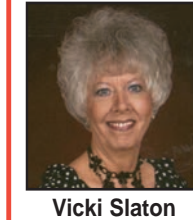




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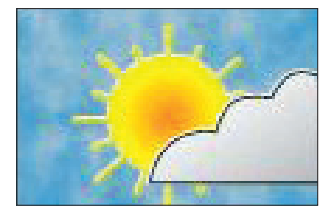


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WEDNESDAY

MARCH 10, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 80

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Book signing set Thursday

Heritage Museum will host a wine and cheese reception for Marj Carpenter from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday.

Carpenter, a former reporter and long-time activist in the Presbyterian Church, will sign copies of her latest book, "Get Your Foot Out of the Durn Petunias: Stories From My Life," during the reception. Other books she has written include "To the Ends of the Earth" and "A Little Bit Farther."

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

Policy updates on ISD agenda

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

Consideration of policy updates will highlight a routine meeting of the Big Spring Independent School District board of trustees at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

Trustees will consider updates to six policies, most dealing with personnel issues.

Three of the six updates deal directly with employment issues, including non-renewal of term contracts, resignations and employee welfare.

The other three updates cover a variety of issues, including equal educational opportunities, wellness and health treatments protecting students from harassment, discrimination and retaliation.

The board routinely approves a variety of policy updates during the school year.

In other business, trustees will consider:

See **BSISD**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
State Sen. Kel Seliger, right, speaks to the audience at Tuesday's West Texas Energy Summit, held in Dora Roberts Community Center. Listening to Seliger are, from left, Texas Reps. Drew Darby and Warren Chisum, and Paul Sadler, director of the Wind Coalition.

Energy efficient

Lawmakers, producers brainstorm future of the industry

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

Texans take pride in leading the nation in energy production. Maintaining that position, however, is going to take a lot of hard work.

That was the main message from Tuesday's West Texas Energy Summit, which brought together Texas legislators and energy production businessmen from across the Permian Basin at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Producers and lawmakers shared ideas, information and predictions for

the future of the energy industry during the summit, which was the brainchild of Texas Rep. Joe Heflin, Big Spring's representative in the state House of Representatives, and Ben Sheppard, president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

Heflin said the summit was designed to update West Texans on the status not only of the oil and gas industry, but other energy enterprises like wind, solar and nuclear.

"He and I were talking on the phone when we came up with the idea for a

"There are clouds on the horizon, but nothing we can't handle with hard work and common sense."



—State Rep. Jim Keffer, Eastland

summit," Heflin said. "We wanted lawmakers and energy producers to share

See **ENERGY**, Page 3A

Construction firm courts county



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Tina Boneta, account executive for Basic IDIQ, addresses the Howard County Commissioners Court.

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners heard a presentation from a construction firm looking to expand into the area and got a clean fiscal bill of health for the government agency Monday morning.

The court met with Tina Boneta, account executive for Basic IDIQ (Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity) Inc. during its first meeting of March to explore the possibilities an inter-local agreement with the Houston-based company could open up for the county.

"There are several different ways to contract for construction. However, the government has allowed a new way, which is through job order contracting," Boneta told the court. "The way this works with us, until our firm gives you a firm, fixed price, there are no charges or fees. This process is growing

in popularity and we've done construction for the Texas Tech Health Sciences Division in different parts of Texas, as well as work for Midland ISD.

"There is accountability at every level with this type of contract, and the contractor cannot come back and submit a change order. The only change orders can be submitted by the county. It's a process that just hasn't been used much outside of government contracts, but it is available to counties, cities and entities like that."

Boneta was joined by Midland-based project manager Gail Anderson and San Angelo-based Ronnie Lumsdon during the meeting.

"We're looking at the long term (success of the contracts) here, not just to hit a few home runs out of the park,"

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

INDEX

| | |
|------------|------|
| Comics | 6B |
| Classified | 3-4B |
| Features | 5A |
| Obituaries | 2A |
| Opinion | 4A |
| Sports | 1-2B |



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Forsan improves to 8-0 with 1st district win

Herald Staff Report

IRA — The Forsan Buffs kept their hot start rolling through their first district win. The Buffs scored nine runs in the third inning to break a 1-1

tie and pull away for their eighth straight win to start the season. Dillon Lowery earned the win, allowing two earned runs on four hits and striking out six in five innings. "It's been a really good start," Forsan coach Jason Phillips

said. "We're in our fifth year of baseball, and we're as far along as we have ever been." Lowery knocked out two runs on two hits at the plate in the game, and Ryan Flores knocked in three runs on two hits. Foster Burchett scored two on

a double. The Buffs have never allowed more than three runs in a game this season, and they're averaging more than 10 runs per contest, Phillips said. "Hopefully we can keep it up," he said. The Buffaloes face a

big test against defending state champion Miles at home Friday. The Buffs handed Miles its first loss of the season last April 8, beating the Bulldogs 11-5. That win has been a rallying cry for the Buffs this season, Phillips said. "Hopefully we'll put

it together on Friday and come out with a win there," Phillips said. First pitch is at 4:30 p.m.

Forsan 13, Ira 2
FHS 019 03 -- 13 10 3
Ira 100 10 -- 2 4 3
W- Lowery, RBI- Flores 3, Lowery 2, Burchett 2

Newton's gem carries Coahoma

BY JOE ZIGTEMA Sports Editor

COAHOMA — Heather Newton found herself in another pitcher's duel Tuesday night at Coahoma High School.

