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# **G SPRING**

### **FRIDAY**

FEBRUARY 19, 2010



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**HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins** 

Local resident and member of the Concerned Citizens Council Shannon Thomason, left, looks over a lawsuit filed against the city of Big Spring Thursday afternoon while Keith Elkins, executive director of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, and local attorney John Ferguson look on. The Concerned Citizens Council is alleging the city violated the Open Meetings Act.

# Lawsuit filed against city

# Group accuses council of violating meetings act

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

A group of Howard County citizens, backed by the Texas Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, filed a lawsuit against the city of Big Spring in 118th District Court Thursday afternoon alleging the municipality violated the Texas Open Meetings Act in January.

The lawsuit — which was filed on behalf of the Concerned Citizens Council with local residents Shannon Thomason, Steve Campbell, Thomas Tafuro, John Huckabee, Joe Hernandez and Mary Musik named as plaintiffs — alleges an emergency meeting of the Big Spring City Council held Jan. 7 violated the act, which requires 72 hours notice of meetings.

'What happened in this particular case is the city of Big Spring officials waited until the very last minute to take any action on a citizen request," said Keith Elkins, executive director of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, shortly after the lawsuit was filed. "They had 20 days to do so and they waited until the very last hour, then they posted an emergency posting for a meeting that, by law, requires at least 72 hours notice. They gave the taxpayers six hours notice. That, in and of itself, is unacceptable.

"We're not here on behalf of the Freedom of Information Foundation to tell the people of Big Spring how to conduct their business. That's their business. We are, however, here to try to make sure the elected officials of Big Spring follow state law, and we think this filing and the facts that will come out in court will show they, in fact, did not."

At the heart of the issue for the Concerned Citizens Council is a proposal to replace the city pool, which was closed earlier this

See LAWSUIT, Page 3A

# Symphony concert slated Saturday evening

**Herald Staff Report** 

Strike up the band — or, in the case, the orchestra.

The Big Spring Symphony will host its third concert of the 2009-2010 season Saturday and tickets remain on sale

throughout the community.

Titled "Symphony Motion," Saturday's show will begin at 8 p.m. at the Big Spring High School Auditorium and will feature such favorites as Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyies" and

Beethoven's "Symphony No. 5 in C minor."

Featured soloists will be Big Spring Symphony members Michael Santorelli, trumpetist, and Sarah Wilson, cellist. Santorelli will perform "Trumpet Concerto in E-flat Major" by Franz Joseph Haydn. Wilson will perform the "Variations on a Rococo Theme" by Peter I. Tchaikovsky.

Also to be performed are "Cappricio Espanol, mvt V" by Rimsky-Korsakov and

Stewart honored by local Masonic lodge

the "Carnival Overture" by Antonin Dvorak.

Tickets are available at the Western Banks, Fave's Flowers, Blum's Jewelers, the Heritage Museum, Big

See **CONCERT**, Page 3A

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### By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Howard Stewart is a selfdescribed "volunteer-holic." One of the results of this condition is receiving awards from a grateful community.

Stewart, a third-generation Mason, was honored Thursday at the local Staked Plains Lodge with the Golden Trowel Award, presented in recognition of outstanding service to the lodge and community. "His continued involve-

ment with activities here at the lodge and his community service are the reasons for his receiving this award," said Lodge Master Les Montgomery, who presented the award. While Masons have been

around for centuries, the

Golden Trowel is a relatively

recent award, first presented in the early 1990s to members for their outstanding service.

"The award winner is the member who constantly does the little things, not because he's asked to or because he seeks recognition, but because he practices in his daily life the principles Masons hold dear," Montgomery said. "This is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Master Mason." A committee recommends

members for the award and the honor is decided by a vote of the entire membership, Montgomery said. Stewart, who retired from

Big Spring Independent School District in 2007 after a 30-year career as a teacher,

See STEWART, Page 3A



Howard Stewart, right, receives the Golden Trowel Award

from Les Montgomery, master of the Big Spring Masonic Lodge, during a ceremony Thursday evening. The award was presented to Stewart in recognition of outstanding service to the lodge and community.

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# SPRING HERALD

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story idea? Call Joe Zigtema at 263-

Do you have an interesting sports item or

Page 1B Friday, February 19, 2010

# Struggling Howard falls at Western Texas

By JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

SNYDER — Hawks coach Earl Diddle liked the way the Howard women opened Thursday's game with a 7-2 advantage in the first five

Not much went right after that.

The Hawks turned the ball over 22 times, which Western Texas converted into 25 points, as the Lady Westerners downed Howard 65-49 in Snyder. Howard (18-8, 3-7) has lost four straight since the Hawks came back to beat Frank Phillips at home Feb. 1.

And with three starters out, the Hawks are struggling to find rhythm.

"Every possession is big to us, and then we can't give up easy baskets at the other end," Diddle said. "This is almost a whole new team with two games to go. I think the players are a little frustrated, and I'm a little frus-

Teisha King scored 15 points for Western Texas (13-15, 2-9) and Jamie Wilson added 11 on a night the Lady Westerners shot 53 percent from the floor. Jackie Bartelson led the Hawks with 14 points and Kelsey Murgel chipped in 11.

"Any time you win a ball game, that's a good thing," Lady Westerners coach Tammy Davis said. "Our conference is just so brutally tough that even if you've struggled, you can still play well and do some good things."

Murgel opened the game with a 3-pointer from the top of the key in the first minute, followed by a bucket from Bartelson inside. D.J. Fountain then hit a midrange jumper at the 15:55 mark, but Western Texas responded with seven straight points to take a 9-7 lead it would never give up.

See **HOWARD**, Page 2B



D.J. Fountain lets a jumper loose Thursday in Snyder. The Hawks lost the game 65-49.

# Hawks deny scrappy Westerners

BY JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

**SNYDER** 

game removed from a big win over Midland College, the No. 3 Howard Hawks faced a Western Texas team fighting for its playoff life Thursday in a contest that had "trap game" written all over

The Hawks steered clear of that situation in Snyder as they came away with their eighth straight win, a 60-46

"We'll take the win and try not to look back," Hawks coach Mark Adams said. "We played good enough to win after that big Midland game, so now maybe we can get things back. This is still not the caliber of basketball that we need to be playing."

Four Howard players were in double figures on the night, including Jae Crowder with 17, Josh Watkins with 16 and Carlos Emory and LaMont Austin each with 11. Emory also grabbed 11 rebounds to lead the team.

"They have good players, but they're a great team," said Western Texas coach Jason Sautter, a former Howard assistant. "I remember where they came from at the beginning to where they're at now, and they deserve every-



HERALD PHOTO/Tony Claxton

Josh Watkins goes up over a Western Texas defender Thursday in Snyder. Watkins scored 16 points as the Hawks notched their eighth straight win in WJCAC play 60-46. Howard will host Odessa on Monday at home.

thing they're getting."

Will Harrison scored 20 points and grabbed nine rebounds off the bench for the Westerners.

The Hawks jumped out to an early 12-3 lead behind six points

from Emory in the er a knockout punch first three minutes, but Western Texas scrapped its way back into the game through the rest of the first half. The Hawks led comfortably the whole way

to the Westerners. The Hawks led 34-28 at the half. Howard extended its lead to 13 out of the break with a 17-0 run in the

but could never deliv- See HAWKS, Page 14

### **Bulldogettes hungry** for return to state

BY JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

COAHOMA — The Coahoma softball team is revamped and reloaded for the 2010 season as a strong core of Bulldogettes return, hoping to get back to a state tournament they missed for the first time in five years last season.

This year's team looks as strong as ever ranked No. 5 in 2A's preseason poll — thanks to a tremendous one-two punch in the pitcher's circle with Heather Newton and Katie

Newton, a first-team All-State player who signed with Angelo State in the fall, will anchor the pitching staff, but Dunn will make a difference as well.

"Pitching and defense will keep you in every game, and they do that for us," Coahoma coach Tracy Tadlock said of his duo. "Katie is a No. 2 pitcher but she would probably be an ace for a lot of teams around here, so it's good that Heather doesn't have to take all the innings."

The Bulldogettes are also more active around the field, Tadlock said.

"We're getting more athletic and quicker," he said. "If you have a lot of speed and contact hitters, that can really hurt other teams, and that's what we're getting

to. The ability to take an extra base and put pressure on the defensive player every time we put the ball in play because you're going to have to get rid of the ball quick to get us out."

Coahoma will be breaking in some new players along with returners in new positions this season, Tadlock said.

The Bulldogettes' current lineup is tentative, but to start the season, junior Joanna Gonzales will move in to shortstop from left field, Jennifer Castilaw will take over duties behind the plate and Haley McCullough will be at second. Freshman Laurel Nix will play third base.

"But she hits a lot bigger than that," Tadlock said of Nix. "We're also fortunate to have a couple kids that we know can hit and we know can contribute, and they can fill in if someone's hav-

ing a problem." Dunn will play first when she's not pitching and the corner outfield spots will platoon Kylie Gee, Jordan Martin and Brandi Smith, among others.

"Our expectations are always to go win the whole thing," Tadlock said. "There's only one winner and everybody else ought to be a little disappointed, but I'm really excited and I think we have a great chance."

# Experienced Lady Steers looking 'sweet' on softball diamond



**HERALD FILE PHOTO/Tony Claxton** 

Kenzie Hunt pitches in a game last season. Hunt returns along with seven starters from last year.

### BY JOE ZIGTEMA

Sports Editor

As soon as the basketball Lady Steers joined softball practice on Wednesday, head coach John Sparks knew he would have a team to work with this season.

"It was just sweet to watch," Sparks said. "Doing infield-outfield, they know what to do, you don't have to tell them and they know my plan."

Sparks has a postseason run on his mind for for the Lady Steers this season, who return seven members from last year's squad and bring in some new contributors who should

add depth to the team. Big Spring opens the season at Monahans at 5 p.m. tonight.

Senior Linzee Yarbar, who has played center field the last three years, will move to the infield at shortstop this season and is the team's best hitter, Sparks said. Sophomore Cerbi Ritchey will take over first base duties but will also play the corner outfield spots.

Valerie Ross will join her hoops teammates in the middle infield at second base, and Jillian Valle will resume her third base duties from last year.

Freshmen Logan Yarbar and Haley

Dimidjian will contribute immediately to the team. Yarbar will back up senior Kenzie Hunt in the pitcher's circle, a luxury Sparks said he didn't have last year. She will patrol center field and Dimidjian will play right along with senior Macy Briggs in

"She's been doing OK right now, but she's going to be a good player," Sparks said of Dimidjian. She just needs some experience."

