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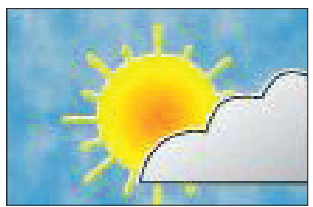


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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 25, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 69

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



HERALD photo/Joe Zigtema

Jerrell Williams hoists the bidistrict trophy at the Texan Dome in Levelland after Big Spring's Steers defeated Canyon, 65-45, Wednesday night. See related story, Page 6.

Two guilty of murder in 2008 slayings

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

A Lubbock federal jury convicted two gang members Wednesday on multiple charges stemming from a May 2008 shooting in Big Spring that left two people dead.

Jose Robledo Nava (aka "Chino") and James Johnathan Cole (aka "Blitz") were each found guilty on two counts of using a firearm to commit murder during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime, as well as one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine and 100 kilograms or more of marijuana.

"We will not allow their repugnant acts to go unpunished. Today, a jury of Texas citizens sent a message loud and clear to would-be gang members — we can and we will hold you accountable for your crimes."

Lanny A. Breuer,
Assistant Attorney General

The jury also found Nava guilty of one count of possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine, one count of conspiracy to engage in the business of dealing

in firearms and one count of possession of stolen firearms.

Nava and Cole, members of the "Almighty Latin King and Queen Nation" gang, were convicted in connection with the May 4, 2008, shooting death of Big Spring residents Michael Cordona, 20, and Valerie Garcia, 21. Garcia's unborn child also died as a result of the shooting.

Assistant Attorney General of the Department of Justice's Criminal

See **MURDER**, Page 3

Candidates file for Sands CISD board

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Filings for area school board races continue at a snail's pace.

Within the past few days, only Sands Consolidated Independent School District has announced any candidate filings for the May 8 trustee elections.

Sands Superintendent Wayne Blount said Tuesday that incumbent Michelle Zant and challenger Michael Wigington have filed for the two open at-large positions to be filled this May. Zant is seeking a second three-year term on the board while Wigington, a pumper for Chevron Oil Co., is making his first try for the school board.

Stan Blaggrave, the other incumbent who's seat is up for election, has not announced whether he will seek another term, Blount said.

In other area races:

- Big Spring ISD — Incumbents Phil Furqueron (District 7) and Jeff Brorman (District 6) are officially seeking new terms on the board. No challengers have filed for those positions.

In District 5, where incumbent Mike Dawson is stepping down after four terms as a trustee, two challengers have emerged — Chad Wash, owner of CWOC Inc., and Michelle Hamby, a registered nurse at Big Spring State Hospital.

- Coahoma ISD — No candidates have yet to emerge for the two at-large positions to be decided in May, Administration Secretary Judy Dobbs said. James White and Sissy Franklin are the incumbents in those two positions.

- Forsan ISD — Incumbents Tom Bill Kuykendall and Chris Evans have filed for re-election. No challengers have filed for the at-large posts.

- Stanton ISD — Incumbents Daniel Ramos (District 1) and Darren Patrick (District 5) have filed election papers, said Superintendent David Carr.

- Howard College — Incumbent trustees Murray Murphy (District 2), Larry McLellan (District 3 unexpired term) and Maxwell Barr (District 4 unexpired term) have filed election papers, Executive Assistant Julie Bailey said. No candidates have emerged for the District 1 seat, currently held by Michael Flores.

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

VOM reception set for Stanley at Hangar 25

A reception for Dealon Stanley, Hangar 25 Air Museum Veteran of the Month for February, will be held at 6 p.m. today in the hangar Briefing Room.

Stanley served in the United States Army during World War II. He was an infantryman in the 25th Division, 35th Regiment, stationed in the Philippines.

The public is invited to visit with Stanley during today's reception. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 264-1999.

Clean air, clean water, clean language

California lawmakers vote on statewide 'Cuss Free Week'

By **ROBIN HINDERY**
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California lawmakers have a history of trying to keep the state's air and waters clean. Now they're tackling language.

The state Assembly is scheduled to vote on a resolution Thursday calling for a statewide "Cuss Free

Week," to occur annually during the first week of March. If approved, it would go to the state Senate for a final vote on Monday.

The rest of next week will be officially swear-word free if both houses approve the resolution.

The resolution by Assemblyman Anthony Portantino, D-La Canada Flintridge, was inspired by a South Pasadena teenager, McKay Hatch,

who founded a No Cussing Club at his junior high school in 2007. His efforts to stamp out profanity have generated international attention, with 35,000 members joining the No Cussing Club's Web site.

Portantino said the California Legislature — known for imposing strict clean air and clean water

See **CUSS FREE**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Cecial Allred

Cecial Allred, 96, of Ackerly died Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, 2010, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Larry Marshall and Rick Cunningham officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010, at the funeral home.

He was born Jan. 5, 1914, in Knott and married Ruby Marie Hughes on July 25, 1934, in Big Spring. She preceded him in death Aug. 2, 2001.

Cecial grew up in the Knott Community and attended school there. He had farmed in the Knott and Ackerly area for 53 years. He was a member of the Knott Church of Christ and had served as an elder at the Ackerly Church of Christ.

Cecial served on the Knott School Board, with the Knott Coop Gin and the Howard County FSA Committee. He was a charter member of the Howard County Sheriff's Posse, a member of the Friends of 4-H, the Martin County Heritage Museum and the Heritage Museum of Big Spring.

Survivors include his daughter, Joan Blagrave and husband Derwood of Ackerly; two grandsons, Stan Blagrave and wife Carla, and Steve Blagrave and wife Tracie, all of Ackerly; three great-granddaughters, Shelli Jordan and husband Jonathan of Decatur, Krista Blagrave of Lubbock and Brittini Blagrave of Ackerly; two great-grandsons, Sean Blagrave and Trevor Blagrave, both of Ackerly; and one brother, Donald Allred of Ackerly.

The family suggests memorials be made to a favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Leslie McCurtain

Leslie McCurtain, 49, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

• 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.

SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

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

Police blotter

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

- BRENDA KAY MILLER, 44, of 2507 Kelly Circle, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from Kansas.
- THEFT OF SERVICE was reported in the 200 block of Eighth Street.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 600 block of Interstate Highway 20.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported: In the 1200 block of Gregg Street. In the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. In the 2400 block of FM 700.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 50 inmates at the time of this report.

- JUAN DAVID MARTINEZ, 21, was arrested Wednesday on an Andrews County warrant for sexual assault of a child (first-degree felony).
- BRENDA KAY MILLER, 44, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on Ford County, Kan., warrants for interfering with parental custody (two counts).
- DONTAE RENELL CARR, 28, was arrested Thursday by DPS on a charge of no driver's license.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported near the intersection of Chanute and Randolph. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2200 block of Grace. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Ridgeroad. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2400 block of E. FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Scurry. Service refused.

Take Note

• The public is invited to meet Republican candidates for office from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. tonight at Gregg's Grill in the Big Spring Mall. For more information, contact Dana Baker at (432) 816-6258.

• Tonight's 7 p.m. meeting of the Big Spring Film Society at Hall Center for the Arts has been postponed because of scheduling conflicts. It will be rescheduled for mid-March.

• Big Spring Independent School District will dismiss classes at 1:45 p.m. Friday so that staff can attend a meeting to discuss facility plans for the district.





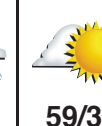
• Steer Band Boosters will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the Big Spring High School Band Hall. This is a meeting for all junior high and high school band parents. We will be discussing the possibility of a spring banquet.

• A fund has been established at Wood Forest National Bank for Jeffery Cate (Bubba). He is a lifetime resident of Big Spring and is employed at B&E Roustabout. He was in a car accident New Year's Eve and is still in a hospital in Lubbock. He had surgery to remove his spleen and has several broken bones, including one in his neck. He has also suffered some memory loss due to a bruise on one side of his brain. He has three small boys. The medical bills and family travel expenses are adding up. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

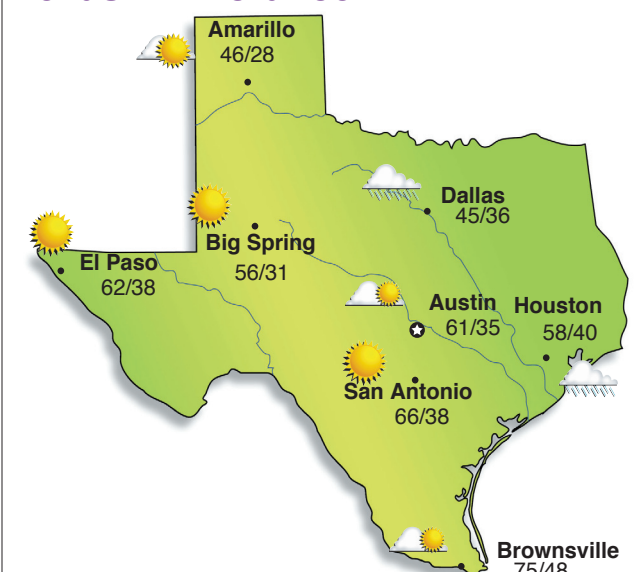
• Attention military personnel and dependents: The Salvation Army currently has funding for Texas military personnel now serving or who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Members or dependents may apply at the Salvation Army Office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., or call (432) 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 2/26	Sat 2/27	Sun 2/28	Mon 3/1	Tue 3/2
 56/31 Mainly sunny. High 56F. Winds NNW at 15 to 25 mph.	 60/37 Mostly cloudy. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	 58/31 Windy, chance of showers. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 30s.	 49/29 Occasional showers possible.	 59/35 A few clouds. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 6:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 6:42 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 6:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:13 AM Sunset: 6:44 PM	Sunrise: 7:12 AM Sunset: 6:44 PM

Texas At A Glance



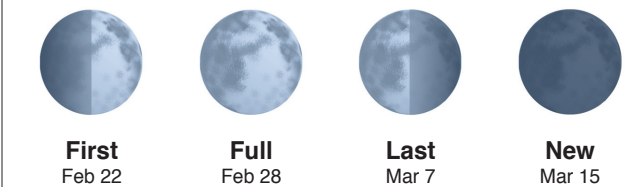
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	52	30	mst sunny	Kingsville	72	43	pt sunny
Amarillo	46	28	mst sunny	Livingston	54	37	rain
Austin	61	35	pt sunny	Longview	44	38	rain
Beaumont	57	43	rain	Lubbock	54	30	sunny
Brownsville	75	48	pt sunny	Lufkin	54	39	rain
Brownwood	52	32	pt sunny	Midland	59	35	sunny
Corpus Christi	67	43	pt sunny	Raymondville	75	45	pt sunny
Corsicana	44	36	rain	Rosenberg	58	40	rain
Dallas	45	36	rain	San Antonio	66	38	sunny
Del Rio	68	38	windy	San Marcos	62	36	pt sunny
El Paso	62	38	sunny	Sulphur Springs	44	36	rain
Fort Stockton	60	37	windy	Sweetwater	53	31	mst sunny
Gainesville	41	31	rain	Tyler	44	37	rain
Greenville	42	34	rain	Weatherford	43	31	rain
Houston	58	40	rain	Wichita Falls	46	29	mixed

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	50	27	mst sunny	Minneapolis	29	11	pt sunny
Boston	39	33	mixed	New York	36	32	sn shower
Chicago	33	22	pt sunny	Phoenix	69	50	pt sunny
Dallas	45	36	rain	San Francisco	56	48	rain
Denver	44	26	mst sunny	Seattle	52	44	rain
Houston	58	40	rain	St. Louis	40	24	sunny
Los Angeles	68	52	cloudy	Washington, DC	40	31	sn shower
Miami	65	49	sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Fri 2/26	Sat 2/27	Sun 2/28	Mon 3/1	Tue 3/2
6	6	6	5	6
High	High	High	Moderate	High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 4-18-20-46-48-50.
Number matching six of six: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 7-8-17-29-32.
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-4-8-9. Sum It Up: 30.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 1-3-6. Sum It Up: 10.