But that's just fine with her.

The senior tossed nine shutout innings, allowing three hits, and struck out 20 Abilene Wylie Lady Bulldogs as the Bulldogettes pushed a run across on a Jennifer Castilaw single in the ninth to win it 1-0.

The win is Coahoma's sixth straight and Newton's 10th on the season.

But by Newton's standards, Tuesday night was a "lousy" performance. After all, in the previous 28 innings she hadn't allowed a hit.

"I think this was one of my off games compared," said Newton, who struck out the side in the first, third, fifth and ninth innings. "I don't want anybody to hit off me."

Newton looked strong from the first pitch, striking out the side in the first inning. But Wylie senior pitcher Leslie Henderson matched Newton out-for-out, batter-for-batter for eight frames. Henderson allowed just the one run in 8 1/3 innings, striking out nine.

"They have a lot in their arsenal, they're both seniors and you know you're going to get good pitching," Wylie coach Heather Collier said.

The Bulldogettes' winning run was set up



HERALD PHOTO/ Joe Zigtema

Kalea Neff makes contact with the ball Tuesday in Coahoma's 1-0 win over Abilene Wylie in nine innings. Heather Newton toed the rubber for the Bulldogettes, striking out 20 batters in her 10th win of the season.

when Kylie Gee led off the ninth with a single to center field. Jordan Martin put down a sacrifice bunt to move Gee to second, and Castilaw followed with a base hit to shallow left. With the green light all the way, Gee just got under the tag from Wylie catcher Mackenzie Clay for the win.

"That was big,"

Coahoma coach Shane Tadlock said. "(Castilaw had) been struggling at the plate, so hopefully that will get her going."

Castilaw had a chance to end the game in the seventh inning, when the Bulldogettes had runners on second and third with nobody out after Katie Dunn reached on an error. But

Anderson bore down, striking out Castilaw and Brandi Smith before she got out of the jam when Laurel Nix hit a grounder to short.

"She got our timing off with her changeup, and we were fortunate to get out of here with a win," Tadlock said. "I thought we had a couple opportunities where we should have scored."

Lady Steers outlast Brownwood in duel

Herald Staff Report

BROWNWOOD — One run was enough for the Lady Steers on Tuesday in Brownwood as they escaped with a 1-0 win in nine innings on the road.

Linzee Yarbar brought Big Spring's first and only run home in the ninth when Kenzie Hunt hit a tapper right in front of the catcher. Yarbar charged for the plate and scored, and the Lady Steers completed the shutout in the ninth.

"We struggled at the plate all night long, but in the end did what was necessary to get the winning run across the plate," wrote Big

Spring coach John Sparks in an e-mail.

Hunt earned the win, finishing with 10 strikeouts in the game as she stymied the Lady Lions. The Lady Steers' record improved to 11-5 on the year.

Yarbar started off the ninth with a single to center field. Linzee Yarbar followed her with a bunt single to put two on with nobody out, and Jillian Valle sacrificed the two to second and third, setting up Hunt's winning hit.

The Lady Steers will travel to San Marcos for the Rattler Spring Break Classic this weekend.

Still no spot in Texas lineup for OF Murphy

Associated Press

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — David Murphy has started in every slot of the Texas batting order — one through nine. Only teammates Michael Young and Ian Kinsler have played more games for the Rangers the past three seasons.

"He is ready for anything. He should be commended for it," manager Ron Washington said. "You've got a guy who feels like he can be an everyday guy. But when you look at our situation, he has to get his at-bats how he gets his at-bats."

Murphy still doesn't have a set spot in the Rangers lineup, even

after outfielder Marlon Byrd left in free agency over the winter.

Texas is planning to use young speedster Julio Borbon to lead off and play center field, and is shifting All-Star Josh Hamilton to left field. The Rangers have emerging slugger Nelson Cruz in right and signed Vladimir Guerrero to be the primary designated hitter and a part-time outfielder.

"Right now, I can't say what my role is exactly, how many at-bats I'm going to get," Murphy said. "I am confident that I will be on the field playing. ... I just need to control what I can con-

See **RANGERS**, 2B

Big sixth inning, 19 hits power Steers past Brownfield on road

Herald Staff Report

BROWNFIELD — The Steers pounded out 19 hits and scored seven runs in the sixth inning as they ran away from Brownfield 14-5 Tuesday night on the road.

The Steer lineup clobbered the baseball as Mike Enriquez finished 5-for-5 with two doubles,

a triple and 3 RBI. Jacob Acosta hit a solo home run in the first inning and also recorded a triple, Martin Yanez had a double, triple and 2 RBI, and Steven Islas had an RBI triple as well. Michael Felton and Max Papajohn each knocked in runs.

"That was encouraging," Otto said of his

team's offense. "We were happy about it."

Papajohn earned the win in relief, scattering three hits in 2 1/3 innings of shutout baseball. Gunnar Kennedy started the game for Big Spring (4-7), allowing five runs, one of which was earned, and seven hits in 4 2/3 innings.