The Lady Steers' lineup is highlighted by Linzee Yarbar, Hunt and Valle, but Sparks is looking for some

See **BSHS**, Page 2B

# Sports in brief

### Girls playoff games on tap tonight

The girls area playoff round heats up tonight as Forsan, Stanton and Garden City take the court.

Forsan will play No. 10 Smyer in Slaton tonight. Stanton's Lady Buffs will take on No. 11 Tahoka at Andrews High School and Garden City will travel to Lubbock Roosevelt High School for a matchup with

Guthrie. Check the weekend's *Herald* for results

### Softball signups coming up

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will hold signups for the upcoming 2010 season for girls ages 4-14 as of Jan. 1.

Signups will be held each Saturday beginning Feb. 20 through March 13 at the Big Spring Mall.

Registration fee is \$75, including a full uniform. Late registration after March 13 will cost \$10 extra. For more info, contact Lucy Ramirez at 466-3670.

### Howard College to host playoff games tonight

Howard College will host two girls area playoff

games tonight beginning at 6 p.m.

Petersburg and Rankin will hit the floor at 6 p.m. tonight, followed by Abilene Wylie and Greenwood at 8 p.m. in a 3A contest.

Dorothy Garrett will host boys playoff action Tuesday as Grady will play Water Valley at 6 p.m. before Blackwell and Loop at 8 p.m.

### **Obituaries**

### Nolan Stanley

Nolan Stanley, 97, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring died Thursday, Feb. 18, 2010, in a Midland nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring with Ralph Anderson, Terry Weir and Scott Kenney

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

He was born May 7, 1912, in San Saba and married Daisy Louise Graves on Jan. 20, 1936, in Winters. She preceded him in death Feb. 9, 2002.

He moved to the Luther Community in 1943 from Winters and farmed for many years, retiring in 1965. He then worked in the Big Spring State Hospital Post Office until retiring in 1974. He was a member of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law,

Marcus and Dolores Stanley of Midland, and Lynn Dale and Joyce Stanley of Hutto; three brothers, Delbert Stanley and Dealon Stanley, both of Big Spring, and Quinton Stanley of Sugar Land; seven grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Laura Boubek; and a grandson.

The family suggest memorials to the Activity Director, c/o Trinity Haven Healthcare of Midland, 3203 Sage St., Midland 79705.

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

### Robert 'Bob' Simpson

Robert A. Simpson, 70, of Odessa died Thursday, Feb. 18, 2010, at the Medical Center in Odessa. Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland with Gary Vieth officiating.

He was born Feb. 20, 1939, in Chester, W. Va., to William James and Mary Louise (Fringer) Simpson. Mr. Simpson married Ida Myers in 1957.

Robert served four years active and two years reserve in the U.S. Air Force from 1957 to 1963 at Webb Air Force Base. He worked for M&N Metals Ltd. in Odessa as a supervisor since 1986.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Ida Simpson of Odessa; two sons, Jeffrey and Timothy Simpson of Odessa; two grandsons; three granddaughters; and two brothers, Keith Simpson of Navarre, Ohio, and William Simpson of Chester, W. Va.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Tom Simpson; and one sister, Patricia

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

### **Harold Graves**

Harold Graves, 80, of Stanton died Friday, Feb. 19, 2010, at his residence. His services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

### Take Note

- American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the post, 3203 W. Highway 80. Delivery will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084. Carryouts are also available. Plates are \$10 each.
- The Junior Class of 2011 will be fund-raising at Pizza Inn on Feb. 22. Please come out and support the junior class. Donations are accepted. All proceeds go toward Big Spring Junior/Senior Prom. Prom is April 24 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Also the junior class will meet this Sunday at the Big Spring High cafeteria to talk about Prom. Students and parents please make plans to attend the meet-
- Howard County Youth Horseman's Club will host a Coggins clinic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 20 at the club arena on the Garden City Highway. A cowboy clinic hosted by the Howard College Rodeo Team will be held at the same location from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact Diane Hofacket at (432) 631-9535.

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### Police blotter

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

- RICARDO DELOSRIOS, 49, of 707 Lorilla, was arrested Thursday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- ANGELIQUE YANEZ, 30, of 1407 Lincoln, was arrested Thursday on five local warrants.
- TERRY DIAZ, 27, of 1003 N.W. Second St., was arrested Thursday on a local warrant.
- VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER was
- reported in the 900 block of Nolan. THEFT OF SERVICE was reported in the 1700
- block of Third Street. • THEFT OF A FIREARM was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.

Note: According to police officials, a report of an accidental shooting was made Thursday after a firearm was inadvertently discharged. The bullet, which ricocheted and struck a local man in the arm, according to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the BSPD, caused a minor wound. No charges have been filed.

### Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 49 inmates at the time of this report. • ANGELIQUE YANEZ RANGEL, 30, was trans-

ferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of failure to appear, no driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, unrestrained child under 5 years of age, speeding and no valid driver's license. • TERRY SCOTT DIAZ, 27, was transferred to the

county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of harassment and felon in possession of a firearm.

• EMIEL JOZEF VANDERMISSEN, 51, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• BLAKE RYAN LYLE, 28, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

# Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of W. 17<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4100 block of Dixon. One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 900 block of S.
- Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC. • TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 2400
- block of Gregg Street. One person was transported • MEDICAL was reported in the 3500 block of
- Highway 669. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of
- Martin Luther King Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 5000 block of
- Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.

# **Support Groups**

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

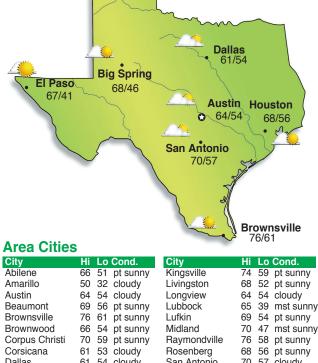
### **SATURDAY**

 Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.



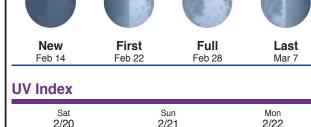
**Today's Weather Local 3-Day Forecast** Mon 2/20 2/21 2/22 68/46 63/31 Morning clouds will Mix of sun and clouds. Mostly sunny. Highs in give way to sunshine Highs in the low 60s the mid 50s and lows for the afternoon. High 68F. Winds SSW at 10 and lows in the low in the low 30s. to 15 mph. Sunrise: 7:23 AM 7:22 AM 7:21 AM Sunset: Sunset: Sunset: 6:36 PM 6:38 PM 6:37 PM

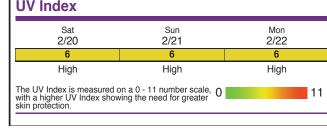
Texas At A Glance



Corsicana Dallas Del Rio El Paso Fort Stockton Gainesville Greenville Houston	72 55 58	54 54 41 47 50 52	mst sunny cloudy cloudy	Rosenberg San Antonio San Marcos Sulphur Springs Sweetwater Tyler Weatherford Wichita Falls	66 59 67 62 58	57 54 54 49 53 51	pt sunny cloudy cloudy pt sunny pt sunny cloudy						
Houston 68 56 pt sunny Wichita Falls 56 48 cloudy  National Cities													
City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.						
Atlanta	59	35	sunny	Minneapolis	31	15	pt sunny						
Boston	43	28	sunny	New York	43	29	sunny						
Chicago	35	27	sn shower	Phoenix	56	47	rain						
Dallas	61	54	cloudy	San Francisco	58	47	pt sunny						
Denver	34	21	snow	Seattle	57	35	pt sunnv						







# Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night: Winning numbers drawn: 6-12-23-26. Bonus Ball: 35.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night: Winning numbers drawn: 9-13-21-34-36; number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-1-2-4. Sum It

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Thursday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-8-4. Sum It Up: 21.





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# SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Lysacek wins figure skating

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Evan Lysacek became the first U.S. man to win the Olympic gold medal since Brian Boitano in 1988, shocking everyone maybe even himself — by upsetting defend-

ing champion Evgeni Plushenko. Plushenko came out of retirement with the sole purpose of making a little history of his own with a second straight gold medal. Lysacek, the reign-

world champion, finished with a career-best 257.67, 1.31 ahead of the Russian. Daisuke Takahashi won the bronze, the first Japanese man to win a figure skating medal at the Olympic Games.

### Vonn's shin keeps her from second gold

WHISTLER, British (AP) Columbia Lindsey Vonn lost her bid for a second Olympic title, missing a gate and falling in the slalom leg of the super-combined. Best friend and biggest rival Maria Riesch of Germany won the

Riesch had a total time of 2 minutes, 09.14 seconds to beat Julia Mancuso of the United States by 0.94 seconds.

Anja Paerson Sweden took the bronze, 1.05 behind Riesch.

### U.S. hockey keeps rolling

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — The U.S. men's hockey team won its second straight game, a solid 6-1 win over overmatched Norway.

Phil Kessel, Chris Drury scored first-period goals, Patrick Kane added one in the second and Brian Rafalski found the net twice in the closing minutes.

### NBA teams clear room for 2010 free agents

The Knicks acquired former scoring champion Tracy McGrady in a three-team swap with the Houston Rockets and the Sacramento Kings. The deal left them on the verge of being able to offer two maximum salary contracts to the 2010 free agent class that could be headlined by

James.

Chicago, Washington Sacramento cleared enough salary in moves before the 3 p.m. EST deadline to be able to afford a max player, and the Los Angeles Clippers got close.

The Cavaliers gave James more reason to stay home. They forward acquired Antawn Jamison on Wednesday, a deal that could make the Eastern Conference leaders even stronger.

By including Jared Jeffries in the deal for McGrady, whose \$22.5 million contract expires after this season, the Knicks removed million from next season's payroll and left them with about \$32 million in salary cap space. Those top free agents would each earn a little more than \$16.5 million in the first season of a max deal.

To get McGrady, the Knicks sent Jeffries and rookie Jordan Hill to Houston along with a protected first-round pick in 2012, and gave the Rockets the right to exchange first-round picks in 2011. Rockets will get highscoring guard Kevin Martin and forward Hilton Armstrong from Sacramento, while the Kings received Larry Hughes from the Knicks, Carl Landry and Joey Dorsey from Houston and sent guard Sergio Rodriguez to New York.

The Knicks also dealt Nate Robinson to Boston along with Marcus Landry for Eddie House,

J.R. Giddens, Bill Walker and a future conditional second-round pick.

The Bulls were busy, trading power ward Tyrus Thomas to Charlotte for a future, protected first-round pick and the expiring contracts of guards Flip Murray and Acie Law. Chicago also

guard John Salmons to Milwaukee for Hakim Warrick and Alexander, whose contracts also are expiring.