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Ron Midkiff	Publisher... Ext. 250
John A. Moseley	Managing Editor... Ext. 230
Rick Nunez	Advertising Manager... Ext. 229
Robert Smith	Circulation Manager... Ext. 252
Tony Hernandez	Production Manager... Ext. 256

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News in brief

Planning final push to pass Obama's bill, Democrats look beyond televised session with GOP

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama and his Democratic allies are pleading their case for health care overhaul in an extraordinary summit with Republicans, broadcast live to a divided public on daytime TV.

But Democrats are already looking beyond Thursday's meeting at historic Blair House. With GOP lawmakers remaining steadfast in their opposition, the president and his party are preparing to move on alone.

At stake in the high-risk strategy is the Democrats' stalemated legislation to extend coverage to more than 30 million people who are now uninsured. Politically, it's an all-or-nothing gamble in a midterm election year for Democrats bent on achieving a goal that has eluded lawmakers for a half-century.

Polls show Americans want their elected leaders to address the problems of high medical costs, eroding access to coverage and uneven quality. But the public is split over the Democrats' sweeping legislation, with its \$1 trillion, 10-year price tag and many complex provisions, including some that wouldn't take effect for another eight years — after Obama has packed up and left the White House.

For Obama, the summit is his chance to make a compelling closing argument to the American people. If he succeeds, Democrats will push ahead to pass the legislation with a package of revisions he's proposed. If Obama falters, another Democratic president will have been humbled by health care. He will have to appeal to both sides to at least give him a modest bill smoothing some of the rough edges from the current system.

Wednesday, on Capitol Hill, the statements of two leaders illustrated the chasm between the parties.

Killer whale attacks, kills trainer at Orlando SeaWorld as horrified spectators watch

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A veteran SeaWorld trainer was leisurely rubbing a killer whale from a poolside platform when the 12,000-pound creature reached up, grabbed her with its mouth and dragged her underwater. Despite workers rushing to help, the trainer was killed.

Horrified visitors who had stuck around after a noontime show watched the animal charge through the pool with the trainer in its jaws. Workers used nets as an alarm sounded, but it was too late. Dawn

Brancheau had drowned. It marked the third time the animal had been involved in a human death.

Brancheau's interaction with the whale appeared leisurely and informal at first to audience member Eldon Skaggs. But then, the whale "pulled her under and started swimming around with her," Skaggs told The Associated Press.

Some workers hustled the audience out of the stadium while the others tried to save Brancheau, 40.

Skaggs said he heard that during an earlier show the whale was not responding to directions. Others who attended the earlier show said the whale was behaving like an ornery child.

India and Pakistan begin first high-level talks since Mumbai attack 15 months ago

NEW DELHI (AP) — India and Pakistan held high-level peace talks Thursday for the first time since the 2008 Mumbai attacks in an effort to rebuild confidence and reduce tensions between the nuclear-armed rivals.

The one-day talks in New Delhi between the two countries' foreign secretaries is seen as an important achievement that could help Pakistan concentrate its resources on supporting the U.S. in its fight against the Taliban and al-Qaida.

Few were expecting any breakthroughs on the divisive issues that have sparked three wars and countless skirmishes between the neighbors over the past six decades.

Indian Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram said he was "not very optimistic" about the talks.

The talks have no agenda and either side can bring up any issues it wants to, "but we are not going to enter into substantive talks on every issue," he told the NDTV news channel.

Toyota problems still loom large after Washington hearings, with U.S. investigations under way

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even as Toyota CEO Akio Toyoda wrapped up a grueling appearance before Congress, the head of the world's largest automaker wasn't leaving his problems behind.

Toyota faces a criminal investigation by federal prosecutors in New York. The Securities and Exchange Commission is investigating the company. Its beleaguered U.S. dealerships are facing repairs to potentially millions of customer vehicles that have been recalled. The company is offering customers new reimbursements for rental cars and

other expenses.

Its lawyers are bracing for waves of death and injury lawsuits. The Senate will conduct a new hearing next week. And the cost to Toyota's reputation is only now starting to emerge.

"There is still a very large bull's-eye pinned to Toyota right now," said Aaron Bragman, an auto industry analyst with IHS Global Insight.

Despite back-to-back congressional hearings this week, left to be said were a better explanation for slow actions to deal with the defects and believable assurances that the problems that led to sudden, unintended accelerations will be fixed.

Toyota said those changes were being made nearly around the clock, but during three hours of often tense questions and answers he repeated the company's insistence that there was no link to the cars' electronic systems.

Many drivers filing complaints with Toyota and the government say their acceleration problems had nothing to do with floor mat interference or sticky gas pedals — the culprits the company is pointing to. Outside experts have suggested electronic problems.

Colorado gunman had grown increasingly erratic

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — A man accused of wounding two middle school students in a community still haunted by the Columbine massacre often talked to himself and imaginary friends — and that talk recently turned to yelling, his father said.

Bruco Strong Eagle Eastwood, 32, would unplug the refrigerator and not eat macaroni and cheese because they were too loud, War Eagle Eastwood said. Though the younger Eastwood was struggling with bills and getting his high school equivalency degree, his father said he couldn't pinpoint anything that would lead his son to open fire Tuesday at Deer Creek Middle School.

"It would be nice to find somebody or something to blame it on, but you can't," War Eagle Eastwood said Wednesday at his ranch in Hudson, about 55 miles northeast of the school.

"He has problems, but I never thought he'd go to the extent to hurt somebody," Eastwood said. "You can say you're sorry, but you can't replace the fear and hurt he's put in innocent people. He's put a hole inside of me."

Investigators were reviewing Bruco Eastwood's journals as they tried to figure out why the unemployed ranch hand allegedly showed up at his old school and started firing at students in the parking lot before being tackled by a math teacher.

MURDER

Continued from Page 1

Division Lanny A. Breuer called the conviction a victory in the fight against gang violence.

"Cunning down people in our streets and distributing illegal drugs throughout our communities, these gangs spread violence and addiction wherever they go," Breuer said. "We will not allow their

repugnant acts to go unpunished. Today, a jury of Texas citizens sent a message loud and clear to would-be gang members — we can and we will hold you accountable for your crimes."

U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas James T. Jacks, whose office prosecuted the case, echoed Breuer's statement.

"For more than a week, this jury listen to testimony concerning the movement of a large

amount of drugs and guns throughout the state of Texas by members of the Latin Kings criminal organization," Jacks said. "... We are proud that we, along with the hard-working members of the agencies that contributed to this investigation, have brought civilized justice to otherwise uncivilized gang wars."

The jury found that Nava and Cole were members of a conspiracy that included Luis Nava,

aka "Flaco;" Reynaldo Nava, aka "Rat;" Robert Allen Ramirez, aka "Nesyo;" Marie Chavez, aka "Shorty;" Carol Ann Rivas Nava; Cecily Dominique Juarez; Jesus Martinez, aka "Solid;" David Hellums, aka "Cutthroat;" Eduardo Daniel Mares, aka "Pitt;" Gabriel Lee Gonzales; Michael Conde, aka "Psycho;" John Guzman; Guerrero Olivas, aka "Screech;" Eliseo Perez, aka "Wicked;" Joe Canales, aka

"Slick;" and others.

The jury found that from 2001 until Dec. 13, 2008, Nava and Cole directly or indirectly agreed to distribute, and possessed with intent to distribute, cocaine and marijuana.

The defendants face a maximum sentence of life in prison. A sentencing date has not yet been set by the court.

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

reporter@bigspringherald.com

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CUSS FREE

Continued from Page 1

laws — is the first state legislative body in the nation to consider a statewide profanity-free week.

Hatch, now 16, said he sees a link between cussing and drug use, bullying and other harmful behavior. A cuss-free world would be a more harmonious one, he

said.

"I want to bring as much awareness as I can to people about their language and how they're speaking to each other," Hatch said in a telephone interview Wednesday as he was headed to Sacramento. "We need to stop tearing people down and uplift them instead."

Portantino said his resolution is simply a guideline, a reminder to "act like you're at your grandma's house."

There would be no enforcement mechanism included.

"We're having fun with it," the lawmaker said, adding that he expected the measure to receive bipartisan support in both houses.

Profanity is rare on the floor of the Assembly or Senate, where lawmakers of both parties try to maintain a sense of decorum even as they engage in heated arguments over legislation.

After one former law-

maker used the word "hell" in the Senate chambers in 2007, senators took time out from a busy day of voting to debate whether it was appropriate to use the word on the floor. Lawmakers eventually agreed to disagree.

If the Assembly approves the resolution, Portantino said he and his staff plan to deliver a "cuss jar" to the office of every state lawmaker and the governor. Those who let a foul word slip

would be encouraged to deposit money into the jar as penance, Portantino explained.

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD
By Eddy Pitchford

When a polecat comes through the neighborhood, there is immediate attention and caution. Nobody wants the business end of a skunk or the unpleasant aroma that prompts unflattering conversations and editorial comments.

In similar fashion, some folks spray others with bombastic comments and ridicule. They leave a calling card with attitudes that send people scattering for cover and safety. They tend to be avoided and disdained for their unpleasant disposition.

What about you? Do you bring joy when you enter a room or when you leave it? If folks are trying to dodge you, it may be time to trade in the polecat potion of a critical spirit for the fragrance of faith and kindness.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Bill McClellan
News Editor

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

YOURS VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank the Big Spring Symphony Association and its conductor, Dr. Keith Graumann, for a truly extraordinary concert last Saturday night.

I teach elementary music at Colorado ISD. I contacted Dr. Graumann inquiring about any student concerts they might be conducting and he informed me of the current situation of the "moving on" concert series.

He immediately invited my students and any teachers to attend the Feb. 20 concert as his guests.

Needless to say, we quickly took him up on his offer and were very pleased with the Big Spring Symphony and its professionalism. Thank you for making us feel so welcome. It was an experience we will never forget.

NANNETTE MATA
COLORADO CITY

TO THE EDITOR:

The elections in Texas this year will define what kind of government we want to have in our great state. For those who intend to vote in the Republican primary, you should know that by far the candidate best qualified to represent District 85 in the state legislature is David Andrews.