The Steers got three

runs in the first frame on triples by Yanez and Islas, followed by Acosta's solo blast. They added two in the fifth before a big seven-run sixth inning, when the Steers scored six with two outs. Big Spring scored on a first-and-third play with two outs, and after an error kept the inning alive,

the Steers would go on to score five more on six hits.

"It just kind of snowballed for them after that error," Steers coach Burt Otto said.

Big Spring will play in the Greenwood tournament this weekend. The Steers get Midland at 1 p.m. Thursday, followed by Pecos at 6:30

p.m. On Friday, Big Spring will take on Presidio at 8 a.m., followed by Seminole at 8:30 p.m.

Big Spring 14, Brownfield 5
BS 300 027 2 -- 14 19 2
BF 001 130 0 -- 5 10 3

W- Papajohn (2-1). L- Gomez.
HR- Acosta. 3B- Yanez, Islas, Acosta, Enriquez. 2B- Yanez, Enriquez (2); RBI- Enriquez 3, Yanez 2, Islas, Acosta, Felton, Papajohn.

Sports in brief

Big Spring Country Club holding United Way fund-raiser

Big Spring Country Club and the United Way invite the public to participate in a 3-person scramble March 27-28 at the Country Club.

Entrance fee is \$60 per player plus a cart. Private carts are welcome.

The event will begin with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Entry includes barbecue on the course Saturday at noon and a 19th hole party on the patio.

Softball signups under way

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

Signups will be held this Saturday at the Big Spring Mall. It is the last signup to take place.

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.

Grady preparing for state semifinals Friday

The Lenorah Grady Wildcats are the last area high school team still in the gym as the Wildcats head to Austin for the state semifinals Friday.

The Wildcats will take on Leggett at 2 p.m. at the Frank Erwin Center at the University of Texas.

Grady beat Ira in overtime and Lipan in the regional finals in Abilene last weekend. The Wildcats are 30-4 on the season.

Obituaries

Alice 'Merle' Roman

Alice "Merle" Roman, age 78, entered her heavenly home to be with her Lord and Savior and many loved ones March 7, 2010.

Her courageous battle with cancer for the last two years was a testament to her love of life and an inspiration to all who knew and loved her.

As one of George and Lillian Chapman's eight children, Merle was born April 22, 1931, in Lamesa. She attended school in the Knott community and following graduation married the love of her life, Bobby Wayne Roman on Nov. 23, 1948. God blessed them with two children, Sharon Diane and Alan Wayne.

Merle was a beautician and owned her own hair salon in Knott for five years. She was a loving homemaker, wife, and mother to her family. Cooking and entertaining family and friends brought her great joy. One of her favorite past times was fishing.

She was an active member of Kelview Heights Baptist Church and loved serving in her Sunday School Department up until the time of her illness.

Merle was preceded in death by her beloved husband Bobby on April 21, 2009; her parents, George and Lillian Chapman; three brothers, Alton, Raymond and Donnie Chapman; one sister Arlene Montgomery; and a grandson Michael Minnick.

She is survived by her daughter, Sharon Marcum and husband David of Midland; son, Alan Roman and wife Cathey of Midland; grandsons, John Minnick and wife Tamara of Midland, Jeffrey Roman and wife Kristen of Weatherford, Josh Marcum and wife Kimberly of Aubrey, and Stephen Marcum of Midland; one granddaughter, Jennifer Jobe and husband Jason of Grapevine; twin great-grandchildren, Rylee and Braden Marcum; three sisters, Louise Willborn, Hazel Barnes and Shirley Paige, all of Big Spring; and many nieces and nephews and a multitude of dear friends.

Services will be held at Kelview Heights Baptist Church in Midland at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 10, 2010, with interment at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring at 2 p.m. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 9, 2010, at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Kelview Heights Baptist Church, 402 W. Scharbauer, Midland 79705; or to Hospice of Midland, PO Box 2621, Midland 79702.

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

Paid obituary

Armando B. Reyes

Armando B. Reyes, 61, of Big Spring died Monday, March 8, 2010, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 11, 2010, at Nalley-Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel with Eddy Pitchford, minister of Coahoma Church of Christ, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, 2010, at the funeral home.

He was born Nov. 20, 1948, in San Antonio and grew up moving around with his father, who was in the United States Air Force. Armando loved to play with his grandchildren, loved good food and music, was always a joker and had a nickname for everyone. He loved to laugh.

He was a member of the Coahoma Church of Christ.

Survivors include three daughters, Megan Summers and husband David, Amanda Nicole Reyes and husband Rocky Sanchez, and Carol Dyer and husband Richard, all of Big Spring; a step son, Raymond Duran of Amarillo; the mother of his children, Carol Scott of Big Spring; a brother, Kenneth Spang of San Antonio; five sisters, Elida Garcia, Carmen Ramos, Nita Salisbury, Susan Cunningham and Shirley Siloteo, all of San Antonio; 11 grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard H. and Viviana Reyes; one son, Michael Anthony Reyes; and two brothers, Jesse Guerrero and Richard Guerrero.

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

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Fern Lewis

Fern Lewis, 76, of Big Spring died Monday, March 8, 2010, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Rev. Allan Wallace officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.



Fern was born May 3, 1933, in Menard to Dovie Mae and Charlie Ray Osburn. She married Weldon Lewis on Feb. 11, 1950. He preceded her in death Aug. 12, 1994. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and a homemaker. She was a member of East 4th Baptist Church.