### Top seeds keep falling in match play event

MARANA, Ariz. (AP) The remaining top four seeds went down, and so did the defending champion.

The often-unpredictable Match Play Championship than lived up to its reputation in a topsyturvy second round at Dove Mountain. An event already minus Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson sent several of the world's best to an early exit.

Lee Westwood, Jim Furyk, Martin Kaymer and Rory McIlroy seeded second through fifth — were among the losers. Defending champion Geoff Ogilvy was beaten by Camilo Villegas, 2 and 1. Topseeded Steve Stricker lost Wednesday in the first round.

The highest remaining seed is England's Paul Casey at No. 6. Casey swiftly dispatched Canadian Mike Weir, 5 and 4.

# McCoy getting ready for April's NFL draft

FORT WORTH (AP) Colt McCoy is throwing 40-50 balls a day in an intense rehabilitation program for the injury that knocked him out of the national championship game and hopes to fully participate in the NFL draft combine. The former Texas quar-

terback said Monday that the nerve injury in his right shoulder is "really coming along" and is close to being 100 percent.

"Hopefully I'll be able to throw in the combine. That's my goal, I love to compete, I want to go out and compete with those guys, go out there and throw and be myself,' McCoy said. "But obviously if the doctors don't let me, I'm not going to be able to do that."

McCoy has remained mostly in California doing rehab since getting hurt in the BCS title game Jan. 7. He returned to Texas to be recognized Monday night with the Davey O'Brien Award as the nation's top quarterback, and plans to return to the West Coast after speaking at an FCA banquet Thursday night in Austin.

On the Longhorns' fifth offensive play against Alabama last month, McCoy took a hard tackle that pinched a nerve and caused his throwing arm to go numb. He didn't return in Texas 37-21 loss.

"The injury and I think the way that my college career ended has kind of sparked a fire inside of me as far as I'm going to

show that I'm going to be ready to go. I'm going to show them that I'm the best, I'm going to show that I'm confident," he said. "I can't wait to step out on the field again, forget the taste that's in my mouth for the last time I played a game. That's what's driving me every day."

McCoy, whose rehab overseen being noted sports doctor James Andrews of Birmingham, Ala., said if his doctors determine he can't throw at the combine that begins next week, he will still do everything else possible in Indianapolis. He also plans to participate in the Longhorns' pro day March 31.

There is nothing structurally wrong with his throwing shoulder and McCoy is going through the process of restrengthening his arm.

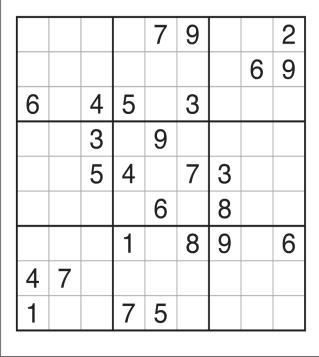
"My arm feels really good. I'm able to do everything they ask me to do," he said. "It's really healing quickly."

While his 45 career wins at Texas are an NCAA record, McCoy fell short of his ultimate goal of winning a national championship.

"It's one of those things that you'll think about forever. ... Disappointing is probably the real word," McCoy said. "But at the same time, I've been raised the right way and you've got to find a positive in every situation. I think about that and I think about how I still have a lot of football left to play."

# 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.



# Contrac

By Steve Becker **Bidding Quiz** 

You are the dealer and bid One Club. Partner responds One Diamond. What would you bid now with each of the following five hands?

1. ♠ AQ ♥ K108 ♠ J742 ♣ QJ93 **♦** AJ ♥ AQ **♦** Q65 **♣** KQJ942 3. ♠ 10 ♥ AQ87 ♠ KJ6 ♣ AKQ75 4. ♠ AJ53 ♥ — ♠ A93 ♣ KQ9653 5. ♠ 8 ♥ A ♦ AKJ84 ♣ KQ7642

1. One notrump. Though it is very normal to raise partner with four-card support — and it might therefore be argued that the proper rebid here is two diamonds good reasons for preferring one notrump.

First, your hand is well-suited for notrump, and the balanced distribution is better shown by a rebid of one notrump. A raise in diamonds would imply distributional values, such as shortness in one or both of the major suits, that you don't have. Also, judging from the opponents'

silence, partner probably has a good hand and might be headed for game. If this probability materializes, a nine-trick notrump game is far more attractive than an 11-trick diamond game. Furthermore, if notrump is the best contract, your tenace positions opening lead with you as declarer.

in the majors will be protected on the 2. Three notrump. You should not be willing to settle for less than game once partner responds to your opening bid. A rebid of either two notrump or three clubs would run the risk of a pass, since neither of these bids is forcing.

3. Two hearts. The jump-shift in hearts forces partner to continue bidding until a game is reached, even though he might have only six points. Game, and possibly a slam, is highly probable in clubs, diamonds, hearts or notrump. These possibilities can best be explored after partner is first made aware of your intentions via the jump-shift. 4. One spade. The best way to

begin describing your distribution is to bid one spade at this point. Even though you have six clubs and only four spades, you can't afford to bypass the possibility of a 4-4 fit in spades. If need be, you will show your diamond support later and thus identify the three-suited nature of your hand 5. Four notrump. The number of

aces partner has is the key to how many tricks your side can make with diamonds as trump. You therefore utilize Blackwood to extract this vital information from partner. If he shows no aces by responding five clubs, you bid five diamonds; if he shows one ace, you bid six diamonds; if he shows two aces, you bid seven diamonds.

**Tomorrow:** Enlisting the aid of the enemy. ©2010 King Features Syndicate Inc

### HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

"Any time you're on the road, you're concerned about how you get out of the gate," Diddle said. "I thought we started the game really well, and then it just got away from us. I think our lack of execution hurt us and I didn't think we had a lot of energy, but we hung in there for the most part."

The Lady Westerners got on an 8-0 run followed by a 10-0 spurt to

jump out to a 27-15 lead, which they extended to 36-21 by the break. "Our kids were able

to convert on some easy buckets to help us get going," Davis said. "It took us a while to get going, but once we did I felt like we did a good job."

Western Texas left no doubt in the second half as it put the game out of reach with a 9-0 run in the first seven minutes.

Howard struggled to score from the floor all game, shooting 38 percent from the field and attempting only six free throws.

The Hawks are hanging on to their postseason hopes by a thread as Odessa lost to New Mexico JC 74-68 Thursday. The Hawks need to finish the season with wins over the Lady Wranglers at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on Monday and at Frank Phillips next Thursday, and they need an Odessa loss at Midland to end the season in order claim the No. 4 seed.

"We're playing to win 20 games this year," Diddle said. "We're certainly not happy with the way we competed this year in the conference, but our goal is to win these next two games."

Howard (45) Ards 3-11 1-3 7, Fountain 3-5 0-0 6, Grahn 1-4 0-1 3, Murgel 4-6 0-0 11. Bartelson 6-10 2-2 14, Blagrave 0-4 0-0 0, Guerra 1-5 0-0 2, Steen 1-4 0-0 2; Totals 19-49 3-6 45

Western Texas (69)

Smith 2-6 2-3 7, King 6-15 2-2 15, Cassagnol 3-7 0-0 7, Atkins 4-6 0-0 8, Powdrell 1-2 3-4 5, Yazzie 1-1 0-0 3, Majors 1-2 0-0 2, Wilson 5-7 0-0 11, Sanders 3-4 1-2 7, Clemons 2-3 0-0 4

Halftime 36-21 WTC; 3-point oals — HC 4-14 (Murgel 3, Grahn), WTC 5-12 (Smith, King, Yazzie, Cassagnol, Wilson); Rebounds — 27-27 (Bartelson 7, King 8); Turnovers — HC 22, WTC 14; Assists — HC 9

### HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

Westerners didn't score their first bucket of the second half until the 14:02 mark.

"We gave up 28 points in the first half, and that was uncharacteristic," Adams said. "We

thought we'd try to up the tempo on defense and give them some pressure, and it seemed to work well."

The Hawks face a big test at home Monday when Odessa College to Dorothy travels Garrett Coliseum. Howard walloped the Wranglers on the road last month, but Odessa has won its last two games, including a big win at South Plains on Monday.

Tipoff in Big Spring is 7:45 p.m.

Howard (60) Austin 3-5 2-2 11, Crowder 5-18 6-8 17, Watkins 5-14 6-6 16, Emory 5-7 0-0 11, Bright 1-2 3-4 5, Sundufu 0-1 0-0 0, Mentor 0-1 0-0 0, Obasi 0-2 0-0 0, O'Garro 0-1 0-0 0, Cissoko 0-2 0-0 0;

Totals 19-53, 17-20, 60 Western Texas (46)

Charles 1-5 0-3 2, Herron 2-7 0-0 6, Johnson 2-8 1-2 6, Robinson 0-1 0-0 0, Harrison 7-13 2-2 20, J. Jones 2-13 2-2 6, Derversivic 1-4 2-2 4, D. Johnson 1-5 0-0 2; Totals 16-56, 7-11, 46

Halftime 34-28 HC; 3-point goals — HC 5-18 (Austin 3, Crowder, Emory), WTC 7-24 (Harrison 4, Herron 2, L. Johnson); Rebounds · 38-37 WTC (Harrison 9, Emory 11); Turnovers — HC 16, \ 21; Blocks — HC 5, WTC 0;

Sparks said he has a

### BSHS

Continued from Page 1B

bats to step up.

"We need to get comfortable at the plate," Sparks said. "Probably around the time our

tournament comes around in March, we ought to be a lot bet-

Jessica Womack will do the work behind the plate for the Lady Steers. Womack went 2-for-4 in the Lady Steers' first

game in Midland, which Sparks is excited about for the season.

"Jessica has come on in that first game and some of the scrimmages," he said. "She might be our biggest surprise this year at the plate."

good bench he can go to in sophomore Laurie Pineda and Carson Riebe. Pineda can play any of the outfield spots and Riebe will play first base. Anglina Castillo will also see playing time in the outfield.

Sparks is on a quest for a winning season this year, which the Lady Steers fell just shy of last season. If Big Spring can put a few more in the win column, he said, a district title isn't out of the question.

"We need to get in a mode of winning," Sparks said. "When you win, good things happen. If we win district, that will be an added plus."

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**HERALD** photo/Lyndel Moody

Dr. Cynthia Rutledge, right, of Family Medical Center gives a presentation about heart health during the Healthy Woman monthly event at Dora Roberts Community Center Thursday afternoon.