If you have already met David, you know why. When he looks you in the eye, you know you can trust him.

If you haven't yet met David, you should know he is as honest and sincere as they come. He may not be slick and flashy, but he is truly authentic. What you see is what you get.

It's true David is not a politician, and he never wants to be. He won't make empty promises like "real politicians" do just to get elected. Politicians go to Austin and vote for the special interests that funded their campaign. Then they tell their constituents how great they did even if they are nothing more than an empty suit.

To be a true representative does not require a politician. It requires that the values of the citizens of our district are honestly and strongly represented in Austin. It requires conviction and dedication to the people, not to a career in politics.

Most politicians are always working on their reelection or on how they can move up to higher office. David has no ambition for higher office. He has no desire to "make a name for himself." He wants to be our representative.

He wants to be our representative for a period not to exceed a self-imposed term limit of 12 years.

Yes, David will fight hard to pass term limits for state elected officials. David protected my freedom for more than 20 years in the United States Air Force. I certainly trust him to defend the constitution against those politicians in Austin who seek to weaken it.

He will fight hard to pass a voter ID law that others just use to score political points. If elections aren't fair, our democracy is at risk.

As an accountant working for many small businesses, David has valuable insight about the tax burden recent laws have placed on working Texans, and he has innovative ideas to reduce that burden.

David is a dedicated, pro-life, family man who, along with his wife of 35 years, taught his two children strong Christian values. They have grown to be successful young Americans, who have the utmost respect for their father. That is David's legacy.

David has been active helping to elect conservative Republicans to office. He has walked the talk. David is the only grassroots candidate in the race. He has not been purchased by special interests and never will be.

It is a rare opportunity that we have to elect someone from the grassroots we know we can trust. Usually, we just have a choice between whoever the political machines put in front of us. F

ranks, the machines of both parties fear candidates like David because he is independent of their control. David truly is the peoples' candidate. I live in District 85 and I'm ready to see our interests represented in Austin. Please join me in voting for David Andrews in the Republican primary March 2.

HEATHER HODGES
ANSON

A SMALL PRAYER

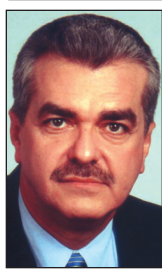
by K. Rae Anderson

Our peace reigns supreme, Lord, with You.

Amen

Their venom no longer hidden

In the old days, when bigots wrote me anonymous letters, it was hard to believe that people could be so ignorant and vicious. The way they described new immigrants as welfare leeches and criminal invaders was a painful lesson in the reality of racism in America. I would read excerpts on radio programs and other public forums, and incredulous Latinos found it hard to accept that in this "nation of immigrants," there were so many immigrant haters.



MIGUEL PEREZ

But now their bigotry is out there for all to see, written in black and white throughout cyberspace. When bigots respond to my pro-immigrant columns nowadays by posting their comments on blogs and Web sites that carry my column, their venom is no longer hidden.

"I think we need to give Latinos lots of rights," wrote one of my hatemongering readers. "How about the rights to pay taxes, speak English, stop whining about things they have brought on themselves, move back to where they came from ..."

Of course, unless you are totally deluded, you know that most Latinos pay taxes, speak English and have as much a right to whine as any other American, especially when they were born here or have become naturalized citizens.

Another deluded reader warned, "Either NATIVE BORN WHITE AMERICANS become openly highly racialized in their politics or they will (be) replaced at the hands of post-1965 Hispanics, Asians, Muslims, Africans and the anti-white Kenyan bigot in the White House."

Forget about undocumented immigrants. This person doesn't care for legal residents, naturalized citizens or even native-born Americans of color.

Here's someone who obviously still is bothered by the civil rights movement, someone who longs for pre-1965 America, when racism was prevalent and society gave preference to native-born white Americans.

All this commotion was over a column I wrote a couple of weeks ago.

I predicted that comprehensive immigration reform will not be passed in Congress this year and called on President Barack Obama and his fellow Democrats to stop making promises they have no intention of keep-

ing. That column, titled "No Se Puede," apparently disappointed not only the wishful-thinking immigrants but also many immigrant-bashers who had been getting ready to pounce on them.

"Pity, I was sort of looking forward to a huge fight over amnesty this year," one of them wrote. "Win or lose, it seemed like an excellent opportunity to persuade more white people to become racially conscious."

What does that mean? It sounds as if this person was relishing the opportunity to scare and divide the country along racial lines. Amazingly, this reader seemed to be celebrating the fact that we have a high unemployment rate because it can be used as a weapon to stop immigration reform in Congress. "The economy will have to improve a lot over the next couple of years for amnesty to become an acceptable pill for mainstream whites to swallow. And I think there's going to be weak growth and nagging high levels of unemployment for years, if not permanently."

Isn't that great?

"On the downside, every year the illegals live here they get slightly more 'legitimate,'" he added.

"To weak stomached whites it would seem cruel to deport them."

"Weak stomached whites"? Some of these venom writers are much more than mere xenophobes; they are clearly white supremacists who are threatened by not only undocumented immigrants but also the growing Latino population.

"Removing the burgeoning Hispanic presence in America is vital for maintaining the white majority necessary for the continued survival of our language, heritage, culture and prosperity," wrote one such supremacist who is apparently much more concerned about the 47 million Latino Americans than about the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States. "Even without the passage of amnesty the continuing mass invasion of illegals will force us to implement the solution to the Hispanic problem."

It sounds scary, especially coming from someone who also predicts this: "Granting amnesty for Hispanic criminal invaders would be the catalyst that would instantly spark our second civil war."

What? Can anyone really be that delusional and paranoid?

These are obviously people who have mistreated minorities for so long that they are terrified of becoming members of a

minority themselves.

"Whites are not doomed to be the next U.S. minority if they will act to halt non-white immigration and dissuade illegals from being here," another reader wrote.

These racist attitudes, once limited to anonymous letters sent mostly to minority journalists, have shamefully become acceptable on the Internet. The Neanderthals who would burn crosses on your front lawn have found a place to do it — still mostly anonymously and quite cowardly — without getting accused of committing hate crimes.

Reacting to my "No Se Puede" column, one reader asked why Latinos are "permitted a voice in American politics at all." Another one warned that America is becoming dumber because of the growth of the black population and the influx of Latinos. "The more and more the non-White minorities become a large part of the US total population, the lower the average IQ in the US will become," he warned.

One venom writer noted that Americans need to vote out of office "every incumbent who doesn't write the most draconian enforcement laws imaginable" — without any apparent qualms about being so cruel. And yet another one charged that Latinos are the real bashers because they practice "anti-white hate-mongering."

One of them simply listed all the most popular lies shared by xenophobes who flew over the cuckoo's nest. "What difference does amnesty make?" he asked. "Illegals are already allowed to be domiciled here, their children get preferential treatment in our colleges, anchor babies entitle them to welfare. They are largely immune to traffic stops — the cops just let them go. In addition they are given special mortgage rates in order to encourage diversity. Plus housing density laws do not apply to them. The Fed cries racism if there is even a hint at enforcement. Also they are largely allowed to vote."

What can I say except: Check into an insane asylum, please!

In the old days, most newspapers would not publish their flammable diatribes. You knew about them only when a minority reporter quoted their anonymous letters.

But now, although still cowardly identifying themselves only by their screen names, some are becoming celebrity bigots, by burning crosses on the Internet.

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Sorry NBC, Olympics no longer matter

With enough pomp and circumstance to make Lady Gaga raise an eyebrow,

the Winter Olympics have returned to ruin television for two weeks. Once an eminently watchable sporting event punctuated by the occasionally dramatic real-life stories of its competitors, the Olympics has devolved into a made-for-TV event that plays like a Lifetime movie.

Because actual sports fans only watch the Olympics sparingly and most don't watch the Winter-Olympics-only events like luge or bobsledding, NBC must find a way to reach non-sports fans. That means that the competition takes a backseat to the melodrama of the competitors.

Not content to merely let real-life drama happen when it happens, NBC feels the need to shoehorn personality and backstory into every event. For NBC, every athlete offers a storyline whether or not they actually have a compelling history or are just some kid who managed to get incredibly good at something ridiculous.

Instead of sports laced with drama, we get "The Real World:

Vancouver." Nobody ever bothers to explain how the made up scoring works in figure skating (extra points if you're famous seems to be the most peculiar rule) but we do get to hear about every faux dramatic stop on the major competitors' road to the Olympics.

Admittedly, sometimes an athlete has a story that makes them sympathetic. I might root for the Haitian bobsled team or get excited about a country that has no ice winning a medal in ice dancing, but mostly, I want the drama to come from the actual sport.

By building every event around the personalities and histories of the competitors we dilute the impact of the truly special stories. If NBC stopped trying to make every competitor a sports movie cliché (underdog, comeback, impossible odds, etc.) maybe we would become captivated by someone instead of bored by the whole lot.

Unfortunately (at least for NBC), for every figure skater whose cancer-stricken parents work nine jobs so she can skate we get a dozen rich kids whose folks shipped them off to private training facilities. Some athletes have incredible tales worthy of being made into movies where Dennis Quaid plays the coach who believes in them when nobody else will. Most don't and maybe the competition should

sometimes speak for itself.

Whereas we once got Dan Jansen and his crushing failure to secure a medal for his five-hours-deceased sister followed by his ultimate redemption six years later, we now get downhill skiers who also manage to be good-looking.

While we all remember the incredible triumph of the 1980 "Miracle On Ice" hockey team, nothing can make us deeply care about professionals barely interested in being there playing together after a few days of practice.

And, perhaps the most ridiculous pushed dramatic aspect of the Winter Olympics is the feature story done every four years about how captivating curling is.

We get it, Canadians love their ridiculous non-sport because fat guys can play and you can drink beer during the game as a player.

There's a weird giant puck with a handle, lots of bad mustaches and people sweeping away with a broom. If this sport belongs in the Winter Olympics then Skee Ball should be in the Summer Olympics and I'd watch that because, well, Americans would always win.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in more than 100 papers weekly. He can be reached by e-mail at dan@notastep.com



DANIEL KLINE

Das Auto

New GTI delivers on style, performance and fun

If you don't have fun behind the wheel of the new Volkswagen GTI, you shouldn't be driving.

In fact, better check your pulse to make sure you still have one.

The sixth generation GTI is absolutely outstanding.

Still available in the iconic, traditional hatchback body style, for the 2010 model year the GTI is now also available with four doors.

Although the front-wheel drive, five-passenger GTI is classified as a compact model, I found my four-door test vehicle spacious, comfortable, quiet and overall, an exceptional driving experience.

However, my favorite thing about the GTI is its performance.

This car is an absolute blast to drive. My test vehicle

was equipped with the standard six-speed manual transmission (a six-speed automatic with Tiptronic is available), which I thoroughly enjoyed.

Volkswagen engineers have really dialed in the steering and suspension system on the 2010 GTI.