She is survived by two sons, Charlie Lewis and wife Charla and Dalton Lewis and wife Carol; two daughters, Jo Ann Kennedy and Glenda James and her husband Johnny, all of Big Spring; one sister, Gale Sparnell of Garland; one brother: Carroll Osburn and his wife Jackie of Big Spring; six grandchildren: Michele Trevino and husband Art, Toni Hernandez and husband Augustine, all of Big Spring; Michael Lewis of Carlsbad; Casandra DeLa Cruz, Dustin Lewis and Hayley Lewis, all of Big Spring; eleven great grandchildren, Seth, Gabbie and Lexie Trevino, Zachary, Julie and Amber Hernandez; Tristin Rodriguez; Johnny, Ariaiah, Joshua and Alysandra DeLa Cruz, all of Big Spring; and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one infant son; three grandchildren, Johnathan Robert Lewis, Brandi Rodriguez and Summer Smith; four brothers, Clinton Osburn; E. L. "Buck" Osburn; Kenneth Osburn; and Harold "Chuck" Osburn; four sisters: Marcella Davis; Stella Dodd; Barbara Dodd and Lois Brumley; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Howard Osburn, Dustin Lewis, Seth Trevino, Zachary Hernandez, Roy Lee Williams, Gary Osburn and Tommy Brumley.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Judy Loya, her caregiver, who was like another daughter and all the staff of Home Hospice.

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

Paid obituary

Police blotter

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

- STORMEE NIX, 29, of Iraan, was arrested Tuesday on 10 local warrants.
- GABRIEL GARCIA, 28, of 801 N. Gregg St., was arrested Tuesday on charges of driving while intoxicated and duty on striking fixture or landscape.
- JAMIE MUSCUTT, 33, of Montana, was arrested Tuesday on two warrants from another agency.
- TONYA TREJO, 26, of San Angelo, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of hindering a public servant.
- KENNETH ABBS, 48, of Arizona, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MELANIE ENGLISH, 48, of 7507 Old Colorado City Highway, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- FRANKIE JUAREZ, 40, of 1008 N.W. Second St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOHNNY JOHNSON, 37, of 1706.5 Johnson, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- DEBRA KNOTT, 48, of 1008 Baylor, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency.
- THEFT was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.
- RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.
- POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- HINDERING APPREHENSION/PROSECUTION was reported in the 2600 block of Fairchild.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 4100 block of Dixon.
- ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 2600 block of Hunter.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 63 inmates at the time of this report.

• JAMIE MARIE MUSCUTT, 33, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on out-of-state warrants for violation of parole and second-degree assault.

• FABIAN DUKE TREJO, 25, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a Tom Green County warrant for theft.

• TONYA LEE TREJO, 26, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of hindering apprehension or prosecution.

• KENNETH EDWARD ABBS, 48, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of solicitation by a pedestrian.

• DEBRA LYNN KNOTT, 48, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of bail jumping — failure to appear, permitting an unlicensed driver to operate a motor vehicle and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• RAYBURN LEON BRAZZEL, 70, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• JOHNNY LEE JOHNSON, 37, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of no driver's license and driving while intoxicated — open container.

• FRANKIE JUAREZ, 40, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• MELANIE SUE ENGLISH, 48, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated — open container.

• AARON SCOTT LANGFORD, 28, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

• JOHN CARLOS LOPEZ, 22, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana — two ounces or less.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 800 block of N. Gregg Street. Service refused.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Fourth Street and Gregg. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 4200 block of Theo. Service refused.

Take Note

• The Big Spring Kiwanis Club's annual Pancake Supper will be held from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Howard College Student Union Building. Tickets for the all-you-can-eat meal are \$5 and can be purchased at the door. For more information, contact Club President Ann Duncan at 263-4887.

• Coahoma ISD will release students at 12:30 p.m. Friday. CISD staff will be attending professional development that afternoon.

Correction

In the Tuesday article about Big Spring Independent School District student awards from the recent regional science fair, Mason Harrington's name was inadvertently omitted. Mason, a student at Kentwood Elementary, received first place and a special award in the Junior Division Environmental Science competition.

Lottery

The winning numbers in Tuesday evening's drawing of the MEGA Millions game were: 14-16-18-19-29, Mega Ball: 16.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 1-21-25-30-35.
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 7-8-8-7. Sum It Up: 30.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-4-9. Sum It Up: 15.

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Hawk rodeo opens season with meet at Weatherford College

BY CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

WEATHERFORD — The Howard College Hawk Rodeo team kicked off its spring season last weekend with a performance at Weatherford College in Weatherford.

The ladies started off strong, bringing break-

away ropers Sheridan Hodge and Kady Knox both back to the short round. Hodge posted a 3.6 in the first round and a 3.5 in the short to finish third in the round and average race.

Knox posted a 3.2 in the first round to win second in that round but was unable to connect in the short round.

The men followed suit, taking team ropers Curt Mosley and Keaton Merket to the short round after posting a fourth place time of 7.0 in the long round. The pair failed to stop the clock in the short round.

Hawk bullrider Lonnie Graham marked a 72 in the first round,

which was good enough for fourth place in the round as well as the average.