### Man angry with IRS crashes plane into office

AUSTIN (AP) — A software engineer with an apparent grudge against the government crashed his small plane into an office building with nearly 200 Internal Revenue Service employees inside, killing himself and at least one worker.

Before flying his single engine Piper PA-28 into the hulking blackglass office building Thursday morning, A. Joseph Stack III apparently posted a rambling screed on a Web site in which he railed against "big brother," the Catholic Church, the "unthinkable atrocities" committed by big business and the governments bailouts that followed.

In the note, signed "Joe Stack (1956-2010)" and dated Thursday, he said he slowly came to the conclusion that "violence not only is the answer, it is the only answer."

Law enforcement officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation was still going on, said the 53-year-old Stack apparently set fire to his house and posted the screed.

Stack's wife, Sheryl, planned to address the news media on Friday, the Red Cross said.

Some who knew Stack said he offered little hint of his anger before the attack.

"He didn't rant about anything," said Pam

Parker, an Austin

attorney whose husband played in a band with Stack. "He wasn't obsessed with the government or any of that. ... Not a loner, not off in a corner. He had friends and conversation and

But in the selfdescribed "rant," the author fumed about the IRS and wrote, "Nothing changes unless there is a body count."

ordinary stuff."

# CONCERT

Continued from Page 1A

Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the Big Spring Herald and KBST Radio. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students. The Symphony Guild suggests that children under the age of 5 are not expected to enjoy the con-

### **STEWART**

Continued from Page 1A

coach and director of transportation and maintenance, first joined the local lodge in April 1987. Since that time, he has

served in a variety of positions, including past master of the lodge, past commander of the local commandry, past high priest of the York Rite Mason chapter 178 and current Worthy Patron of the Oder of the Eastern Star and secretarytreasurer of the Masonic Temple Association.

He has also active within the community, being involved with organizations ranging from the Relay for Life, the city traffic commission, Festival of Lights and the board of directors for Big Spring Country Club. Stewart expressed humility after receiving the

American Cancer Society,

award. "After reading requirements, I really don't

think I deserve this," he

done anything outstanding I just try to stay busy. I tried retirement for a while and that didn't last ... I can take very little credit for the way my life has worked "I'm just a volunteer-hol-

said. "I don't feel like I've

ic," Stewart continued. "I just have a hard time saying no, I guess." ed and convoluted than

### **LAWSUIT**

Continued from Page 1A

year because it didn't conform to federal standards. The revenue garnered from the adopted tax rate will bring an estimated \$331,400 above the effective rate. The bulk of that money — \$243,579 — would be earmarked for the pool project.

Had the rollback petition been successful, the tax rate would have fallen back to 97.9398 cents per \$100 property value — the roll back rate set by the state of Texas. The rollback would have left the city's current budget with a shortfall of about \$180,000, according to

The council recently agreed to move forward with a \$4.2 million aquatics center to replace the Municipal Swimming Pool. Elkins said the pro-

officials.

cess began when citizens from Big Spring contacted his foundation for legal advice on the matter. "We were contacted

by some citizens here in Big Spring who were alleging the Texas Open Meetings Act had

been violated, which is where we come in," said Elkins. "We put them in touch with some legal experts that are on our staff and it was determined that violations did in fact occur. We are assisting and trying to provide some of the funding for filing of the lawsuit on behalf of the citizens of Howard County."

Elkins said because the Open Meetings Act was violated, at the very least the citizens of Big Spring are owed a rollback election.

"It's up to the citizens of Big Spring. It's their lawsuit," said Elkins. "We're just assisting them in it. However, I think the facts will show that they clearly have the law on their side, or we would not be involved. The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas has been in existence for more than 30 years as probably the oldest educational and advocacy agency of its type in the country, working for open government and to make sure records are accessible to the public. After looking at the facts, our attorneys have determined, yes, in fact, the city did violate the Open Meetings Act

clearly, and, as such, the citizens of Big Spring are at least entitled to a rollback election so they can decide whether or not they want this tax increase. That's not for us to decide, it's for the citizens of Big Spring to decide." Thomason agreed, say-

ing Big Spring taxpayers should have a say in how the pool issue and the tax rate — are handled.

"We've felt all that on a project of this size the citizens should have a vote," said Thomason. "Had the city followed the Texas Open Meetings Act it wouldn't be an issue. However, they decided to violate the law to take away the right of the

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on this issue. This is the only response we have." Elkins said violations of the Texas Open

citizens to have a vote

Meetings act of this type are far more common than most people would think, a growing problem in the Lone Star State.

"The Open Meetings Act seems to under attack from a lot of different areas. This law has been around for 43 years and it works," said Elkins. "This is the very reason we're here today, to make sure the law is applied equally and people follow the law to guarantee whether you live in Big Spring or Austin, you have the same entitlement to



know what the government is doing, when they are doing it, and you can participate in it if you want to. We just want to make sure it's a level playing field."

City Attorney Linda Sjogren said Friday morning the city staff hasn't yet received a copy of the lawsuit.

"I really can't comment on this until we've had a chance to go over the lawsuit and see exactly what's being alleged," said Sjogren. "I can tell you this is much more complicatthe Concerned Citizens Group has made it out to be."

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

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# EDITORIAL

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

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:

- The Big Spring Steers, who claimed the District 4-4A boys' basketball championship, closing the season with a 64-50 win over Plainview Tuesday night in Steer Gym.
- City of Big Spring Chief Code Enforcement officer Chad Averette and his staff, who have an 86 percent compliance rate from people who receive notifications of violations of city codes — an excellent rate that Averette and other city officials are committed to improv-
- Chaplains with the Emergency Services Chaplains Corps, who provide an invaluable service not only to members of the public, but also to emergency services personnel with the Big Spring Fire Department, Howard County Sheriff's Office, Big Spring Fire Department and EMS, Department of Public Safety, Victim Services of Big Spring and Scenic Mountain Medical Center's emergency room.
- Jeanie Knocke and Drew Mouton, who were named recipients of the Man and Woman of the Year for 2009, during last week's Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce ban-

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

### How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opin-

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 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

May we make a new connection, Lord, with You.

# Dreaming on the Rock

ust south of Llano and a little northwest of Fredricksburg is an amazing place known as "Enchanted Rock." It's a chunk of pink granite taking up more than 650 acres and rises about 450 feet in the air. It's inspiring, magnificent and beautiful. I love to go there.

CHASING THE DREAM For thousands of years, the local Indians would make pilgrimages there because they believed the rock had supernatural power and was a place of dreaming.

**B**REWER The first European to visit the area was probably Cabeza de Vaca. This half-naked Spanish explorer and renown faith healer stopped by in 1536 after being shipwrecked in Galveston. It's the kind of place that calls

Troy

to explorers and dreamers. The kind of place where God shows up in a really neat way — if you want to see Him. Last Thursday, I woke up after

three days of a powerful conference and I wanted to get out of town. So Leanna and I left for

Enchanted Rock in hope of finding a "love shack" to "hole up" in for a few days.

What we found was far above our expectations in an amazing bed and breakfast called Trois Estate.

BUILDING THE DREAM

Rebecca and Charles Trois left the hustle and bustle of Austin's high society to build something amazing and share it with the rest of us.

This elegant, European-style getaway at Enchanted Rock is a hand-built village by the two of them. The houses have wine bottles in the walls so light shines through, imported doors that are hundreds of years old, a saloon modeled after the birdcage in Tombstone, details, finishes and collectibles from places only imagined by most of us, a spa, an underground grotto, artisan market and an amazing Italian restaurant where Rebecca is the

Charles is an artist and this village is their passion — their dream.

LIVING THE DREAM

Enchanted Rock had done it again and when this explorer and dreamer showed up there last Thursday — he was blown

It is so important for you and me to be dreamers. We are not here just to survive but to thrive and live life more abundantly. I think God has gotten a bad rap as a dream killer because so many fuddy-duddy religious people have misrepresented him. My Friend Dave Crone says, "The Pharisees were the dream killers of Jesus' day," and indeed they were.

I don't know if Rebecca and Charles are Christians but they sure have a thing or two to teach most of us Christians about the Kingdom. They were hospitable. giving, happy and world changing kind of people that dared to dream big and make it happen.

I think Jesus is like that. Knowing this truth makes me want to live life all the more and that's the kind people all Christians should be.

"When the Lord brought back the captives to Zion, we were like those who dream." — Psalms 126:1

The Rev. Troy Brewer pastors Open Door Ministries near Joshua and Crowley and can be reached through his websites at www.opendoorministries.org or www.freshfromthebrewer.com



### STRESS PASITION

# Uncle Mort and census counting

few days after the Super Bowl, I bade "so long" to the Interstate, knowing that the sunsplashed highway would be visible only with headlights upon resumption of my travels a few

hours later. It was time for my semiannual visit to the thicket where Uncle Mort and Aunt Maude have been residents for 97 years.

I wanted to get Mort's "take" on current affairs and to watch Maude shake her head in wonderment. Everyone has

known for decades and Maude's been privy to the probability since they were wed nearly 80 years ago — that Mort spends waking moments trying to outsmart the world.

DR.

Don

Newbury

A woman of few words, she made this observation before I tracked him down in the backyard: "Nothing's changed out here, nephew," she laughed. "Mort is still looking at everything sideways.

Then she added, "As long as he's out, I don't think they'll lock him up, but if they ever lock him up, I doubt that they'll ever let

him out." Mort was alternating between laughter and groans.

Forfeiting his old pick-up truck for a golf cart when gasoline prices skyrocketed, he was taking his grease gun to the accelerator when I interrupted.

"I try to grease this sucker every five years," Mort said. "Been reading about you car-driving

people having trouble with accel-

erators. The only time 'recall' is mentioned around here is when I'm trying to remember where I left the grease gun.'

He was punch-pleased that even if the pedal sticks, he can either jump off or keep it between the fences at top speed of 10 mph until the tank empties.

I made the mistake of asking about the moans.

"Down in my back, nephew," was his answer. "It's getting tougher to load a 50-inch TV on my golf cart the day before the Super Bowl and then return it to the store two days later.'

Oh, no! This vignette reminded me why the clerks run the other way when Mort enters the store to make sure they still have the "48-hour-no-questions-asked return policy.' Then, he switched to the game.

"I never dreamed I'd profit from New Orleans winning the Super Bowl," he bragged, "but I've come up with a book that's bound to make me rich, particularly in Louisiana."

He showed me the manuscript of How to Speak 'Who Dat' in 10 Easy Lessons. Truth to tell, it is a replication

of Pig Latin, a "language" born of boredom many decades ago and seldom used today.