It is one of the most (if not the most) responsive vehicles in its class when it comes to ride and handling.

The 2010 GTI is powered by a 200-horsepower, 2.0-liter turbo four-cylinder engine that is well mannered, yet fully capable of going zero-to-above the speed limit in a hurry.

It really is like driving a sports car that carries five people (OK, four comfortably, five if the three in the back seat don't mind getting cozy).

With a base price starting



The 2010 Volkswagen GTI hatchback.

at \$23,290 (\$23,890 for the four-door GTI), it is also an affordable, flexible "sports car" that has an EPA fuel economy rating of 24 mpg city, 32 mpg highway.

Here's what comes standard with the base price: intermittent wipers with rear wiper, climate control air conditioning with pollen filter, compass, cruise control, highline combi instrument cluster, alloy interior trim, outside temperature display, power locks and windows, Sirius Satellite Radio with in-dash CD changer auxiliary jack and MDI with iPod cable, easy entry system front heated sport seats, trip computer, heated exterior mirrors, 4-link fully independent rear suspension, rear roof spoiler, 17-inch Denver alloy wheels, dual front airbags, front and rear side thorax airbags, electronic stabilization program, anti-lock

brakes with engine braking assist, anti-slip regulation, electronic differential lock, electronic stability control, tire pressure monitoring system and LATCH child seat anchors.

There's also a long list of premium features available, including power sunroof, navigation and Bi-Xenon headlights that turn with the steering wheel.

The 2010 Volkswagen GTI is exceptional, delivering value, versatility and affordability in a fun-to-drive package.

I highly recommend it for a test drive for consumers in the market for a sport five-passenger compact.

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

THE NUTS AND BOLTS



FUEL: Premium unleaded

SUSPENSION: MacPherson strut with lower wishbones, aluminum subframe, tubular anti-roll bar, track-stabilization steering roll radius (front); four-link with separate spring/shock arrangement, subframe, tubular anti-roll bar (rear).

TRACTION

CONTROL: Electronic stability control and electronic stabilization program

BRAKES: ABS with engine braking assist.

LENGTH: 165.8 inches*

WHEELBASE: 101.5 in. *

WIDTH: 70 inches*

HEIGHT: 57.8 inches*

WEIGHT: 3034-3080 lbs.*

TRACK: 60.4/59.7 (front/rear)*

FUEL TANK: 14.5 gallons

TIRES: 17-inch

*Denotes specifications for 2-door models only

MODEL:

2010 Volkswagen GTI

5-seat compact

Front-wheel drive

Trim packages:

2-door

4-door

PRICE RANGE:

\$23,000-\$28,000

ENGINE:

2-0-L turbo 4 (200hp/207T)

TRANSMISSION:

6-speed manual

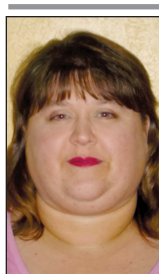
6-speed auto w/Tiptronic

EPA: 21/24 mpg city, 31/32 mpg highway (manual/auto)

Casual Cooking with Kris

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

I have traveled and lived in many states, and outside of the one trip to Mexico I can't say I have ever left the country. No, backwoods country does not count; been there, too. So, if you're like me and haven't had the chance to travel, the recipe provided today brings a taste of Cuban food to your West Texas home.



KRIS SOLIZ

Being Tex-Mex raised, I like my food with some heat and in this recipe I used one whole jalapeno, seeds and all. You may not be as brave and that's OK, so feel free to use half or whole, with or without seeds. This recipe calls for juice, so stay in the citrus/nectar type family like orange, pineapple, apricot, peach, mango and guava. I happened to have on hand SunnyD, so that is legally orange, right?

To make this a little more authentic Cuban, add black beans and white rice with diced, sauted plantains and a hint of chopped cilantro. If your idea of Cuban food is a little closer to home, like Florida, then whip out

the palmtree shirts and pink flamingos. Enjoy.

CUBAN CHICKEN

- 4 Boneless/skinless chicken breast
- 2 Tbls olive oil
- 1/2 stick butter
- 1 large garlic clove (minced)
- 1 whole jalapeno w/seeds (minced)
- chilli powder
- sprinkled both sides
- cumin powder
- sprinkled both sides
- salt & pepper to taste
- 2 Tbls of jelly - choices: apple, orange/marmalade, peach, apricot
- 2 limes
- 1/2 cup of juice - choices stated above

In large fry pan on med/med-high, add oil, butter, minced garlic and jalapeno. Add chicken, salt, pepper, cumin, chilli powder and let cook 1-2 minutes, turning over and adding seasonings on other side. Squeeze lime juice over chicken, add jelly and juice, break down the jelly with a fork or small whisk. Continue



cooking chicken, turning occasionally, letting it get a nice brown glaze and sauce thickens. When chicken

is cooked through, plate, slice and spoon sauce over top. Serve with above sides or your personal choice.

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~Timothy D. Yeats~

Primary Election March 2, 2010
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Grady takes bidistrict title over Water Valley

BY STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

They'll take it. The Grady Wildcats took the first of what they hope are several steps in the Texas high school basketball playoffs with a 62-49 victory over Water Valley in a Class 1A Division 2 bidistrict playoff game in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Wednesday night. And while their coach was not exactly overjoyed with how his team played at times, the 'Cats were able to withstand a fourth-quarter Water Valley rally to take the win and advance to the area round of the playoffs.

Grady will move on to play Vernon Northside at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Floydada.

Grady, paced by the inside play of Jacob Rodriguez (13 points), Tyler Matthews (11 points) and Dylan Cox (10 points) raced out to a comfortable 38-21 lead after one half of play.

Perhaps the 'Cats got too comfortable, because Water Valley (20-8) — paced by Dylan Doss, who led all scorers with 16 points, and Adrian Hernandez, who added 12 points — slowly whittled away Grady's lead until Hernandez canned a three pointer from the right side of the arc to cut the deficit to seven points with

4:42 remaining in the game.

"We were too complacent (in the second half)," Grady Head Coach Shawn Harrison said. "That's something we have to fight through on a daily basis — we just get comfortable and we end up making things hard on ourselves."

After Hernandez's three-pointer, Harrison quickly called time out. Whatever he told the team in the huddle worked wonders as the Wildcats' offense rediscovered its mojo.

Cox got things going with a three pointer, then Johan Wiebe added

See **GRADY**, Page 11



HERALD PHOTO/Steve Reagan
Grady Wildcats are presented with the bidistrict trophy Wednesday.

COMEBACK KIDS

Steers use second half comeback to beat Canyon

BY JOE ZIGTEMA
Sports Editor

LEVELLAND — It took 16 minutes for the Steers to get into a rhythm Wednesday night.

But once they did, Big Spring rocked Canyon High in the second half to a 65-45 comeback victory, a bidistrict championship and Big Spring's first playoff win in more than a decade. The Steers move on to play 16th-ranked El Paso Austin at 7 p.m. Friday at Sul Ross State University in Alpine.

After a first half in which the Steers never led, Big Spring outscored Canyon 43-20 in the final two quarters, keyed by a big run in each of the last two periods.

Junior guard Luke Adams finished with 20 points, one of four Steers in double figures. Jerrell Williams scored eight of his 11 in the second half, Tristian Clay scored nine in the last two frames to finish with 11 and Matt Ritchey scored all of his 10 after the break.

Steers coach Marcus Morris said he expected the Steers to start a little slow. After all, Big Spring had not played



HERALD PHOTO/Joe Zigtema

Tristian Clay goes up for two of his 11 points in the second half Wednesday night at the Texan Dome in Levelland. The Steers outscored Canyon High 43-20 in the last two quarters to beat the Eagles 65-45.

a game in more than a week, and his team does not have much playoff experience. But after the break, Big Spring looked more like the team that breezed through District 4-4A play.

"We slowed down, played more of the way in which we practiced and which we game planned, and the result was we got a chance to

win," Morris said.

Big Spring dominated the rebounding battle, finishing with a 36-22 advantage. Xavian Parnell led the way with nine rebounds and Ritchey grabbed six.

"That's their role, and they played it really well," Morris said. "Once they get those big meat hooks on the ball, it's theirs."

Morris pointed to guards Williams and Adams, who engineered the offense to get Big Spring back in the game from a first-half deficit.

"They had poise," he said, "whereas I might not have and some of the players, you see them calm and play through it."

See **STEERS**, Page 11

Pittman carries Texas over Oklahoma State

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — After a month of losses, a key injury and mounting frustration, No. 21 Texas needed something good to happen.

The Longhorns got it in Dexter Pittman's best game in weeks and a standout defensive performance against Big 12 scoring leader James Anderson in 69-59 win over Oklahoma State on Wednesday night.

Pittman had 16 points and eight rebounds. He made all five of his field goals and scored nine points the second half surge that pushed Texas to the win.

Texas (22-6, 8-5 Big 12) got its fifth win in 11 games after a 17-0 start. This one came in the first game after the Longhorns lost point guard Dogus Balbay for the season with a knee injury.

"Every game is important especially at home," senior guard Justin Mason said. "Every game in the Big 12 is crucial, especially this time in season."

The Longhorns have now won consecutive games for the first time in more than a month, and this one guaranteed they will finish no worse than 8-8 in league play.

Mason scored just one point but played as important of a role as Pittman against the Cowboys. He and Avery Bradley applied the defensive pressure on

Anderson, holding him to 14 points.

Anderson had scored at least 30 points five times this season, but got little to fall when given little room to work against Texas. He shot 5 of 13.

"I think both of them just switching off wore me down. They were both fresh. I couldn't really get into a rhythm," Anderson said.

For Pittman, it was the first time in weeks he was able establish himself as a force in the post. His 16 points was the most for him since he scored 21 in a win over Arkansas on Jan. 5.

The Cowboys had little to stop him. On one early basket, an ill-timed defensive switch left 5-foot-9 Cowboys guard Keiton Page matched up against the 6-10, 290-pound Pittman under the basket. The big man easily won that battle.

Matt Pilgrim, a 6-foot-8 forward who started the last five games for the Cowboys and might have been able to provide a little muscle, did not play.

"I knew what to do when I got the ball tonight: just go up strong, dunk it or use my skill," Pittman said. "Sometimes I overthink the game."

Damion James carried Texas early, scoring 15 points to lead the Longhorns to a 37-35

See **TEXAS**, Page 11

Playoff implications abound in regular season finale vs. Plainsmen

Herald Staff Report

BORGER — It's come down to the last game of the season for the Howard Hawks, who need a win tonight to secure at least a share of the WJCAC regular season title.

No. 2 Howard is tied with Midland atop the conference standings and one behind the

Chaps in the JUCO national rankings as it travels to Frank Phillips tonight for a 7:45 p.m. tipoff. Midland plays at Odessa, which needs a win in its own right to secure a berth in the Region 5 tournament.

Three teams — South Plains, Odessa and Frank Phillips — are battling for the last two spots in conference.

Should both Midland and Howard win tonight, a tiebreaker will be used to determine seeding in the tournament, which gets underway March 4 in Lubbock.