Jason Schaffer, the lone Hawk in position to claim the Southwest Region All-Around title, was at the top of his game.

Schaffer gathered his steer wrestling cattle in 10.2 seconds to finish

third in the average.

"Jason started off the spring season in a good way," said Greg Kernick, Hawk Rodeo Coach. "He is at the top of the Southwest Region All Around standings right now, and I feel confident he can finish strong this spring to claim that title."

Schaffer competes in

the tie down roping, steer wrestling and the team roping events.

Next up for the Hawk Rodeo Team is the Odessa College Rodeo held March 26-27.

For more on the HC Hawk Rodeo Team and updated schedule and results, visit www.hchawk.com.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Edwards gets probation for deliberate wreck

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Sticking with its "boys, have at it" attitude, NASCAR placed Carl Edwards on three-race probation for his deliberate wreck with Brad Keselowski in last weekend's race at Atlanta.

The punishment means Edwards will still be able to race in both the Sprint Cup and Nationwide Series, but will be monitored by NASCAR through the April 10 race at Phoenix.

NASCAR president Mike Helton said Edwards' action Sunday at Atlanta was "not acceptable," but did not cross the line in what the sanctioning body will allow this season. NASCAR vowed in January to give the drivers more leeway in policing themselves and settling their own scores in an effort to re-energize the sport through more emotion.

There had been a strong call from fans and analysts for NASCAR to suspend Edwards, who returned to the track down 153 laps from an earlier accident with Keselowski intent on wrecking his car. He tried for at least one lap before succeeding with

three laps to go, giving Keselowski a nudge that sent his car airborne. It banged hood-first off a retaining wall before flipping back onto its wheels. No one was hurt.

Attorneys speak in Roethlisberger assault allegation

ATLANTA (AP) — Attorneys for the woman who accuses Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger of sexual assault said that she did the right thing by going to police and asked for privacy in a statement.

Atlanta-based Attorneys Lee Parks and David Walbert said in the statement released to several media outlets that woman is assisting police. They said they were hired to advise the woman and her family while police investigate the allegations.

The 20-year-old told police that the two-time Super Bowl winner, who had been out bar-hopping with friends, assaulted her early Friday at a nightclub in Milledgeville, Ga. Roethlisberger has not been charged.

Ed Garland, an attorney for Roethlisberger, has said the quarterback is innocent of any crime.

Rodriguez OK with ties to Galea

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Yankees star Alex Rodriguez said he is at ease with his ties to a Canadian sports doctor embroiled in cross-border investigations involving HGH and another drug, though he still hasn't talked to federal authorities about the case.

Speaking a day after Dr. Anthony Galea told The Associated Press he treated Rodriguez last year and prescribed anti-inflammatories but never gave him or any other athlete HGH, the three-time MVP said he still doesn't know when he will be interviewed by federal agents.

Rodriguez sat in front of his locker at New York's spring training complex and spoke to reporters for about 3½ minutes about the situation. He seemed calm and even laughed at times.

Dunleavy out as Clippers coach

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Mike Dunleavy and the Los Angeles Clippers parted company for good, barely a month after he relinquished his head coaching duties to focus solely on being general manager.

Now that arrangement

is over, with the team announcing his departure in an e-mailed statement. Assistant general manager Neil Olshey will take over Dunleavy's job.

After the Clippers lost 113-87 in Orlando, they are 12th in the Western Conference standings with a 25-39 record.

Frye, Granger suspended

NEW YORK (AP) — Phoenix forward Channing Frye and Indiana's Danny Granger have been suspended one game without pay by the NBA for their part in an altercation Saturday.

The league punished Frye for throwing a punch. Granger was penalized for fighting with Frye in the final minute of the third quarter in the Suns' 113-105 victory.

Granger sat out against Philadelphia. Frye will miss the Suns' game against the Lakers on Friday.

Woman to sing after NCAA championship

NEW YORK (AP) — Jennifer Hudson will have her "One Shining Moment."

The Grammy and Oscar winner will perform the song that plays

each year at the end of the CBS broadcast of the NCAA men's basketball championship game.

The network said that Hudson will be the first woman to sing it. Teddy Pendergrass and Luther Vandross have performed previous renditions.

Hudson recorded the song in Los Angeles on Feb. 13. Her producer, Harvey Mason Jr., played for the Arizona team that reached the 1988 Final Four.

Morriss sorry for comments on stolen papers

COMMERCE (AP) — A Texas college football coach has apologized for applauding his players for removing campus newspapers from their racks because of a story about the program.

Texas A&M-Commerce coach Guy Morriss told campus police the actions by his players was "the best team-building exercise we have ever done." On Monday, the former Kentucky and Baylor coach apologized for a "lapse in judgment" and said the comment was made facetiously.

Police were investigating the disappearance of newspaper editions that included a front-page article about two football players being

arrested on drug charges.

A&M-Commerce athletic director Carlton Cooper said the Division II program would pay for the reprint of the missing edition, and that coaches and players would distribute it.

Miller ends year to rest ankle

GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, Germany (AP) — Olympic gold medalist Bode Miller has called it a season, a week before the World Cup finals in Germany.

The U.S. skier ended his season early to rest a sore right ankle, and added that he hopes to discuss his future with U.S. men's coach Sasha Rearick.