"In words beginning with consonants, the initial consonant is moved to the end of the word followed by 'ay'," he explained. "So, 'Saints' would be "Aintssay." (There are a few more rules, but reading them invites eye-crossing.)

On one point, Mort and I

We nodded that it was common to hear "Sooner Nation," referring to University of Oklahoma football, and "Red Sox Nation,"

commonly heard synonymously with Boston Red Sox baseball. We decided on the need to "practice up" for similar application

to New Orleans Saints football. Where shall we place emphasis? "WHO-dat Nation?" "who-DAT Nation?" Or maybe "whodat NATION?"

About that time, a woman - a bona fide representative of the United States government entered the back yard, startling Uncle Mort. He isn't used to having two visitors at once.

Pad in hand, she began her spiel.

"Every decade, the government tries to find out how many men, women and children live in this country," she explained. "I'm plumb sorry, ma'am," Uncle Mort apologized. "But you've done come to the wrong house, 'cause I don't know."

I figured it was time to wind my way up the country roads to the Interstate and get back in the race. I wondered if my accelerator would stick, if I could remember Pig Latin without buying Uncle Mort's new book and if the census lady was still

I thought of Mort's insistence to omit "marching" from the Saints' famous song. "They didn't 'march' in," he contended. "The Saints 'passed in,' 'kicked

in' or even 'barged in,'" he said. I thought of the post-game shot of teary-eyed MVP quarterback Drew Brees hugging his infant son. I think he "soared in."

Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker and author living in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Send inquiries/ comments to newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872.

Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.

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# **Church News**

Baptist Temple

This Sunday morning's message will be "Allowing God to be God" from Matthew 6:9 and Judges 7. Often we try to do things that only God can do and as a tragic result, we stand in the way of God doing his work instead of being a part of what he is doing. Sunday evening's message will be from 1 Corinthians 9:1-18.

Our Financial Peace University class started Feb. 15. If you are still interested, it is not too late. You may register by coming by the church office and pay the \$100 for your course materials. The class meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in our fellowship

Our weight-loss support-group SPEED (Shedding Pounds Eagerly Every Day) has resumed and is meeting on Tuesdays at the church at 6 p.m.

Our 12-Step Recovery group, led by Dean Thomas, has also resumed and meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. You are always welcome here. Sundays, we have classes for all ages starting at 9:45 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesdays, we have groups for all ages starting at 7 p.m.

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

### Chapel of Faith

You are invited to attend Chapel of Faith church, located at the corner of E. 14th and Goliad streets, as we learn more about God's Word and His love for each of us. Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. each week. Pastor Scott Willis will be preaching this Sunday. His message will be "Assurance of God's Protection," based on scripture from Psalms 91.

Consider this. "Answers to prayer often come in unexpected ways. We pray, for instance, for a certain virtue; but God seldom delivers Christian virtues all wrapped in a package and ready for use. Rather he puts us in situations where by His help we can develop those virtues." — C.R. Findley

We encourage you to attend the church of your choice. However, if you are looking for a church home, we invite you to visit the Chapel of Faith. You will be warmly welcomed!

Remember, God loves each of us with a love so great He sent His son to die for our sins that we might live for Him now and with Him eternally.

### First United Methodist

Our youth will be leaving this afternoon along with adult sponsors and our pastor to attend a special overnight program at First Methodist Church, Midland. The program, titled "A Walk With Christ To The Cross," will highlight the last 14 hours in Jesus' life.

And on Saturday morning, the Senior Adult Ministry (SAM) will be sponsoring a trip to Lubbock to see "My Fair Lady," a First Methodist Lubbock production being presented at the civic center. The van will leave from the church parking lot at 10

Sunday morning our pastor, the Rev Sharon Wiese, will begin a Lenten sermon series. "It Came From Within," identifying the enemies of the heart. Services of worship are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. Mid-week prayer and study service in addition to lunch is at noon on Wednesdays in Garrett Hall.

The Sunday evening activity begins at 5:30 with a snack supper for all ages. At 6 p.m. the groups of youth, pre-teen and adults all have their own activities. This week Mark Barr will begin a fourweek study, "What You Want to Know About Being a Methodist." This four-week study will cover the history, core beliefs, overall church organizaion and church leadership. Pastor Sharon will begin a short Lenten study Wednesday night, Feb. 24. These classes on "Cultivating Fruitfulness" will be held in the Pathmaker's class.

Beginning Thursday, Feb. 25, Holy Trinity Catholic Church will sponsor the first of the noon Lenten services. Each week during the season they will meet as follows: March 4, St Mary's Episcopal Church; March 11, First Methodist Church; March 18, First Presbyterian Church; and March 15, First Christian Chuch.

The week of March 21, First Methodist will be hosting Dr. Wesley Putnam and Dayspring Ministries. This will be a time of renewal in the church; a time for laughter, learning and spiritual refresh-

Get out the calendar and begin to include the many spirit-filled activities that you will find at Fourth and Scurry. First Methodist, where families grow in Christ.

### Signal Mountain Emmaus Community

Signal Mountain Emmaus Community meets at Spring Creek Fellowship, 501 Birdwell Lane on the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Babe Chick meeting is at 6:30.

Next meeting is March 11.

At this month's meeting we will honor the 2001 Walks; Women's Walk 23 LD Kim McAnally, Men's Walk 24 LD Rory Worthan, Women's Walk 25 LD Angie Brown, Women's Walk 26 LD Terry McDaniel. Plan to attend. Bring a dish and join us at 6 p.m. for a potluck fellowship.



# Is it really all in vain?

anity of vanities," says the preacher in the opening verses of the book of Ecclesiastes. "All is vanity," he declares was he ponders the mean-

ing of life, searching for something worthwhile. Like the preach-

er, we all have felt the hopelessness of a situation. What parent, teacher, or mentor has not questioned the futility of trying to shape young minds? The quest for

tion have prompted a string of quotes about the value of education. Some of them are worthy of consideration. B.F. Skinner, whose name

truth and the desire for affirma-

pops up now and then in lecture halls and school faculty meetings, defined education as what survives when all that has been learned is forgotten. If his theory is correct, then education

must diminish with age. Before the ink was dry on our diplomas, many of us were already having a little trouble balancing the scale between memory and forgetfulness.

Another observer, Herbert Prochnow, surmised that the claims of education do not always add up. He noted, "It's strange how few of the world's great problems are solved by those who remember their algebra." However, by Prochnow's calculations, if all equations truly are equal on both sides, then mathematicians must not be problem solvers.

Although this person chose to remain anonymous, another great mind concluded, "Some drink from the fountain of knowledge while others just gargle." There must be some truth to this, but sometimes it is better to gargle and spit than to swallow.

American humorist, Will Rogers, pointed out, "There is nothing so stupid as an educated man, if you get off the thing he was educated in." I suppose that is why there are so many

specialists in all professions. On the other hand, another

great American spokesman and advocate for education, Benjamin Franklin advised, "If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him." While I tend to agree with Franklin, an educated fool is still an educated fool.

"Vanity of vanities," the preacher repeats at the close of his contemplation in Ecclesiastes. After warning his readers of the folly of too much devotion to books, he writes: "The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person" (Ecclesiastes 12:13 NASB).

Perhaps it is not the validly of education that should be questioned. Maybe the real issue is the ability to distinguish between the mere acquisition of knowledge and the gaining of Godly wisdom

Bonnie Wheat is an author and a minister's wife. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net.

For more information, see our Web site: www. signal-emmaus.org

**B**ONNIE

 $\mathbf{W}_{\mathsf{HEAT}}$ 

### 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.

Tom, along with Big Spring's pastor Craig Holstedt, continues to have a Bible study on the week's lectionary in the library of First Presbyterian, Big Spring, on Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. Everyone from both churches, and anyone else who is interested, is invited to this informal study.

The 87th stated meeting of the Presbytery of Tres Rios will be held Friday at First Presbyterian Church, Midland. That meeting will be followed Friday afternoon and Saturday with a "Living Letters for a New World," a conference on living the gospel. The Rev. Dr. Darrell Guder from Princeton Theological Seminary will be the keynote speaker.

Please stand by for information on the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, which will be received at

The lectionary for the First Sunday in Lent is Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-16; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13.

### Birdwell Lane Baptist

We are a Bible-believing, Bible-teaching, Biblepreaching, missionary-minded, independent Baptist church who would love for you to come visit. We have been in the community for 65-plus years meeting spiritual needs. Sunday services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m.. We are located at 1512 Birdwell Lane. There is Sunday school for all ages and children's church is during the morning worship for ages 4-12. There is a nursery provided for your little ones. The midweek service is at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. For a ride to services call 264-9924.

The ladies are selling a Church cookbook. They are selling for \$10. If you would like one, see Sue Riddle or Pat Steen.

We are looking for an organ player. If you would like to serve the Lord by playing the organ, please call 267-7157 and speak to Pastor Steve King.

Saturday from 3-6 the youth will have a movie and banana splits in the fellowship hall. They meet once a month for fun, games and fellowship.

The senior saints will have their game night and monthly fellowship Tuesday from 6-9 p.m. There will be a potluck dinner also.

For further information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

### First Presbyterian, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study met Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. Choir practice was at 6 p.m. The joint service for Ash Wednesday for this congregation and First Presbyterian, Coahoma, was in the chapel at 7 p.m. Feb. 17.

The next meeting of Tres Rios Presbytery will be at First Presbyterian, Midland, on Friday 19. That evening and Saturday, there will be a conference on living the gospel "Living Letters for a New World" at the same location. The keynote speaker is Dr. Darrell Guder, with workshop and worship leaders from around the presbytery.

Presbyterian Women will meet for Bible study at

We will be gathering for a series of Lenten lun-

2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, in the church library.

cheons with several other churches in the community on Thursdays. February 25, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church will host the luncheon; March 4, St. Mary's Episcopal Church; March 11, First United Methodist Church; March 18, First Presbyterian; March 25, First Christian Church.

Claudie Patterson will provide refreshments for "Take Ten" Sunday morning. Mark Morgan is lit-

The lectionary for the First Sunday in Lent is Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 9:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13. The chancel choir will present "The Treasures of the World" by Ruth Schram. "Jesus, Grant Me This, I Pray" by C. H. Kitson is the offertory anthem.

If you cannot attend worship, listen in on KBST 1490 AM., beginning at 11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening by visiting our Web site: www.fpcbs. org. You can find a link that will enable you to listen to several sermons by the Rev. Holstedt.

### Alive in Christ Lutheran LCMS

Pastor Carroll Kohl will be preaching this Sunday. The sermon text will be the Gospel Lesson for the first Sunday in Lent, Luke 4:1-13 and the title will be "Taylor-made Temptations." The sacrament of communion will be observed.