The Plainsmen trail both Odessa and South Plains by one game in the conference standings. Should Frank Phillips win, it would need an Odessa loss to

secure the No. 4 seed in conference. If South Plains loses tonight at New Mexico JC, the Plainsmen could force a three-way tiebreaker scenario.

Howard's last meeting with Frank Phillips at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum was a roller coaster affair that the Hawks held on to win 96-82. Howard led by as

many as 40 in the game, but Frank Phillips battled back midway through the second half to a more respectable margin.

Conference leaders

Jae Crowder is leading the WJCAC conference in scoring at just less than 18 points per game and ranks in the top five in nearly every statistical cat-

egory. Josh Watkins is fifth on the scoring list at 14.4 points per game, one spot behind Frank Phillips' DeJuan Plummer, who averages 15.5.

Crowder is also tied for the conference lead in steals with Frank Phillips sophomore Johnny Higgins at 62

See **HOWARD**, Page 11

Sports in brief

Spring sports on tap today

Baseball
Coahoma at Andrews tournament
Coahoma at Shallowater tournament

Softball

Coahoma at Midland Classic
Big Spring at Midland Classic
Canceled — Forsan at Jim Ned Tourney

Tennis

Canceled — Big Spring vs. Sweetwater

Garden City takes on Valley in playoff action tonight

The Garden City Bearkats will open postseason play tonight as they take on No. 25 Turkey Valley at Lubbock Cooper High School.

Tipoff is 6 p.m. in Lubbock. Garden City earned a bye through the first round of the 1A, Division II playoffs by winning District 10.

Stanton, winner of District 7-A, Division I, will play Olton on Friday at 7 p.m.

Last chance to sign up for youth baseball league

Saturday is the last chance to sign up for Big Spring's youth baseball league.

Children 5-15 can sign up for the league at Big Spring Mall. Registration fee is \$65 and \$60 for additional siblings. Birth certificate required. Weekday signups are at Gartman Refrigeration, 3206 E. FM 700, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Players ages 8-12 will have to attend tryouts March 8-10.

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Help Wanted

\$\$\$Immediate Opening\$\$\$ Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home We recognize that our employees are our greatest asset, providing flexible schedules and one of the most attractive benefits packet. Currently hiring the following positions: PRN Weekend & Evening Registered Nurse Home Supervisor Licensed Vocational Nurse-2 full time Positions and PRN needed Shift(s) Monday-Friday 2pm-10pm 4 days on 2 days off rotation Several Certified Nurse Aide Positions Salary Based On Experience 1809 N. Hwy. 87 Big Spring, Tx 79720 (432)268-8387 Fax (432)268-1987 "Equal Opportunity Employer" badominguez@sears-methodist.com

AMERIMEX RIG Movers, LTD. is hiring for CDL Drivers with wench truck experience. Must have a clean Class A CDL. Call (432)264-1579 ask for Danny.

ARFF PROFESSIONALS, Inc. is looking for a shop mechanic/parts person. Some travel necessary. Must have good working knowledge of heavy duty trucks. Apply in person at 306 State St. 8-5 M-F.

BLAST MASTERS has a position available for: * Crew Tech Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., and pickup an application. No phone calls please. Must have a valid TX drivers license and pass mandatory drug test & background check.

CARING HEARTS Home Health is seeking LVN and CNA-PRN. Great hours, friendly atmosphere, Bilingual a plus, call for appointment (432)714-4510, 1900 Scurry.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Cancer moon is void of course before it slides into Leo. The day has many moods. So when you slip into one, however euphoric or irritating it might be, keep the awareness that it's but a brief moment. The circumstances may catch us off guard and put us into reaction mode, but we still have a choice about the particulars of that.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Children can spot a phony from a mile away. You'll be gifted with similar instincts about people. The less you know about a person the more psychic your impressions will be. Your initial gut reaction will be spot on. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You enjoy being part of a winning team and will do more than your share of the work to keep the group strong. If everyone contributes like you do, you'll have an unstoppable unit. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Your sense of whimsy often goes underap-

preciated by those who don't understand the importance of play. Instead of letting overly serious people rain on your parade, go where you know you'll be celebrated.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As any dinosaur would attest, adaptability is the talent of survivors. It doesn't matter how big and powerful you are. Those who respond well to change will defy extinction.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You hate to complain. But in the current situation, you won't get what you want unless you make some unpleasant sounds to the powers that be. It's the noisy cat that gets fed.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There is a way to have your cake and eat it, too. It's all about portion control. By acting in moderation, you'll be able to savor the present pleasures without ruining your chances for future delights.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There are those who trust you more than you want them to. Today, they continue to give you great responsibilities and impossible duties. And you rise to the occasion, keeping the cycle alive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's a circle you wouldn't mind being a part of. This crowd is a bit intimidating, yet you feel that in some way you belong there. You'll be a lovely addition to this group. They just don't know it yet.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Would you rather win in a minor league game or lose in a major league game? You'll have a choice to make. You're best off choosing the scenario in which you'll learn the most.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have no intention of bossing others around. But what if they want you to? Some people misbehave because they are secretly longing for someone to keep them in line.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Don't think in terms of success and failure. Just accept what happens and build on it. Your masterpiece will come about as a direct result of the graceful handling of your mistakes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You're not trying to make fun of anyone, but people will laugh anyway. You're just telling the truth. But the truth is such an unusual thing to say that it produces an end-

less source of hilarity. **T O D A Y ' S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 25). The clouds part, and you see clearly what needs to be done. You will create the structure, form and organization to make your life the way you want it to be. A special relationship is strengthened through March. You will be a fearless crusader for your cause in May. August and October bring financial opportunity. Virgo and Libra people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 25, 10, 33 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "What is a void-of-course moon, and what does it mean astrologically?"

As the moon revolves around the earth, it forms mathematical angles with other planets in our solar system. These angles are called aspects. When the moon is not making any aspects — usually when passing from one zodiac constellation into another — it is called void or void-of-course. The moon is like a big mirror that has no light of its own but reflects the energies of the sun and other planets onto us hereon earth. Therefore, when the moon is void, it is less effective as a lens for focused energy.

Any action you take during this time will not have much staying power, so it's best to not start anything important during the moon-void hours if you want the effects to last. It's as if the solar system is taking a breather during moon voids, so this is a good time for humans to rest and recharge. It's also a good time to do unpleasant tasks, such as firing an employee, having a difficult conversation with a spouse or paying bills. Any negative feelings you stir up are less likely to stick around.

C E L E B R I T Y PROFILES: Kristin Davis is perhaps best known for playing Charlotte York on HBO's "Sex and the City." But the appeal of

this Pisces spans age demographics, as she is also quite popular with the preschool set for her vocal representation of Miss Spider of "Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends." Davis' natal sun, Mercury and Saturn in Pisces indicates a sensitive soul with many artistic talents.

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

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My wife and I are both 54-year-old professionals. We grew up in the same small town, but didn't begin a romance until our 30th high-school reunion.

We were in a long-distance relationship for four years and then married two years ago. Her children are grown. My 14-year-old son lives with us.

The problem is her parents. For some reason, they have decided they do not like me.

I am not welcome in their home, nor will they come to our house. My wife is invited to every one of their family events, but my son and I are not.

Her three siblings treat me the same way, as does her 28-year-old daughter.

We all live in the same town, but I have no contact with any of them.

I have never treated any of my in-laws with anything other than the utmost courtesy and respect.

I have tried engaging her parents and sister in dialogue, but no one will say a peep.

I am convinced her parents are purposely stressing my wife in the hope that our marriage will fail.

I could deal with all of this if I felt my wife stood up for, supported and properly prioritized our family.

I feel she should not attend functions if we all are not invited. I am hurt and humiliated when she goes without us — effectively saying it's OK for her family to treat us poorly.

I cannot fathom treating my children as her parents have treated us.

I think their behavior is controlling, selfish and borderline abusive. Is it too much to expect my wife to stand up for her family? — *Ignored Husband*

Dear Ignored: Of course not. Your wife's family continues to treat you with disrespect because



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

your wife permits it.

She should have the decency to tell them you are a package deal and insist on your inclusion. They will never willingly adjust to your marriage if your wife doesn't demand they make the effort.

Dear Annie: I have a simple question. Our family received an unusual gift last Christmas from an aunt and uncle.

Included in the card was a gift receipt, along with a rebate offer for the item and the regular receipt, which is needed to cash in the rebate.

My question is, who should benefit from the rebate? Should it be shared with my aunt and uncle? Returned? Kept? — *Beyond my Reasoning in the Midwest*

Dear Midwest: If the original receipt and rebate offer were included in the card from the givers, it means they intended for you to send in the paperwork and keep the proceeds. (If they had wanted the rebate, they would have sent in the receipt themselves.)

Consider it part of the gift. Be sure to thank them.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Loving Dad," whose 20-year-old daughter doesn't

know how to dress to complement her body shape.

I, too, had this problem, and my father stepped in. At first I found it offensive and refused to listen, but I soon realized he was right.

Too often, I have seen overweight women wear unflattering things, and everyone is too polite to speak up.

I am glad my father was willing, because it allowed me to see just how unattractive I looked.

My parents were quick with praise, but they were also quick to tell the truth.

If something didn't look good, they said so. It took a while for me to appreciate this, but now, at 28, I dress well and look good.

It is incredibly important for a young woman — especially one with weight issues — to learn what flatters her.

Our society judges on appearance, and this could affect her in many ways.

I suggest Dad speak to his wife about how to gently broach the subject. — *Eternally Grateful*

Dear Grateful: Very few people so willingly accept constructive criticism.

Your parents handled it well, but you handled it better. Kudos.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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su | do | ku

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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. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Improving the Odds

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ K J 10 8 4
♥ A Q 5
♦ J 2
♣ J 10 8

WEST
♠ 6
♥ J 9 6
♦ Q 10 7 5
♣ Q 9 7 6 3

EAST
♠ 3
♥ K 10 7 2
♦ 9 6 3
♣ A K 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q 9 7 5 2
♥ 8 4 3
♦ A K 8 4
♣ —

The bidding:
1♠ West 3♠ North
4♦ Pass 4♥ Pass
6♣

Opening lead — six of clubs.

Assume you have a 50 percent chance of making a contract by taking a particular finesse. If that's your only way to get home, all you can do is pray that the finesse succeeds when you try it. But in many cases of

Take this deal where West leads a club against your six-spade contract. Superficially it seems that making the slam depends on the success or failure of the heart finesse — a 50 percent chance — but actually your prospects are much better than that if you play correctly. What you should do, after ruffing the first club and drawing trumps, is lead a low diamond toward dummy's J-2!

In the actual deal, this play puts a quick end to the proceedings. West can do no better than take his queen, and sooner or later you discard dummy's Q-5 of hearts on your A-K of diamonds, enabling you to make 12 tricks without bothering with the heart finesse.

Of course, it may turn out that East has the queen of diamonds, in which case your effort to avoid the heart finesse will be thwarted. Even so, you will be no worse off than you were before. You'll still make the slam if West has the king of hearts, and it will have cost you absolutely nothing to test the diamond situation first.