Miller, of Franconia, N.H., has not competed since the Vancouver Olympics, where he won the super-combined gold medal and earned silver in the super-G and bronze in the downhill.

The 32-year-old Miller was not in the running for any World Cup titles. He missed much of the offseason as he considered retirement and then skipped some races after he injured his ankle in December while playing volleyball with teammates.

MURPHY

Continued from 1B

control what I can control, play my game. Do the little things and do everything well, and I

won't have to worry."

Since returning home to Texas after being acquired at the July trading deadline in 2007, in the deal that sent closer Eric Gagne to Boston, Murphy has played 279

games. The only current Rangers with more are Young (446), the team's longest tenured player, and Kinsler (395).

"Murph knows how important he is to us. We certainly need him

to be successful going into this year, and hopefully many years going forward," Washington said. "So he's not a forgotten man."

Murphy has hit .279 for Texas with 34 homers, 145 RBIs and 141 runs scored. He has started games at all three outfield spots and served as the DH. After relieving Hamilton in left midway through the Rangers' 8-8 tie against AL West rival Oakland on Tuesday, Murphy had a three-run double and is now 4 for 11 with two doubles and

a triple in four spring games.

"I've tried to just prove that I can do a lot of different things, that I'm not just a guy that can hit for average or can hit for power," Murphy said. "I believe that I've shown that I can be pretty consistent at the major league level and that I can fill a lot of different roles. ... I can be the run scorer or the guy that drives in runs."

But Murphy got off to a miserable start last season. He was hitless

his first 23 at-bats before homering April 26 at Baltimore, the second-longest hitless streak ever for a Ranger to start a season. Ted Kubiak started 0 for 25 in 1972, the franchise's first year in Texas.

"It was definitely miserable at the time, but a good lesson to learn and something that I think I'm a better player because I experienced that," Murphy said. "I learned you can't afford to worry in this game, can't put too many expectations on yourself."



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Courtesy photo

Texas Department of Public Safety Sr. Cpl. Tommy Salmon, left, accepts the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2013 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award from Post Commander Leo Angle during a ceremony March 2 at the local VFW facility. Post officials said they were proud to present the award to Salmon, whose professionalism and dedication to his duty exemplifies the local organization's mission.

Coahoma man pleads to indecency

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

ABILENE — A Coahoma man pleaded guilty to a charge of indecency by exposure in Taylor County's 350th District Court last week after being accused of having sex with a 16-year-old Abilene girl in 2007.

Buck Cydel Angeley, 28, of 911 S. First St. in Coahoma, was sentenced to 90 days in jail, eight years probation and assessed a fine of \$2,000 Wednesday, March 3, by 350th District Judge Thomas Wheeler, according to court officials.

According to Assistant District Attorney Dan Joiner, Angeley was indicted on several sexual-based charges by a Taylor County grand

jury in September 2009.

"He was indicted on charges of indecency by exposure, indecency with a child and sexual assault," said Joiner. "So he had several charges facing him. He accepted a plea agreement and pleaded guilty to the single charge of indecency by exposure."

Joiner said he felt the agreement was a good balance between punishment and the other aspects involved in a sexual-based charge and subsequent trial.

"I felt like it was a good balance. There are a lot of different aspects you have to consider in a case like this," said Joiner. "He will have to do some jail time, and that was very important to the family. Also, he

will have to register as a sex offender for at least the next 18 years, and possibly longer, depending on how his probation goes and how well he follows the requirements.

"In a case such as this you also have to consider the impact a trial can have on the victim, who is forced to relive the experience in a very public manner. I'm pleased with the outcome."

According to court records, Angeley was in Abilene at the time of the crime to attend a wedding.

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

Testimony begins in state school abuse trial

McALLEN (AP) — A former employee at a state facility for the developmentally disabled in Corpus Christi was identified in videos abusing residents on the first day of testimony in his trial.

Twenty-two-year-old Guadalupe Delarosa Jr. faces three counts of injury to the disabled. He and five others were charged after videos of staged fights at the Corpus Christi State School were recovered from another staff member's cell phone last year.

The Corpus Christi Caller-Times reports that an investigator from Adult Protective Services point-

ed out Delarosa in several videos of the abuse during Tuesday's trial.

Texas man sought in incident

VICKSBURG, Miss. (AP) — Vicksburg police were looking for a Texan on charges related to a store robbery and shootout.

Police Lt. Bobby Stewart tells the Vicksburg Post that a warrant was issued for 26-year-old Jaime Flores of Houston on three counts of armed robbery and one of aggravated assault.

Stewart says Flores and another man allegedly robbed the store last Thursday before being chased down and one of them killed by the store

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

- Selection of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper as the professional service firm for the called bond election.
- Employment of an assistant principal at Big Spring High School.
- Professional employment recommendations

for the 2010-2011 school year.

• Textbook recommendations and school calendar for the 2010-2011 school year.

Contact Staff Writer **Steve Reagan** at 263-7331 ext. 234.

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Gloria Hernandez, 40, died Sunday. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.
Richard Schroeder, 60, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Fern Lewis, 78, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

ENERGY

Continued from Page 1A

information and ideas to see what we can do to keep the oil and gas industry viable ... Ben said, 'Well, why don't we bring everybody? Not just oil and gas but other areas of energy production?'"