This week's acolyte will be McKayla Overton. Our elders for this week are Bobby Roever and Darren Byrd. The liturgy will be read by Dolline Budke. The readings are Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91:1-13, Romans 10:8b-13, and Luke 54:1-13.

The Board of Education will meet Tuesday. Plans for our second Easter Festival scheduled for April 3 are still being finalized. Other items will also be discussed.

Wednesdays at 6 p.m., several individuals are working on the new banners. Come join us and

learn how to make banners for our church. Mark your calendars for the Lenten services. They will be held on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Pastor Kohl will be preaching for these services. Wednesday, Feb. 24, the sermon text will be The Promising Word, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with

Me in Paradise" from Luke 23:43. A Bible study is being held at 11:30 a.m. Thursdays at the church. A light meal is available. You do not need to be a member of our congregation to attend any of our studies.

March 8, the LWML will serve refreshments at the VA. The Board of Education will meet March 9 at 7 p.m. at the church. The LWML will also meet at 7 p.m. March 11. The Elders meet March 18 at 7.

We are located at 2805 Lynn St. Our phone number is (432) 264-7818. Our Web site is www.lutheransonline.com/aliveinchristbstx. We would love to have you join us for church on Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:15.

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 7A

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### Tomorrow's Horoscope

This is the first full day of the sun's journey through Pisces. The symbol for Pisces — two fish swimming in opposite directions — evokes the complexities of this sign. There's a certain flexibility that goes along with this transit and a willingness to question one's ideology.

Whatever у о believe, could the opposite belief be true,

well? ARIES ( March 21-April 19). There's a tempta-

tion to put the cart before the horse. It's great to superimpose yourself onto your fantasy future, but you still have to do the work in the present in order

HOLIDAY

**M**ATHIS

to get there. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). If you're too careful, you won't be able to accomplish what you need to do. Make "quick and dirty" your mantra. You'll be amazed at the quality of work you can put out when you just let yourself dive in without a

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Find the time to write something down about your day. This turns into an adventure as you uncover thoughts and feelings you didn't even know you were having. What a discovery! Like a treasure tucked away in a mysterious cave.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You're a bit of a provocateur these days. Make this work to your advantage. Create a stir just for you. Get some hype going for your project, business or personal interest.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). As a situation grows more convoluted by the hour, you're finding it increasingly difficult to keep your mouth shut. You add your two cents and it amounts to a lot more than that.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Someone is trying to impress you with status. Too bad this person hasn't figured out that you could care less about how important other people think they are. You want to connect with someone as down-to-earth as you

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There are those around you who can't help but stir things up. It's their job to challenge the status quo. You will somehow find a way to conduct yourself with grace even when the boat is rock-

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's true that part of your identity is tied to what you do. And lately that's a big part of you. But you're not about to let that become your whole identity. There is so much more to you. Explore new extracurricular activi-

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To say that you are merely talented would be an understatement. You could become a master, with the right training. Consider getting a teacher. You might be able to barter to obtain someone's mentorship.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Keep doing the right thing. You are moving toward a state of grace. Others can sense that you're headed for a sweet position, and they will want to

get closer to you, just hoping the good fortune will rub off on them.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You may be affected by someone's mistake or oversight. This small slight doesn't have to ruin your day, though. In fact, it might be the best thing to happen to you, as other opportunities spring

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll get your moment to shine, and you won't have to fight for it, either. So be patient, modest and laid-back. When it's your turn, you'll step up and deliver with great charm.

T O D A Y ' BIRTHDAY (Feb. 19). You will show the world that there's even more to you. You increase your self-discipline and become stronger emotionally, physically and financially. March brings a new and influential friend into your life. June introduces a different line of work. September features family additions and celebrations. Aquarius and Virgo people adore you.

WEEKEND LOVE **FORECAST:** ARIES: You are self-confident and self-sufficient. This attractive. TAURUS: Put in some time with your love's family. Building these relationships is a new way to show your love. GEMINI: You are committed to improving yourself. Take a break, though. Cut loose. CANCER: Someone needs you to be strong and constant. Embrace your role as the rock. LEO: You have to pay to play. You'll be paid back, though. VIRGO: Dare to put your feelings in writing. You don't have to send the note, but it will help you to write it. LIBRA: Your private life is your business, though someone is trying to stick his or her nose into it. SCORPIO: Hone your style so that it can come through loud and clear. SAGITTARIUS: When you are happy, your love will be happy. Get a massage. CAPRICORN: Try not to overthink your status in a rela-

tionship. Everything is

going well. AQUARIUS:

your delivery is so cheerful that you can't possibly be accused of nagging. PISCES: You'll be the life of the party. And if there is no party, throw one.

COUPLE OF THE **WEEKEND:** Aries and Pisces are right next to one another on the zodiac wheel, though one represents the beginning and the other the end. These two naturally fall into established roles: Aries leads and Pisces follows. Aries cooks and Pisces cleans up. Aries makes the social schedule and Pisces shows up to the party. This weekend the roles reverse and Pisces takes charge of Aries, the devoted follower.

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, theCreators visit Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

COM

# Dear Margo: Same song, second verse

**Dear Margo:** For a few years now, my marriage has been very lonely, and my spouse is difficult in the best of times.

I admit: I was looking for a thrill and had an affair with a married man who had similar marriage woes.

To my utter shock and dismay, I've found that this man is completely perfect for me and we connect on all levels.

We've fallen deeply in love and have developed an incredible friendship.

I know people scoff at this type of thing, and I frankly never thought

We are generally sane, responsible people, though, and agreed not to break up our families; we will tolerate our disappointing spouses in order to give our children the best possible

future. We've taken the difficult step of giving up most of our relationship together and now just send e-mails because we both still need the lifeline.

But honestly, I am devastated. I don't know how to break such bonds of love and friendship. I am living with one man and loving and missing another.

I am slowly falling apart inside and running out of reasons to explain my sadness and depression to those around me. I don't know what to do. - *Grieving* 

**Dear Grieve:** I only give you this advice because I have lived it and I believe in it.

Although I never left one man for another, I think life is too short to be trapped in a marriage that is the polar opposite of fulfilling.

Yes, divorce takes a toll on children, but so does a sad and depressed mother.

I don't know whether the man of your dreams is willing to leave his family, but if he is, I would suggest you go ahead and remake your lives.

If he will not (which is more often than not the case), I recommend that you sever all ties and see a counselor about outmaneuvering depression.

Then, too, children grow up. Good luck figsuch a thing could hap- uring this out.  $-\mathit{Margo}$ , progressively

> Calling All Lovelorn!

Dear Readers: I've never tried anything like this before, but the request below strikes me as worthwhile.

I believe in studies, and honestly, who better than my audience for this particular sub-

So if you think you have something to add, be my guest.

Dear Margo: I am a psychology Ph.D. student and am currently undertaking a research project on how people process and are affected by hurtful events.

This includes factors such as how long people hold on to hurt feelings; how the importance of the relationship and type of event affect the intensity of the hurt; and what other emotions they tend to experience at the same time as the hurt.

I am currently in an important phase of my research, that of data collection, and I am finding it difficult to meet my required participant numbers.

Given that this is a topic that you and your readers know first-hand, I was wondering whether I could ask for your help in completing my data collection, which takes the form of two questionnaires that can be completed online.

Participants are welcome to complete one or both of the question-

Participants need to be 18 years or older and currently involved in a romantic to be eligible.

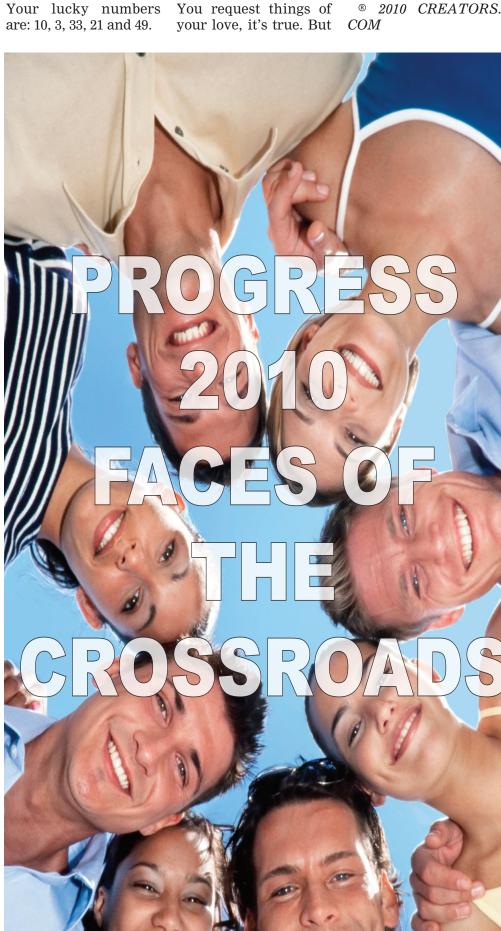
More details about the project and the questionnaires, as well as links to the questionnaires themselves, can be found at www.hurtlab.com.

Some preliminary results from this project were published in a number of media outlets late last year, but there are many more interesting findings that will come out of this research.