The low diamond lead toward

The
Big Spring
Herald
710 Scurry
263-7331

su | do | ku

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ANSWERS

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

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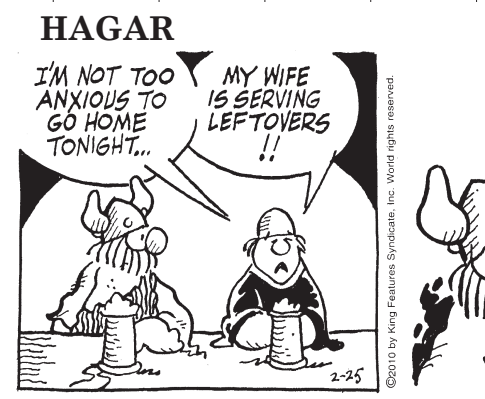
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
4 :PM :30	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Primer Impacto (SS)	Deal-Deal Deal No	Smarter News	Maria Celeste	News Inside Ed.	King Friends	Dr W. Acquire	Fetch Cyber	Cash Cab	Movie: The Bodyguard, Gary Kemp	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Chris	Jonas	NASCAR	Around
5 :PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	Noticias CBS	Noticias NBC	Office Brad	Friends	Granger	BBC	Cash Cab	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Chris	Phineas	Baseball	Interrupt
6 :PM :30	News Ent	Jeopardy!	Nombre-Amor	Two Men	News Ent	12 Corazonos	Seinfeld	Office Brad	Sanchez	PBS News-Hour	Cash Cab	UFC Fight Night	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	
7 :PM :30	The Deep End	The Deep End	Hasta que el Dinero	American Idol	Survivor: Hero	El Cion	XXI Winter Olympics: Figure Skating, Freestyle Skiing.	Movie: The Whole Ten Yards	Upd Sprna	TBA	Behind Bars	Movie: Forrest Gump, Gary Sinise	NBA Basketball: Cavaliers at Celtics	Movie: Belly 2: Millionaire Boyz Club	Phineas	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	
8 :PM :30	Grey's Anatomy	Grey's Anatomy	Corazon Salvaje	Past Life	The Mentalist	Perro Amor		Fam. Guy	Antiques Roadshow	Behind Bars	Behind Bars	TNA Wrestling	NBA Basketball: Nuggets at Warriors	Phineas	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.		
9 :PM :30	(01) Private Practice	(01) Private Practice	Rosa	Simpsons Friends	CSI: Crime Scn	Sin Hay Parais		Fam. Guy	Soundstage	Behind Bars	Behind Bars		NBA Basketball: Nuggets at Warriors	Phineas	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.		
10 :PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto Notici.	Raymond	News Letterman	Noticias Titulares		Lopez Tonight	Van Impe	Behind Bars	(15) Movie: Forrest Gump, Gary Sinise	Police Chases	The Mo'Nique	Wizards Deck	College Basketball	SportsCenter		
11 :PM :30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Gancho	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisions	News XXI Winter Olympics	Name Bill Cloud	Bill Cloud	Behind Bars		MAN Trailers	Wendy Williams	Suite Life So Raven	NFL Live	Final		
12 :AM :30	News	Paid	Amar sin Limites	Paid	King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	Sex & World	Upd	World	Behind Bars	CSI: Crime Scn	Inside the NBA	Movie: Belly, Cory Kim	Final SportsNation	SportsCenter		



"Wouldn't it be easier just to tell me what I can do?"



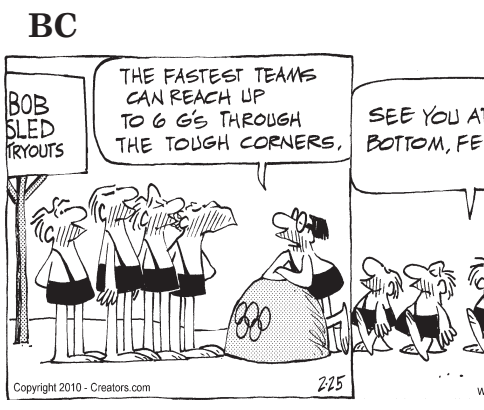
"Good job, Daddy! I bet you'd win the gold medal in snow shovelin'."



I'm not too anxious to go home tonight... My wife is serving leftovers!!



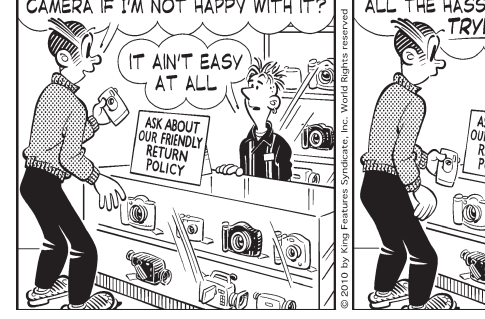
WHAT ARE LEFTOVERS?



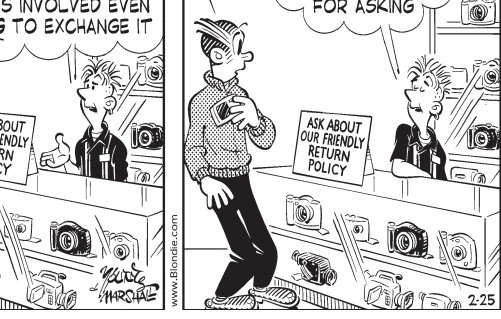
SEE YOU AT THE BOTTOM, FELLAS.



LIFE IS GOOD



HOW EASY IS IT TO RETURN THIS CAMERA IF I'M NOT HAPPY WITH IT? IN FACT, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ALL THE HASSLES INVOLVED EVEN TRYING TO EXCHANGE IT.



...BUT THANK YOU FOR ASKING

This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Feb. 25, the 56th day of 2010. There are 309 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 25, 1940, a hockey game was televised for the first time, by New York City station W2XBS, as the New York Rangers defeated the Montreal Canadiens, 6-2, at Madison Square Garden.

On this date:

In 1836, inventor Samuel Colt patented his revolver.

In 1901, United States Steel Corporation was incorporated by J.P. Morgan.

In 1913, the 16th Amendment to the Constitution, giving Congress the power to levy and collect income taxes, was declared in effect by Secretary of State Philander Chase Knox.

In 1919, Oregon became the first state to tax gasoline, at one cent per gallon.

In 1948, Communists seized power in Czechoslovakia.

In 1950, "Your Show of Shows," starring Sid Caesar,

Imogene Coca, Carl Reiner and Howard Morris, debuted on NBC-TV.

In 1964, Cassius Clay (later Muhammad Ali) became world heavyweight boxing champion by defeating Sonny Liston in Miami Beach.

In 1986, President Ferdinand Marcos fled the Philippines after 20 years of rule in the wake of a tainted election; Corazon Aquino assumed the presidency.

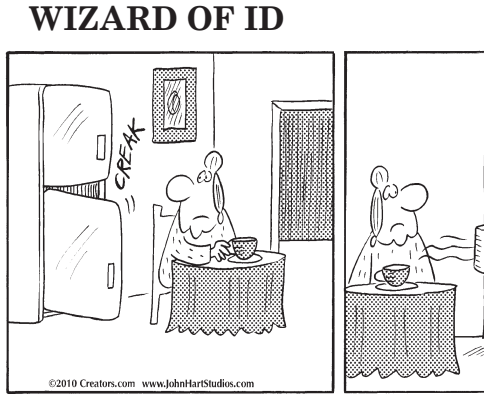
In 1990, Nicaraguans went to the polls in an election that resulted in an upset victory for the alliance opposed to the ruling Sandinistas.

In 1991, during the Persian Gulf War, 28 Americans were killed when an Iraqi Scud missile hit a U.S. barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

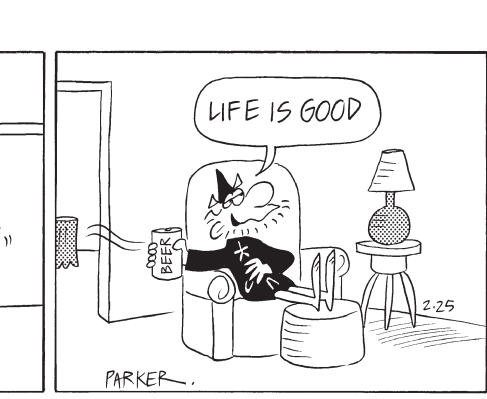
Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ralph Stanley is 83. Actor Tom Courtenay is 73. CBS newsman Bob Schieffer is 73. Humorist Jack Handey is 61. Movie director Neil Jordan is 60. Rock musician Dennis Diken (The Smithereens) is 53. Rock singer-musician Mike Peters (The Alarm) is 51. Actress Veronica Webb is 45. Actor Alexis Denisof is 44. Actress Tea (TAY'-ah) Leoni is

44. Comedian Carrot Top is 43. Actress Lesley Boone is 42. Actor Sean Astin is 39. Singer Daniel Powter is 39. Latin singer Julio Iglesias Jr. is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Justin Jeffre is 37. Rock musician Richard Liles is 37. Actor Anson Mount is 37. Comedian Chelsea Handler is 35. Actors Oliver and James Phelps ("Harry Potter" movies) are 24. Rock musician Erik Haager (Carolina Liar) is 23.

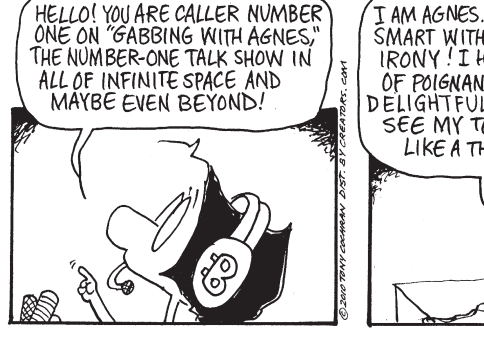
Thought for Today: "Open-mindedness is not the same as empty-mindedness. To hang out a sign saying, 'Come right in; there is no one at home' is not the equivalent of hospitality."— John Dewey, American philosopher and educator (1859-1952).



SEE YOU AT THE BOTTOM, FELLAS.



LIFE IS GOOD



HELLO! YOU ARE CALLER NUMBER ONE ON "GABBNG WITH AGNES." THE NUMBER-ONE TALK SHOW IN ALL OF INFINITE SPACE AND MAYBE EVEN BEYOND!



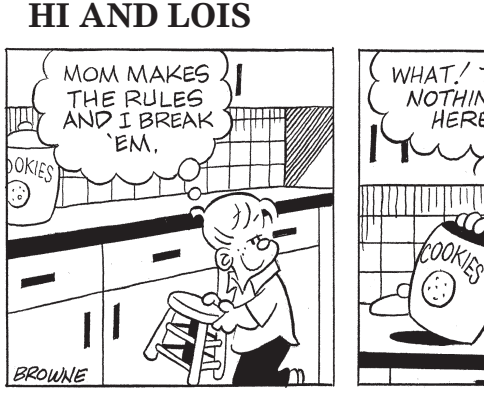
I AM AGNES. I AM BRIGHT, WITTY AND SMART WITH A DELIGHTFUL SENSE OF IRONY! I HAVE A DELIGHTFUL GRASP OF POIGNANCY! I HAVE A VERY DELIGHTFUL LAUGH, AND IF YOU COULD SEE MY TEETH, THEY'D SPARKLE LIKE A THOUSAND DELIGHTFUL SUNS.