Aside from updating the audience on the state of Texas' oil and gas industry, speakers also provided details about ongoing efforts to develop alternative and renewable energy sources.

Big Spring's state senator, Kel Seliger, chaired a session on wind energy and said it has a bright future in Texas.

"Wind energy, right now, is really complementary to conventionally produced energy such as oil and gas," Seliger said. "But it really

has an important place in energy production and a very important role in the economic development of Texas."

The major problem keeping wind energy from assuming a bigger profile is that there is currently no feasible way to store the electricity generated from the turbines. That, plus the intermittent nature of the West Texas wind, keep it from assuming a larger role in energy production at this time.

"There's a lot of research going on now into how to store wind energy," Seliger said. "When that question is answered, then wind is something that can depend on all the time."

Aside from research, officials also are budgeting more than \$5 billion to construct Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) transmission lines to link the state's wind farms with Texas' power grid. This

move, State Rep. Warren Chisum of Pampa said, will take much of the decade.

Moves are also underway to increase nuclear energy production in Texas. Jeff Simmons, senior nuclear development officer for Luminant, said the company is joining with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries in plans to construct two new units at the Comanche Peak station near Glen Rose. That move, Simmons said, would increase the facility's electrical generating capacity by 3.4 megawatts.

While alternative sources of energy are promising, officials concede that oil and gas will continue to be the major energy contributor in Texas for some time.

State Rep. Jim Keffer of Eastland, said increased regulatory pressure from the federal government is a concern, but not a back-

breaker to the industry.

"There are clouds on the horizon, but nothing we can't handle with hard work and common sense," Keffer said. "But it's going to take the whole oil and gas industry to make sure we don't head off in the wrong direction."

Among those issues clouding the future of the industry are concerns over changes in the tax structure, Iraq's plan to auction off 12 billion barrels of oil in the near future and the fight over whether to adopt "cap and trade," an administrative approach used to control pollution by providing economic incentives for achieving reductions in the emissions of pollutants.

And energy needs are not going away — in fact, officials said, they will only increase in the years to come.

"In the 1950s, the average size of a home in

Texas was a little bit less than 1,000 square feet. Now, it's a little less than 2,500 square feet," said John Fainter, director of the Association of Electric Companies of Texas. "Very few homes back in the '50s had central air and heat ... And just look at all the stuff in your house that uses electricity — TVs, computers, appliances and so forth."

It's a demand Texas energy producers will continue to meet, Chisum said.

"Since Spindletop, Texas has led the world in energy production," he said. "And even if we didn't have oil, we have the people and the know-how."

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

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1A

said Boneta. "You're only as good as your last job."

Boneta explained the court would need to approve an inter-local agreement with the company before the two could begin talking about any type of construction projects, an

agreement that won't cost the county anything unless the two develop a hard-fast plan on a project and enter into an agreement.

The court took no action on the matter.

Also on Monday's agenda, accountant Don Stephens delivered the county's annual financial report to the commissioners, giving the government agency a clean bill of fiscal

health.

"I found nothing in the course of the audit that needed to be brought to the court's attention," Stephens told the court.

Contact Staff Writer **Thomas Jenkins** at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail

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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

OTHER VIEWS

When niches rule in Congress, it's not a good thing

The fiction being peddled by many is that voters are not buying health care reform, why Congress — representative of the electorate, in this instance — is in gridlock over the issue.

The truth is likely more complicated. We believe voters are frustrated not because of the content of legislation but because of the failure to pass any reform altogether.

Yes, there are voters — Democrats and Republicans — who want stricter abortion language, those who want a public option, the "Obamacare" faction that is ranting about a "government takeover" of health care, those with more genuine concerns about big government and then those who simply want to deny President Barack Obama and Democrats a win on this issue.

But these, we believe, represent relatively small niches in the electorate. Most people want some measure of universal health care that covers the uninsured and makes insurance companies operate fairly.

The U.S. Senate's version of health care reform substantially does that.

These minority niches, however, have found voice in Congress, and they threaten to sacrifice the good not so much on the altar of the perfect but on the altar of their particular niche.

Congress is skittish because of midterm elections in November. It should be, but not for the reason conventional wisdom is pitching. There will be a price to pay in November — by those who block or attempt to block reform.

The easiest thing would be for the House to simply approve the Senate bill as is. Easy. Simple. No need to go the reconciliation route. But that ship has sailed. There will be amendments because the Senate and House will have to arrive at a bill that satisfies those niches.

All we ask of these niches is to realize that universal care will not be unlike any other large congressional initiative. There will be the need to improve, delete and tweak in the years ahead as warranted. This isn't the last shot at health care.

Obama is pressing Congress to pass a bill this month. Yes. Pass a bill now because existing insurance fails too many now. Pass a bill now because the uninsured can't wait.

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The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
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- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May our actions and the results show Your love, Lord.

Amen

Don't apologize if you're only sorry about getting caught

There's an apology epidemic. If it's not a corporate executive (Akio Toyoda) then it's an athlete (Tiger Woods, Mark McGuire) or a politician (Mark Sanford, John Edwards).

People seem to require it; I don't know why. It reminds me of A Thousand Clowns, that very nice play (made into a very nice movie) written by Herb Gardner.

In it, the hero (a kind of superannuated Holden Caulfield, irresponsible in a charming way) describes a social experiment he'd conducted earlier in the day.

