter Gerry Goffin is 71. Actor Sonny Landham is 69. Bandleader Sergio Mendes is 69. Rhythm-and-blues singer Otis Clay is 68. Actor Philip Anglim is 58. Actress Catherine Hickland is 54. Rock musician David Uosikkinen (aw-SIK'-ken-ihn) (The Hooters) is 54. Actress Carey Lowell is 49. Singer Sheryl Crow is 48. Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin is 46. Actress Jennifer Aniston is 41. Actor Damian Lewis is 39. Actress Marisa Petroni is 38. Singer D'Angelo is 36. Actor Brice Beckham is 34.

Answer to previous puzzle: A crossword puzzle grid with answers filled in.

Newsday Crossword

Newsday Crossword puzzle grid with clues for across and down words.

TIEUPS by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

SPORTS BRIEFS

McCoy's dad to leave coaching profession

GRAHAM, Texas (AP) — Colt McCoy's dad and high school coach is leaving the profession to go to work for a company that specializes in educator training and leadership.

Brad McCoy said Wednesday he has resigned as head coach and athletic director at Graham High School to join The Flippen Group. He said the College Station-based company is expanding its reach to include athletics.

Colt McCoy played for his dad at Jim Ned High School in tiny Tuscola before becoming the winningest college quarterback in history with the Texas Longhorns.

Colt McCoy's youngest brother, Case McCoy, is also headed to Texas after playing for his dad at Graham. The Steers lost in the Class 3A Division II state championship game in December.

Hicks spent \$85 million on Rangers, Stars

DALLAS (AP) — Tom Hicks says he put \$85 million of his own money into Hicks Sports Group to cover operating costs of the NHL's Dallas Stars and baseball's Texas Rangers over a two-year period through last March.

Hicks made that revelation Monday. It was his first public comment since Hicks Sports Group announced last week that it had retained Galatioto Sports Partners to seek new investors and a possible buyer of a majority stake in the NHL team. An agreement was reached last month by Hicks Sports Group to sell the Rangers, a transaction that could be completed before the baseball season opens in

April.

The personal loans by Hicks ended before Hicks Sports Group defaulted on \$525 million in loans backed by the Stars and Rangers.

Shin bruise may keep U.S. skier out

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — U.S. skiing star Lindsey Vonn is worried a badly bruised right shin will keep her out of the Vancouver Olympics.

Vonn revealed that she was injured in a slalom training run Feb. 2 during pre-Olympic practice in Austria.

She says she questions whether "I'll be even able to ski."

Vonn is the two-time reigning overall World Cup champion and considered a multiple-medal threat at the Vancouver Olympics, which open Friday.

The first women's Alpine race is the super-combined on Sunday.

James, Wade, Bryand on U.S. national roster

NEW YORK (AP) — LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Kobe Bryant joined six others from the reigning Olympic champions who are among 27 players on the U.S. national team roster.

The players will be candidates for this summer's world championships and the 2012 Olympics in London.

Also returning from the team that ended the Americans' eight-year gold medal drought in major competitions are: Chris Bosh, Chris Paul, Dwight Howard, Carmelo Anthony, Deron Williams and Carlos Boozer.

Young stars Kevin Durant and Derrick Rose are also on the roster.

TEXAS

Continued from Page 7

NCAA convention last month, about two weeks before the Feb. 3 national signing day.