Newsday Crossword

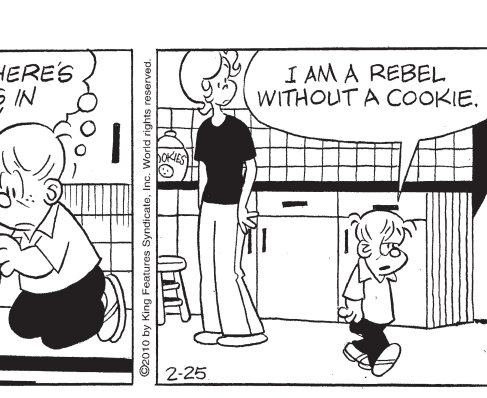
- ACROSS
- 1 Just ___ (hardly at all)
 - 5 Trivial amounts
 - 10 Salad veggie
 - 14 Central portion
 - 15 Point of view
 - 16 Columbus' home
 - 17 Pal's promise
 - 20 Yen
 - 21 Follower of Attila
 - 22 Towel designation
 - 23 Showroom model
 - 24 Quantum of light
 - 27 Dolor
 - 29 PDQ relative
 - 33 Hockey official
 - 36 Ring out
 - 37 Be revolting to
 - 39 Pal's promise
 - 42 Makes after expenses
 - 43 Body of laws
 - 44 Young fella
 - 45 Regain strength
 - 46 They're up for discussion
 - 48 Marriage acquisitions
 - 51 Diner sign
 - 54 Biblical possessive
 - 57 Moving need
 - 58 Expansion
 - 60 Pal's promise
 - 64 ___ Alto, CA
 - 65 Tropical fruit
 - 66 When shadows are shortest
 - 67 Plow pullers
 - 68 Knapsack feature
 - 69 Neutral color
- DOWN
- 1 Alkali's opposite
 - 2 Hauled away
 - 3 Came up
 - 4 Some pants
 - 5 It may be uncharted
 - 6 Cordoba cry
 - 7 Bit of body art, briefly
 - 8 In whichever case
 - 9 Resolute
 - 10 Atlantic swimmer
 - 11 "Yipes!"
 - 12 Rule with fuzz
 - 13 Time on end
 - 18 Officer on the highway
 - 19 One, for Juan
 - 24 Say grace
 - 25 "Yipes!" garment
 - 26 Afternoon rituals
 - 28 General Lee's men
 - 30 Schooner feature
 - 31 M*A*S*H Emmy winner
 - 32 Answered a charge
 - 33 Valuable
 - 34 Model Macpherson
 - 35 Pet pest
 - 37 Saab rival
 - 38 Rule of conduct
 - 40 Neighbor of Java
 - 41 "Yipes!"
 - 46 Candidate's promise
 - 47 53 Down
 - 49 Tall guys' org.
 - 50 Tall guys' clothes
 - 52 Julio Iglesias, for one
 - 53 South Pacific island group
 - 54 Slip on a keyboard
 - 55 Snow job
 - 56 Christmas season
 - 58 Lose it
 - 59 Say it isn't so
 - 61 Shell game
 - 62 Crew member's implement
 - 63 Sch. founded by Jefferson

AMONG FRIENDS by David W. Cromer

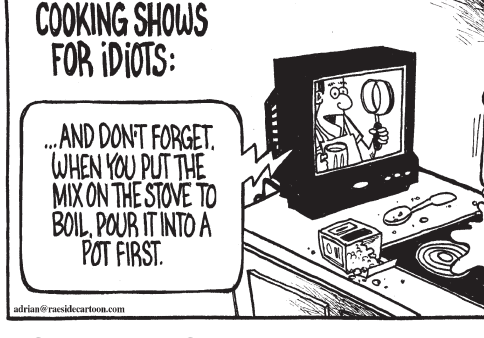
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com



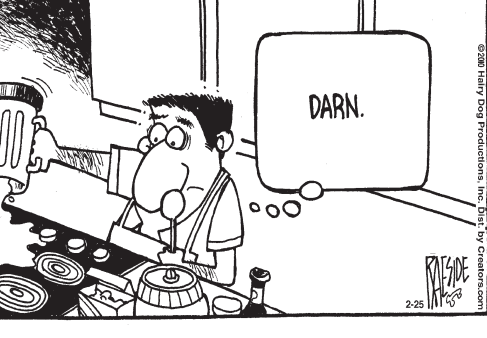
MOM MAKES THE RULES AND I BREAK 'EM.



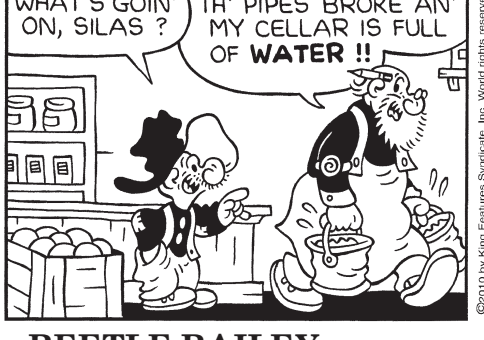
WHAT! THERE'S NOTHING IN HERE!



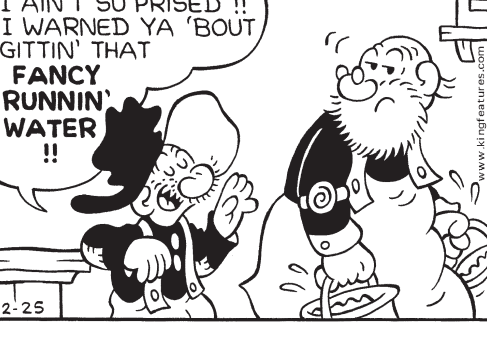
DARN.



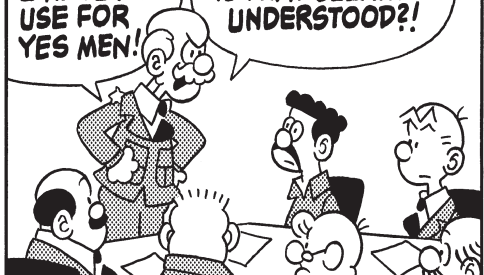
I AM A REBEL WITHOUT A COOKIE.



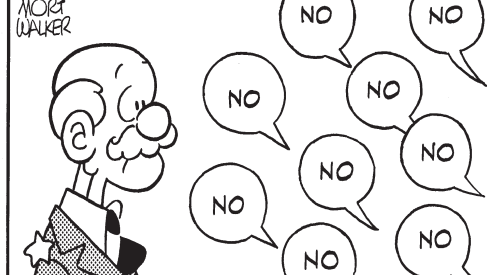
I AIN'T SU'PRISED!! I WARNED YA 'BOUT GITTIN' THAT FANCY RUNNIN' WATER!!



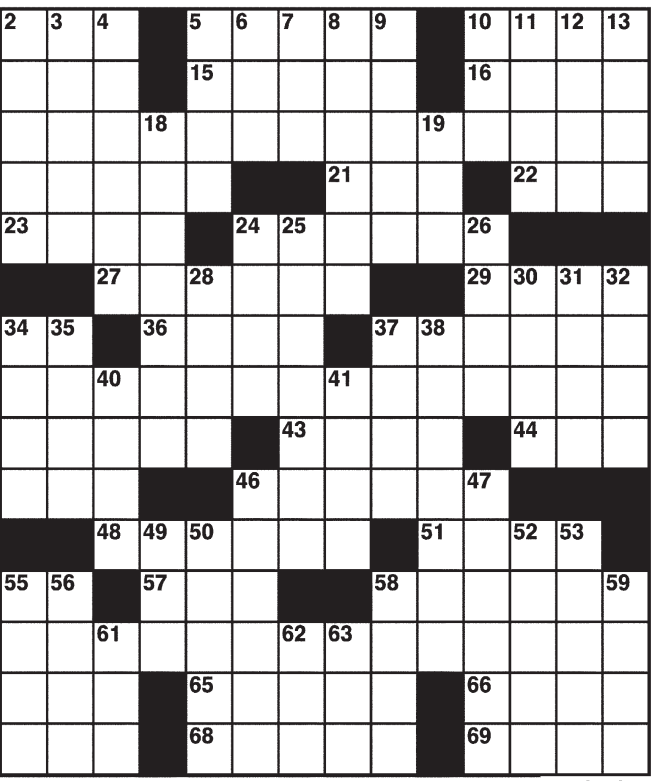
I AIN'T SU'PRISED!! I WARNED YA 'BOUT GITTIN' THAT FANCY RUNNIN' WATER!!



I HAVE NO USE FOR YES MEN!



IS THAT CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD?!



GRADY

Continued from Page 6

three free throws on the next two trips down the floor to push the lead back into double digits with two minutes left. Rodriguez and Matthews then added buckets over the next 40 seconds to ice the game for Grady.

Harrison said the 'Cats height advantage was the difference in the game.

"When we didn't push the ball inside, that's when (Water Valley) started coming back on us," he said. "When we took back dominance inside, that's when we were able to stretch the lead back out."

Grady, which improved to 26-4 with the victory, will face Vernon Northside in an area round playoff at a time and site to be determined.

Despite his team's relative youth compared

to previous squads, Harrison hopes it can at least duplicate last year's accomplishment of reaching the regional quarterfinal round of the playoffs.

"Our goal is to go a long way in the playoffs," he said. "We just need to be careful to take each game as they come and not get ahead of ourselves."

SCORE BY QUARTERS
 Grady 20 18 9 15 - 62
 WVHS 9 12 16 12 - 49
GRADY (62) — Shane Teague 3 2-3 9; Dylan Cox 4 0-0 10; Tyler Matthews 5 1-2-11; Johan Wiebe 2 5-6 9; Bryley Pinkerton 1 0-0 3; Jacob Rodriguez 6 1-2 13; Zach Perez 3 1-1 7; totals 24 10-14 62.

WATER VALLEY (49) — Travis Franke 3 2-4 8; Dylan Doss 6 3-4 16; Zach Glass 0 2-4 2; Adrian Hernandez 4 2-2 12; Devin Gray 3 0-1 6; David Williams 2 0-0 5; totals 18 9-15 49.

3-point goals: Grady 4 (Teague, Cox 2, Pinkerton), Water Valley 4 (Doss, Hernandez 2, Williams); Total fouls: Grady 15, Water Valley 10; Fouled out — none.

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

STEERS

Continued from Page 6

In the third quarter, Ritchey started a 15-0 Big Spring run with a rare 3-pointer at the six-minute mark. Tristian Clay followed with an 18-footer from the corner on a pass from Adams, who sank a floater in the lane 45 seconds later to give Big Spring its first lead at 32-30. Clay then stole the ball from Canyon point guard Derek O'Dell for a layup, Williams added another bucket and Ritchey ended the period with four straight points off offensive boards.