However, I won't be able to investigate these without sufficient participant numbers. Thank you very much for your time. I greatly appreciate it. - Jodie Burchell in Australia

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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# **Sand Springs Church Of Christ**



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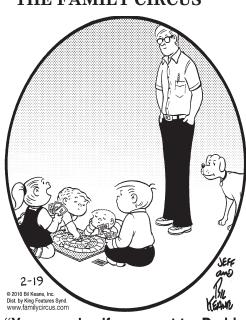
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	:PM	News	News	Locura	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Friends	In Touch	BBC	American	Sela Ward	CSI: Crime	Law & Order		Sonny	Around	SportsCenter
5	:30	ABC	ABC	Notic.	George	CBS	Noticiero	NBC	Office		Business	Loggers		Scn		BET's Top 10	Sonny	Interrupt	1
	:PM	News	Jeopardy!	Nombre-	Two Men	News	12 Cora-	News	Seinfeld	Scrivner	PBS News-	American	1	CSI: Crime	Bones		Sonny	College	1
6	:30	Ent	Wheel	Amor	Two Men	Ent	zones	Millionaire	Seinfeld	House	Hour	Loggers		Scn			Sonny	Basketball	NBA
_	:PM	Movie: Meet	Movie: Meet	Hasta que el	House	Ghost Whis-	El Clon	XXI Winter	Fam. Guy	Door-Wis-	Wash.	American	Movie: Troy,	UFC Fight	Movie: The		Movie:		NBA Basket-
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10	:PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias		Harold &	Church	Charlie Rose			Ways Die	(:10) Movie:		Phineas		ball: Celtics at Trail
10	:30	Nightline	Nightline	Notici.	TMZ	Letterman	Boxeo	News	Kumar Go	Cortes		Loggers	Movie:	Ways Die	Braveheart, Patrick		Deck		Blazers
44	:PM	Insider	Jimmy Kim-	Gancho	Law & Order:			XXI Winter		Sanchez	BBC	American	Aliens, Mi- chael Biehn	MAN	McGoohan	*	Suite Life	NFL Live	Biazoro
11	:30	Jimmy Kim-	mel Live		SVU	Late Late		Olympics	(:45) Movie:	McGee	T. Smiley	Loggers	Criaei bieriri	MAN	, modrodnan		So Raven	Final	
12	:AM	mel Live		Ahora-Hago	Paid		Camara		Scary Movie		(Off Air)	American		UFC 110			Cory	SportsNation	SportsCenter
12	:30	Cathedral	Paid		Faith	Insider	Pagado	XXI Winter	4	ССМ		Loggers		Countdown	]	Doing Hard Time	Kim		
4	:AM	Paid		Mujer	King-Hill	Ent	Pagado	Olympics:		Best of		Cash Cab		Movie: They			Replace	NASCAR	SportsCenter
	:30	Paid	Paid	Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Pagado	Figure Skatina.	Harold &	Light of the		Cash Cab	Return to	Live, Meg			Emperor	Baseball	

### DENNIS THE MENACE



"AW, MOM! I WASN'T EVERYBODY KNOWS GIRLS CAN'T THROW!" TALKIN' ABOUT YOU!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"You can play if you want to, Daddy. It isn't too hard."

ENDORSEMENT LOGOS,





I THINK SHE SET ME UP FOR THAT ONE!

**BLONDIE** 

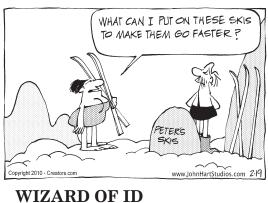
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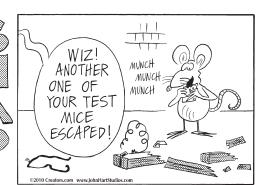




BC







ETERS

**AGNES** 







### This Date In History

Today is Friday, Feb. 19, the 50th day of 2010. There are 315 days left in the year.

Highlight in Today's History:

On Feb. 19, 1945, during World War II, some 30,000 U.S. Marines began landing on Iwo Jima, where they commenced a successful month-long battle to seize control of the island from Japanese forces.

On this date:

In 1473, astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus was born in Torun, Poland.

In 1803, Congress voted to accept Ohio's borders and constitution.

In 1846, the Texas state government was formally installed in Austin, with J. Pinckney Henderson taking the oath of office as governor.

In 1881, Kansas prohibited the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages.

In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized the military to relocate and intern

U.S. residents, including native-born Americans, of Japanese ancestry. Japanese warplanes raided the Australian city of Darwin; at least 243 people were killed.

In 1959, an agreement was signed by Britain, Turkey and Greece granting Cyprus its independence.

In 1983, 13 people were found shot to death at a gambling club in Seattle's Chinatown in what became known as the "Wah Mee Massacre." (Two Chinese immigrants were convicted of the killings and sentenced to life in prison.)

In 1997, Deng Xiaoping, the last of China's major Communist revolutionaries, died at age 92. In 1999, President Bill Clinton

posthumously pardoned Henry O. Flipper, the first black graduate of West Point, whose military career had been tarnished by a racially motivated discharge. In 2008, an ailing Fidel Castro

resigned the Cuban presidency after nearly a half-century in power; his brother Raul was later named to succeed him.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Smokey Robinson is 70. Singer Bobby Rogers (Smokey

11 Carry on

18 Gaucho

weapon

22 Goose egg

29 Real-estate ad

25 Easy job

abbr.

30 Sweetheart

31 Café addition

component

13 Draft choices

**12** Cake

Robinson & the Miracles) is 70. Actress Carlin Glynn is 70. Sony Chairman, CEO and President Howard Stringer is 68. Singer Lou Christie is 67. Actor Michael Nader is 65. Rock musician Tony Iommi (Black Sabbath, Heaven and Hell) is 62. Author Amy Tan is 58. Actor Jeff Daniels is 55. Rock singer-musician Dave Wakeling is 54. Talk show host Lorianne Crook is 53. Actor Ray Winstone is 53. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell is 51. Britain's Prince Andrew is 50. Tennis Hall-of-Famer Hana Mandlikova is 48. Singer Seal is 47. Country musician Ralph McCauley (Wild Horses) is 46. Rock musician Jon Fishman (Phish) is 45.

® 2010 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

MEWL SLEEPAWINK
ACHY EERIE ANTE
STY TEND RAID

MAMESALT







### HI AND LOIS





### THE OTHER COAST







### **SNUFFY SMITH**







### BEETLE BAILEY





### **Newsday Crossword**

### **ACROSS**

- 1 Engine turns **5** "No \_\_!"
- 9 Sealy
- alternative
- **14** Jai
- 15 Doozy
- 16 Be useful
- 17 High-yield investments
- 19 Water
- container 20 "You said it!"
- 21 Scorchers
- 23 It's over your head
- 24 French article
- 26 Medit. nation 27 Flintstone's
- friend
- 33 Boy or girl preceder
- **36** Downturn 37 No picnic
- 38 Sweat units
- **40** The National Parks airer
- 42 Parsifal quest
- 43 They're
- 45 "What's the \_\_?"
- 47 Soft-pedal
- 48 Pet-shop group
- 51 Turn down 52 Sun. message
- **53** The Sting
- music
- aftermaths
- 63 Bar mitzvah
- **64** Be squandered
- 66 Hippodrome 67 The Time Machine race

69 Swiss city **70** "Joyeux \_\_!"

68 Transcript figs.

71 Fictional governess

### **DOWN**

- 1 4 Down rulers
  - 2 Spend, with
  - "down"
  - 3 Actor Patinkin 4 Many a Punjabi
  - 5 Farmhands,
  - at times
  - 6 Manage
  - 7 Auto pioneer
  - 8 With much activity

10 Daredevil

9 Sound of Music setting

Robbie's dad

- - **32** Fashion mag
  - 33 Biblical brother **34** Ben's
  - girlfriend
  - 35 Like key lime pie 39 The Red and

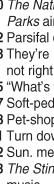
the Black author

- TRASH TALK by Merle Baker Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com
  - 41 Nurses, in a way
  - 44 Tosca tune
  - 46 Heat source 49 Element in
  - chlorophyll
  - 50 Airship's front end
  - 53 Grating
- 27 Not competent in 54 Rite place
- 28 Treble-clef lines 55 Formation fliers
  - **56** Unconfident attempt 57 A Doll's House
  - character 58 Metal sources
  - 59 Lose energy
  - Meet the Parents 60 Do it alone
    - 62 Batting-practice setup
    - 65 Sight in a sandal

10

16 19

11 |12 |13



56 Winter-storm 61 Place

reading

# Let the fight within you out

in a boat and Charley jumped

ith our shaky economy today and the many changes we are seeing in our country, we could easily become weary and develop a

negative approach toward life. But the Bible tells us in Luke 21:28, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption

draweth nigh.'



STOCKS

God's plan is right on schedule and He is still in control. Therefore, we need not be fearful. Instead, change your thinking and put your full trust in Jesus Christ concerning these troubled times.

The question is "How deep is your faith?" Shallow faith is sorely tested during difficulties. Our faith must be strong and embedded in God's promises to face the challenges of today's world. Jesus said, "If you have

faith as a grain of mustard seed, you could say unto this mountain, remove hence to yonder place; and it would obey you, and nothing would be impossible unto you."

Charley and Lucinda Slater lived in New Orleans with their 3-year-old twin boys when Hurricane Katrina swept their house away in a matter of minutes with tremendous force.

The family climbed upon the roof of their house hoping for a rescue team to come their way when the wind suddenly increased in intensity, causing the small frame house to give way to the power of the wind. In the chaos, Charley lost his grip on the two little boys and the horrified parents watched as the swirling waters swept the tots away.

Charley frantically anchored Lucinda to some large tree branches as he prepared to go in search of the boys. Lucinda prayed, "Please God, send us a rescue team and let them find our babies alive and well."

Seconds later out of nowhere, rescuers showed up

aboard. As he left, he told his wife to stay in the tree and hold on tight. "I'm afraid we're all going to die," he said. Lucinda shouted back, "We are not going to die! The end is not near! God is with us and we will live." She prayed with every ounce of strength she had. "Please dear God, spare our lives and let Charley find the boys safe and alive." Lucinda kept her faith strong in God's promises and never doubted

that the boys would be found

alive. Her favorite scripture

was Psalms 91:7, "A thou-

sand may fall at your side,

ten thousand at your right

hand, but it will not come

near you."

Several hours later near sundown, Charley and the rescue workers finally returned with both boys, who had sustained only minor cuts and bruises.

The twins, in shock, soaking wet, and muddy were found together, sitting in a galvanized wash tub that had wedged itself between two large trees. A Miracle? You decide.

When Lucinda saw the rescue team with Charley and the boys aboard, she began to sing, "Jesus, lover of my soul, Let me to Thy bosom fly, While the nearer waters roll while the tempest still is high. Hide me, O my savior, hide, Till the storm of life is past: Safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last. Other refuge have I none: Hangs my helpless soul on Thee: Leave, O leave me not alone, Still support and comfort me." As the winds died down, Charley, Lucinda and the boys were taken to a shelter, given a shower, warm clothing, and food, all freely donated by wonderful people from Texas and other states as well.

What a lady of faith! Her faith was anchored in the promises of God and it carried her family through the worst of the worst. This is what can be accomplished when doubt and fear are replaced with active, living faith. When you are convinced that God will never leave you alone and you allow the fight within you to come out, God will

honor that faith. Even small faith will produce enormous miracles when it is released.

It is often in the midst of our most difficult circumstances that we recognize the burning fight within. This fight tenaciously grabs hold of the impossible and brings miracles into our lives. Never allow doubt to override your faith or paralyze you with fear. Faith is the opposite of fear and the two do not mix. Faith is not some long drawn-out process we must endure; it is a simple matter of believing what the Bible says.

Jesus said, "In the world we will have tribulations (trouble), but be of good cheer for I have overcome the world." Jesus knew that we would need to press our faith as far as it would go and allow the fight within us to push to the front. As we do, God will see to it that we overcome.