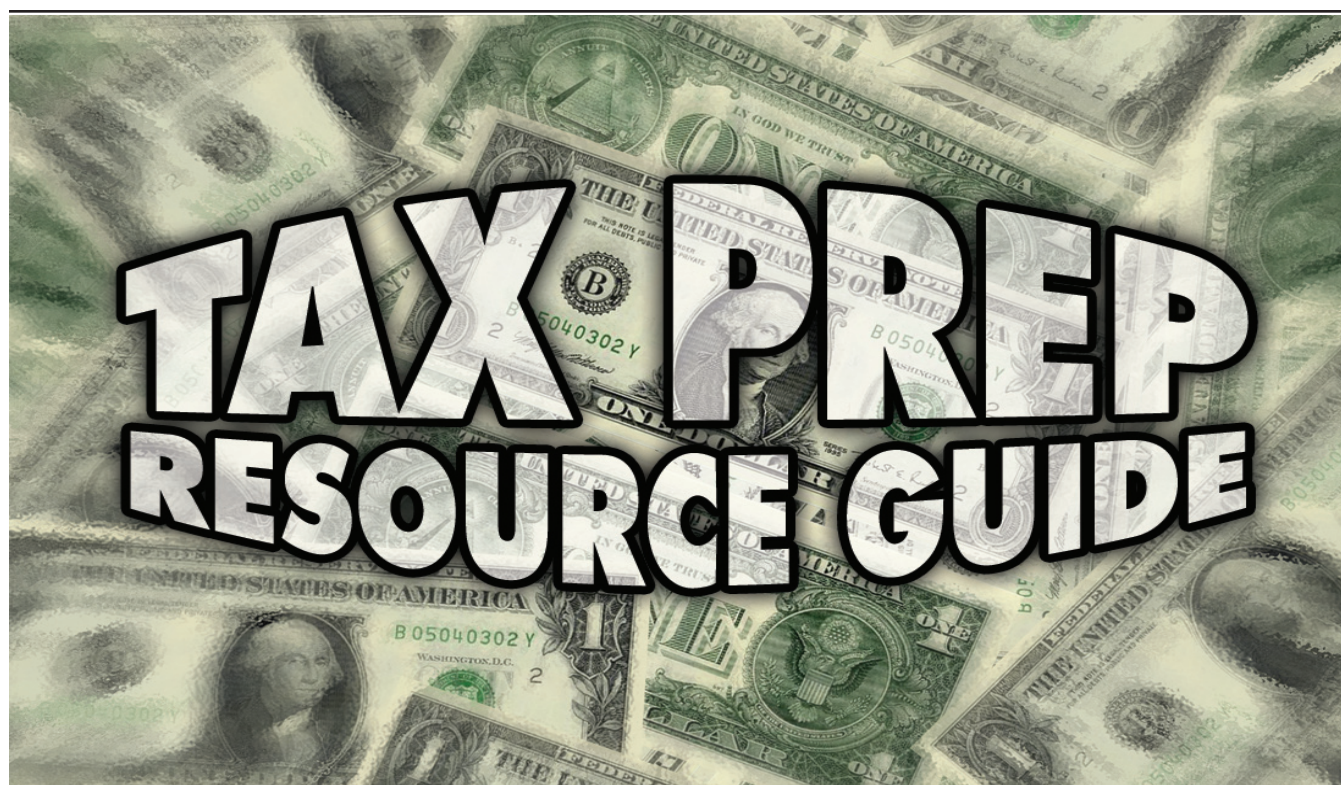
Texas officials said Muschamp adhered to the new rule in the final days before the Longhorns signed a recruiting class experts rated among the best in the country.

Texas is now concerned about the upcoming spring recruiting window when Muschamp, one of Texas' best and most aggressive recruiters, will be confined to

campus.

The rule change was supported at the convention by the football issues committee. The rationale was that recruiting by a "head coach in waiting" creates a competitive advantage for a program at a time when the NCAA has moved to curb off-campus recruiting by head coaches.

The change was not supported by the NCAA's recruiting cabinet, which noted that designating an assistant as a future head coach is likely to happen several years before the coach is promoted.



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DUKE

Continued from Page 7

eight of 10, including four in a row overall to fall near the bottom of the league standings.

The Tar Heels shot a season-low 35 percent and finished with its lowest point total in seven years under Roy Williams.

"We were right there and there's been a lot of games where we've been right there and one stretch made it worse than it was," said Will Graves, who had a

team-high 13 points. "I don't take a moral victory from it. We've got to keep coming back to work."

The rivalry game might have lost some luster this time around due to North Carolina's struggles and Duke looking like a good, but hardly great, team. Still, this one ended up fitting right in with college basketball's fiercest rivalry, with neither team leading by more than six in the first 30 minutes and going into the final eight minutes tied before the Blue Devils took con-

trol. Duke hit nine 3-pointers, but shot 32 percent overall and went 13 for 51 (25 percent) from inside the arc. The Blue Devils helped themselves, however, by finishing with a 51-42 rebounding advantage and converting 23 offensive rebounds into 21 second-chance points.