Big Spring led 40-30 going into the fourth,

where the Steers widened their lead. Canyon scored five straight points to open the quarter, but the Steers responded with a 13-0 run at the four-minute mark and coasted to the win.

Big Spring 65, Canyon 45
 CHS 13 12 5 15 -- 45
 BSHS 7 15 18 25 -- 65

CHS (15-15)- O'Dell 3-11 2-2 11, Kimsey 4-9 0-0 11, Davis 4-8 0-0 9, Tolliver 2-7 3-3 7, King 1-3 0-0 2, Halencak 1-1 0-0 2, Williams 0-0 1-2 1, Kantor 0-0 2-2 2; Totals 15-40 8-9 45

BSHS (18-11)- Clay 5-8 0-0 11, Williams 4-14 1-3 11, Falcon 2-2 0-0 4, T. Parnell 0-4 0-2 0, Anderson 1-1 0-0 2, Plakhotny 1-1 0-0 2, Adams 5-14 9-10 20, X. Parnell 2-5 1-2 5, Ritchey 4-7 1-1 10

Halftime 25-22 CHS; 3-point goals — CHS 7-20 (O'Dell 3, Kimsey 3, Davis), BSHS 5-14 (Williams 2, Clay, Adams, Ritchey); Rebounds 36-22 BS (X. Parnell 9, Kimsey 7), Turnovers CHS 18, BSHS 9

HOWARD

Continued from Page 6

apiece, third in rebounding at just more than nine per game and second in blocks with 29.

Howard is still leading the nation in defense, allowing five points less per game than No. 2 team Wallace State at just under 52 points per contest.

Women go for win in season finale

It's been a tough go of things in February for the Howard Hawks.

After beating Frank Phillips on Feb. 1 for their third straight win, the Hawks have dropped five straight to fall out of postseason contention.

Howard (18-9, 3-8)

will try to end its season with a win over the Lady Plainsmen (18-11, 3-8) at 5:45 p.m. tonight in Borger.

Jackie Bartelson has shouldered the bulk of the scoring load in recent games, scoring in double figures in each of the last four games. She will need to have a big night against an undersized Frank Phillips lineup.

Point guard Twyla Ards has picked up her scoring as of late as well, scoring nine points on four field goals against Odessa on Monday.

"We're trying to go 19-9," Hawks coach Earl Diddle said Monday. "There's a different range between 19-9 and 18-10. That's really the only thing we have left."

TEXAS

Continued from Page 6

halftime lead. A 3-pointer by Oklahoma State's Obi Muonelo had tied it before the Cowboys' Jarred Shaw fouled Pittman, then was whistled for a technical foul for jawing with him. Texas made two of the four free throws.

Pittman controlled the first 10 minutes of the second half, scoring nine of Texas' first 12 points and diverting shots on the other end.

After Oklahoma State had closed a six-point deficit to 44-42, Pittman thundered home his second dunk of the half and made a free throw for the three-point play.

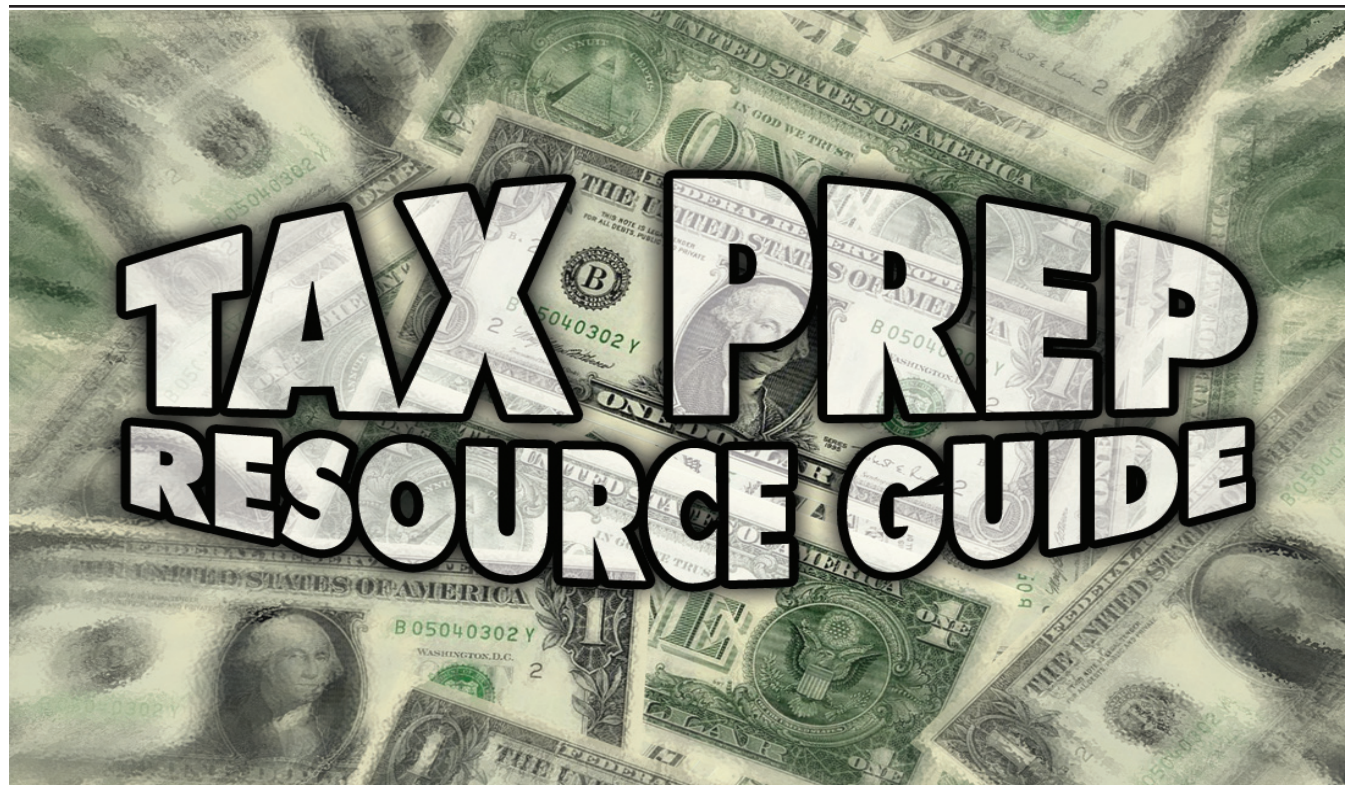
When Texas lost Balbay for the season, they also figured to be losing their best

perimeter defender. But Mason and Bradley were able to lock down on Anderson for long stretches, never letting him find his range or an open look at the basket.

"We wanted to make every touch harder and harder every possession," Mason said.

Bradley's 3-pointer from the left corner put Texas up 54-44 with 9:53 to play, the first double-digit lead of the game. After Pittman hit another tough basket in the lane, a steal by Bradley led to an easy layup that put the Longhorns up by 14.

"We talked about trying to stop their inside game," Oklahoma State coach Travis Ford said. "You let Pittman have one of the best games I've seen him have all year."



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It's A Keepsake!

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263-7331

**U.S. Hockey
beats Swiss**

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Lindsey Vonn went down hard. Zach Parise made sure the U.S. men's hockey team didn't. Hours after Vonn broke her right pinkie in a giant slalom crash, the hockey guys found themselves in trouble against Switzerland until Parise broke through. He added an empty-net goal in the closing seconds to seal a 2-0 victory and put the Americans into the semifinals.

The Canadians advanced, too, finally looking like the juggernaut they're supposed to be — and they did it against Russia, the matchup many expected to be for the gold medal, but happened in only a quarterfinal.

It wasn't known if Vonn will ski her final event — the slalom — on Friday.

Also, Canada's victory in women's bobsled moved the hosts into a tie with the United States and Germany for the most gold medals with seven.

**NFL to start
testing for HGH**

NEW YORK (AP) — The NFL hopes to start testing players for human growth hormone, and Major League Baseball has started talks with its union to investigate the test that led to the suspension of a British rugby player.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said that the league had made a proposal to its players in January regarding HGH. Discussions are ongoing, he said.

The NFLPA's player development director, Stacy Robinson, said in a statement that the union "has supported research to find a suitable test that will detect sustained HGH use."

The NFL has used pre-season blood tests since at least 2006 for cholesterol and tryglycerides. Baseball has had urine testing since 2003 but not blood testing.

The issue of HGH testing has gained renewed interest after the United Kingdom Anti-Doping authority announced a two-year ban Monday for rugby player Terry Newton, saying he had tested positive and become the first athlete suspended for using HGH.

**Raiders' Cable
off hook to NFL**

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP) — The NFL says it will not discipline Oakland Raiders coach Tom Cable after looking into allegations of domestic violence and his altercation with an assistant coach.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the league looked into Cable's conduct and determined no punishment was warranted. Cable was accused of breaking assistant coach Randy Hanson's jaw and teeth in a training camp fight. The Napa County district attorney did not file charges so Aiello says the league saw no grounds to punish Cable.

Cable admitted slapping his first wife more than 20 years ago but that did not warrant punishment because it happened before he joined the NFL. Cable also was accused of attacking a former girlfriend last year but no charges were filed.

**Venus in quarters
in Mexico**

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP) — Top-seeded Venus Williams reached the quarterfinals of the Mexican Open, defeating Kaia Kanepi of Estonia 6-4, 6-4.

Fernando Verdasco, the top seed on the men's side, advanced earlier in the day with a 6-4, 6-3 victory against Lukasz Kubot of Poland.

Two-time defending champion Nicolas Almagro also reached the quarterfinals, defeating Richard Gasquet of France 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7).

The sixth-seeded Almagro was down 0-4 in the final set before rallying for the victory.

Also, No. 2 Fernando Gonzalez defeated Victor Hanescu of Romania 7-6 (2), 3-6, 6-1 and second-seeded Agnes Szavay of Hungary beat Renata Voracova of the Czech Republic 7-5, 6-1, and Fernando Gonzalez of Chile defeated Victor Hanescu of Romania 7-6 (2), 3-6, 6-1.

**Ole Miss students
want Star Wars
mascot**

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) Some students at the University of Mississippi want Admiral Ackbar of "Star Wars" fame for their new mascot — but as Ackbar himself might say, "It's a trap!"

Officials say there's virtually no chance the fish-faced leader of the Rebel Alliance in the movie could become the on-field mascot for the Rebels of Ole Miss.

Students voted this week to begin the search for a new mascot at the Southeastern Conference school. The university in Oxford has been without a mascot since 2003, when Colonel Reb, a caricature of an aging Southern planter, was run off the field.

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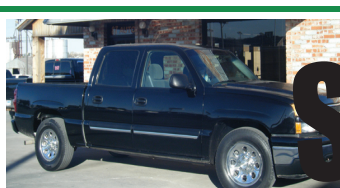
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