Ephesians 6:16, "Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one."

God bless

### **CHURCH NEWS**

Continued from Page 5A

### **East Fourth Street Baptist**

This past Sunday evening was designated Youth Night in which the youth led the music and presented a skit which designated the obstacles and temptations our youth and college kids face in todays world. It was a true, heart-wretching story and showed how we all need the Love of God in our lives and know him as our personal saviour. This program was followed by a Valentine Banquet for the youth and college/career prepared by the adults. Their pictures will be presented in the foyer this Sunday.

This Saturday our youth will be selling their famous brisket burritos in front of Wal-Mart. Please help them earn their funds for summer camp by purchasing the burritos.

We invite you to visit us at East Fourth Street Baptist Church, located at 401 E. Fourth St. Sunday, we start our services with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., followed by a worship service at 11 where you'll hear some praise and worship music led by the Voices for Christ and our choir leading out with gospel hymns. Our Sunday evening services are at 6 p.m. Wednesday, we have our adult prayer meeting and Bible study, youth Bible study, music practice and children's Back Door Bible Study beginning at

is at 7 a.m.
Our pastor, Keith Weaver, brings our message.

7 p.m. Saturdays, a men's Bible study

For more information, call the church office at 267-2291. You'll always find a friend at East Fourth.

### St. Mary's Episcopal

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's this Sun-

day. Holy communion is celebrated at 10:30 a.m. We have Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew's will meet at the church this Sunday at 8 a.m.

The Episcopal Church Women will meet in the library after church. All women of the church are encouraged to join us for this short meeting.

St. Mary's noon Holy Eucharist Service is each Wednesday in the chapel.
St. Mary's Lenten Soup and Studies

begins Wednesday at 6 p.m.
Our Inquirer's Class, for those interested in learning about the Enis-

terested in learning about the Episcopal Church, is 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, in the parish hall.

For more information about St.

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 S. Goliad.

### St. Paul Lutheran

St. Paul Lutheran Church, located at 810 Scurry, invites everyone to attend our worship services. Sunday worship begins at 9 a.m. with Sunday school for all beginning at 10:15. Our pastor is Wayne K. Frost. To reach our church office, call 267-7163 or e-mail spaullc@sbcglobal.net.

Bible study opportunities are available to anyone wanting to participate. Currently, we have four classes — Wednesdays at noon and 6 p.m. in the parish hall, Friday at 6 a.m. at Greg's Grill in the Big Spring Mall, and Sunday at 6 p.m. at 2712 Ann.

For more information, call the church office between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

We are reminded to include in our daily prayers our military men and women, especially those in combat situations.

North Birdwell Lane

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church, 2702 N. Birdwell Lane, invites you to visit our congregation this Sunday. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. with different class members leading the lesson each week. Worship services are at 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. with certified lay minister Billy C. Bates preaching.

We are a small church but have a very big, loving heart. If you are searching for a church home or are in the neighborhood, we hope you will visit with us.

Wednesday, Feb. 18, North Birdwell began our celebration of the Lenten Season as we prepare for Easter Sunday and the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Ash Wednesday service was held at 5:30 p.m. with the administration of ashes as we rededicate ourselves to make more disciples for Christ. We invite you to worship with us during this season of Lent.

Remember, God loves you and there is nothing you can do about it.
"For God so loved the world that He

"For God so loved the world that He gave his only son that whosoever believes in Him shall have everlasting life." — John 3:16.

See **CHURCH NEWS**, Page 8A



# VOTE Timothy D. Yeats REPUBLICAN for

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For over 27 years I have had the pleasure of practicing law in courtrooms throughout West Texas. My broad legal background in civil and criminal law has prepared me for the office, and it would be an honor to serve as your next District Judge.

- Timothy D. Yeats -

For more information, go to www.yeatsforjudge.com

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Judicial Campaign Fairness Act

# CLASS OF 2012 To all parents of Graduation Class of 2012 (Sophomores)

1st Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday,
February 24, 2010
at the
Big Spring High School Library,
6:00 p.m.

Questions Contact: Valerie Robertson 432-213-8315

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# Club News

### Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association

The Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association met in Howard College's Cactus Room, Feb. 15, 2010, with 31 members and one guest present. The invocation was given by Bill Schaffner.

Guest speaker was Shann Smith, director of Victim's Services for Howard, Martin, Glasscock and Mitchell counties. Using a very personal approach, she explained the services available to women, children and men in the area.

Mrs. Smith indicated that volunteers were always needed and encouraged TRTA members to become

Bonnie Wheat, membership chairman, reported the addition of two new members.

Nancy Fulgham will replace Jean Wynn as delegate to the state convention. Roe Fulgham will attend as alternate delegate.

Loyce Phillips, Legislative Committee chairman, reported that TRTA now has 70,899 members, which is a record membership. She also reported that TRTA will host a first-ever national GPO/WEP summit in Washington D.C. March 9-10. News came last week that President Obama is seeking greater enforcement of the current GPO/WEP laws in order to help pay for the social Security program.

On the state level, it was reported that Governor Perry has told TRS it must reduce its current budget appropriation by 5 percent or \$26.5 million.

This budget cutting process is part of a statewide, all-agency attempt to reduce Texas state expenditures for the current biennium. It is important to note that the requested budget reduction exempts state contributions to the pension fund.

Bill and Corene Schaffner, Health Care and Volunteer Service Committee co-chairmen, reported a total of 14,845 hours volunteered by members for 2008-2009, with Delmar Hartin reporting 1,990 hours. Total steps walked by members were 67,081,000, with Delmar Hartin reporting 16,712,000 steps.

Retirement Education Chairman Andre Clark reported that the seminar held in Midland on Feb. 6 was a great success with 130 participants attend-

### **Howard County Democratic Club**

The Howard County Democratic Club met Feb. 2 at the Commissioners Courtroom in the Howard County Courthouse. Democratic Party candidates president were Jim Sinclair, candidate for Precinct 2 on the Howard Conty Commissioners Court and Precinct 1, Place 2 candidate for Justice of the Peace Rick Hughes.

Howard County Democratic Club President Walt Shipman led a discussion during which the club membership presented several excellent ideas on how to raise the level of interest and enthusiam for local Democrats running for office. One idea discussed was working booths at various public events during the coming year, like the Cinco de Mayo celebration, Pops in the Park and the county fair. Another was having a raffle, such as has been done by our club in the past.

The club anticipates having local and state-wide Democratic candidates speak at club meetings after the primary races have concluded.

The next meeting of the Howard County Democrat Club will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Howard County Library meeting room.

### TOPS Club 0021 TOPS Club 0021 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) met

Monday evening as usual in the fellowship hall of First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad to discuss weight problems and how to control healthy weight. Leader Laura Sickles opened the meeting by calling for the TOPS cheer.

Raymond Churchwell led the members in the TOPS pledge, then Ethel Cassaday led the KOPS (Keep Pounds Off Sensibly) pledge. The TOPS welcome song was led by Olnee Menges and sung by

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Frank Sickloes and approved by all present. A reading was then presented by Olnee Menges titled "Miracle Worker: Your Daily Walk."

Roll call was presented by Hughetta Roberts with nine TOPS and two KOPS members present.

The weekly Best Loser was Hughetta Robers with a loss of .75 pounds. She was presented the \$1 prize and awarded a certificate of achievement. One member was recognized as a "turtle," which signifies no gain or loss for the week.

Leader Laura Sickles announced that Pam Klaus was the winner of the Valentine contest for the past six weeks with a loss of 8.25 pounds. A new contest for the next six weeks, an Easter bonnet contest, began Monday. Each participant will receive a flower for each .25-pound loss. The bonnet with the most flowers will be the winner.

The business portion began with the announcement that secretary Mary Berry has resigned due to a new work schedule. A motion was presented and approved to refund her unused registration fee. Olnee Menges was then approved to be secretary until March 31. New officers will be installed

A motion was presented to repay Leola Newton for her expenses for the contest. It was approved.

Carol Smith then presented the evening's program — "Goals and Secrets of Winners." We are encouraged to set realistic goals. Start small and work up to completion. Keep a focus on goals; use them as a blueprint to success. Remember, healthy eating helps you achieve your goal and helps you

retain your goal after obtaining it. All visitors are welcome at TOPS meetings. For more information, please call Frank Sickles at (432) 213-1342 or Olnee Menges at 263-6819.

TOPS does help weight loss. Come see for yourself.

### **CHURCH NEWS**

Continued from Page 7A

### First Church of the Nazarene

Many exciting things are happening at First Church of the Nazarene and we invite you to feel

the movement of God's love that is taking place. Join us for Sunday morning fellowship at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and donuts, followed by worship service at 10. Children's Church services, for ages 4-11, are in the fellowship hall Sunday, also at 10.

Wednesdays, our Naz Family classes begin at 6:30 p.m. for all ages. NazKidz (4 years through third grade) meets in the classrooms at the north end of the fellowship hall for Bible class. The fourth through sixth grade pre-teens have "gender focused" classes as they learn to grow into Christian men and ladies. The boys meet under the "Salt Shaker" in the gym and the girls meet in the east classoom under the "Salt Shaker." Youth Explosion with Pastor Cal, for seventh through 12th graders, is also Wednesdays

Adults can choose one of the following options: The Coffee Class is studying Joy Comes in the Morning from Max Lucado's book, "He Still Moves Stones." Another is the study of the Nazarene Holiness movement and how it relates to our lives today. Or, you may be a part of a study of "Life in the Spirit: a study of the book of Galatians."

Thursdays at 7, the College and Young Adults Life Group meets with Pastor Cal. Sundays at 6:30 is the Harvest Life Group and Financial Peace University at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

If you have any questions, call 267-7015 or e-mail us at church@nazfamily.org. Also, look us up on our Facebook and Twitter under Big Spring First Church of the Naz.

### Spring Creek Fellowship

Pastor Dennis Teeters is continuing a sermon series, "Don't Just Stand There, Do Something..." with this week's sermom titled "Azariah Encouraged," based on 2 Chronicles 15:1-9. Sunday evening, we will continue studying 1 Corinthians. Sunday evening we will be coming from 1 Corinthians 10:23-11-1. Our services Sunday are at 10:45 a.m. with Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Sunday evening begins at 5 p.m. with Bible study groups followed by worship at 6. Our services are a time of worship of our wonderful Savior, Jesus Christ.

Encounter is Saturday, Feb. 27, at 7 p.m. It will be a place for teens, college students and anyone else who wants to enjoy great music and fellowship. Cody Carnes will be coming back home to lead in

this special time. SCF is located in the College Park Shopping Cen-

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