The Tar Heels played with plenty of defensive intensity and focus much of the night, getting six blocked shots from Ed Davis and four more from freshman John Henson. They

even led 43-39 on a transition layup from Dexter Strickland with about 12 minutes left to send the packed house in the Smith Center into a furious roar.

But the Blue Devils — despite their road struggles this season — never looked rattled.

"You just need big plays, especially on the road," Scheyer said. "Coach said the whole game, 'Don't worry about missing shots. Just keep shooting,' and that's what we were going to do."

In an example of how from a seemingly endless stream of youthful energy that has helped keep him at the top of his sport for more than a decade.

"I find it almost scary how charged up, how motivated Ole always is," said Michael Greis, the German who took Bjoerndalen's place as the star of the Turin Games, where he won three golds.

Bjoerndalen returned to the summit at least year's world championships in Pyeongchang, South Korea, where he won three individual titles and anchored Norway's winning relay team. That brought his number of world titles to 14 since 1998, and proved that he is still the man to beat in the big championships.

"That definitely helps my confidence a lot" going into Vancouver, Bjoerndalen said. "But it's also really dangerous, because you can't

the Blue Devils persevered all night, Duke went ahead for good when freshman Mason Plumlee grabbed an offensive rebound and threw down a reverse dunk to make it 47-45. Scheyer followed with a tough basket in the lane over Marcus Ginyard, then came through with a contested 3 against Ginyard that took momentum right back after Graves' 3 on the previous possession.

When Smith scored a transition layup to push the lead to 54-48 with 4:34 left, the Blue Devils

finally had the working margin they needed. By the time Scheyer knocked down a 3 over Ginyard to beat the shot clock and give Duke a 59-50 lead with 2½ minutes left, Duke had essentially closed the door on the Tar Heels.

"I thought we had the intensity the first 30 minutes that we needed and should have had the whole season," Williams said. "After that ... they seemed hungrier to get (to the boards) and we just didn't go a good job of boxing out or chasing the ball."

OLYMPICS

Continued from Page 7

the all-time greats in their respective sports — although Daehlie, some would say, had an unfair advantage in the race for Olympic greatness.

The cross-country star benefited from the International Olympic Committee's decision to change the schedule for the Winter Games, putting them in between the Summer Olympics instead of in the same year. That meant Daehlie could compete in two

Winter Games in a two-year span — 1992 and '94 — when he was at the top of his career. He won three golds in Albertville in '92, added two more in Lillehammer and another three in Nagano in '98.

Bjoerndalen, meanwhile, is benefiting

take it easy with your preparations ahead of the Olympics. You really have to do your job right."

He wasn't able to do that ahead of Turin, when a severe cold kept him bedridden for more than a week and badly disrupted his training program. He went on to lose the 12.5-kilometer pursuit by a mere 2.7 seconds after being passed by France's Vincent Defrasne in the final sprint, and was 16 seconds behind Greis in the 20-kilometer individual race.

"I had good races, but not good enough," he said. "So hopefully I'll go one better this time."

His countrymen certainly expect him to. Along with cross-country skier Petter Northug, Bjoerndalen represents the biggest hope for gold medals for the ski-crazed Scandinavian country. Jacques Rogge, the IOC president, added to the

frenzy this month when he went out of his way to praise Bjoerndalen in an interview with Norwegian media.

"His exemplary dedication, professionalism and endurance will help him as he approaches 40," Rogge said. "Those are the same characteristics that have made him a great Olympian already."

And Bjoerndalen does intend to be an Olympian at 40 as well.

While Vancouver will be his fifth Winter Games — he was a controversial selection for the Norwegian team in Lillehammer as a 20-year-old and only managed 28th as his best individual result — he is already pledging it won't be his last.

"I want to be in Sochi in 2014," he said. "If my health is OK, I will go for that. I'm ready for one more Olympics."

Perhaps then he'll be going for gold No. 9.

Atheism's Attack on America and the Church



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	7:30pm	Jesus on Trial in 2010
Sun. Feb. 15th	9:00am	Is the Bible full of Errors?
	10:00am	What about Evil, Pain, and Suffering

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