He says: "Y'know when you're walking down the street talking to yourself how sometimes you suddenly say a coupla' words out loud? So I said 'I'm sorry,' and this fellah, complete stranger, he looks up a second and says 'That's all right, Mac,' and goes right on."

"He automatically forgave me. I communicated. Five o'clock rush hour in midtown you could say 'Sir, I believe your hair is on fire,' and they wouldn't hear you."

"So I decided to test the whole thing out scientifically. I stayed right there on the corner...just saying 'I'm sorry' to everybody that went by...Oh I'm sooo sorry sir...I'm terribly sorry madam... Say there, Miss, I'm sorry..."

"I swear, 75 percent of them forgave me....one fellah forgave

me from a passing car, and one guy forgave me for his dog. 'Sophie forgives the nice man, don't you Sophie?'

"I had tapped some vast reservoir. Something had happened to all of them for which they felt somebody should apologize... if you went up to people on the street and offered them money they'd refuse it. But everybody accepts apology immediately... it is the most negotiable currency."

And it's being spent as though it were federal stimulus money.

Let me say this to my fellow sinners. Mark, John, Tiger: Forget it. I don't want your apology. In the first place, I doubt its sincerity. One can be genuinely sorry for getting stuck in traffic and being late or for spilling red wine on your hostess's white couch, true accidents.

But when you've done something deliberately, be it cheating on your wife, using performance-enhancing drugs, or cheating on your expense accounts, you aren't sorry you did it.

You're sorry you got caught. I don't see why I'm supposed to feel better because you apologize for getting caught.

In any case, it's not my business if you cheat on your wife. That's between you and your wife and the cheatee.

Neither do I care if you're an athlete who uses performance-enhancing drugs.

We live in a society in which performance-enhancing drugs are the norm.

Why else do you think Viagra is so popular?



DONALD KAUL



We must not give up on space

More than 40 years ago, our nation and the world paused to witness history as astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin saw firsthand the "magnificent desolation" of the moon.

That defining moment reminded our nation that America can overcome insurmountable challenges and achieve great things when we are committed and dedicated to a singular purpose.

But NASA's strong history of innovation, as well as our dominance in space, is in danger because President Obama has decided to shift the agency's mission to more "earthbound" tasks.

If President Obama has his way, the U.S. will retire the Space Shuttle program later this year, just as the International Space Station is finally complete and without a viable alternative to take its place.

America has spent billions of dollars building and maintaining the space station. Now that it is complete, the Obama budget plan ensures that we will no longer have easy access to it.

Current plans for the next generation space vehicles are years away from completion.

This human space flight gap threatens not only our nation's

access to the International Space Station and other areas of space, but also our national security and economic interests. America's decades-long dominance of space will finally come to an end.

This is wrong. Instead of sending up a white flag for our nation's premiere science agency, I believe we must close the gap in human space flight.

To do so, I have introduced legislation allowing NASA to extend the shuttle's service while work continues on the development of the next generation of space vehicle.

My legislation will make the shuttle retirement dependent on the availability of a replacement ship or until NASA determines that the space shuttle capabilities are not needed to keep the space station viable.

The measure will also provide acceleration of the nation's human space flight programs to ensure we continue to have future access to space.

Unless we make every effort to close the gap in U.S. human space flight, we will have no choice but to face the reality that we will be totally dependent on Russia for access to space.

Should Russia, far from our strongest ally, "renegotiate" the terms of our cooperation, the U.S. could be blocked from space for years. This would leave Russia and China as the only nations in the world with the capability to launch humans into space.

Batters used them, yes, but so did pitchers, as well as football players, basketball players, golfers (and doesn't Tiger have a nice build, though?) and six-day bicycle racers.

Using them isn't so much cheating as keeping up with the competition.

I'm in tune with the credo of that great philosopher Henry Ford II, grandson of Henry the Great. The younger Ford, who also ran the company bearing his name, was known as a womanizer. There were even stories — rumors, actually — of his engaging in sexual activity in downtown Detroit restaurants.

Whenever confronted by these rumors or any others, he would say "Never explain, never complain." And he never did.

I admire that attitude but I realize that in that, as in most things, I am in the minority. Most people prefer the Herb Gardner philosophy: "When in doubt, apologize."

So maybe Tiger did the right thing, apologizing. And maybe McGuire should keep right on doing it. So too with wandering politicians, so long as they observe the law and don't steal too much.

I draw the line, however, at accepting the apology of an auto manufacturer who knowingly puts on the road cars that feature dangerous, potentially lethal, flaws and then tries to cover up the resulting mess.

For him, any apology he can make is too little, too late.

Minuteman Media columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Mich.



KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

This must not be an 'either or' proposition in which we are forced to choose between continuing to fly the shuttle and maintain our independence in reaching space, or investing in the next generation of space vehicle. We can and must do both.

By maintaining our independence from other nations in reaching space, the U.S. can fully realize the research potential of the space station as a national lab while protecting and promoting our national interests.

We must seize our nation's proud history of innovation and dominance in space as inspiration to move forward.

As President John F. Kennedy said at Rice University in 1962: "We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win."

Investing in the next generation of space vehicle while continuing to fly the shuttle will not be easy, but we must accept the challenge and overcome the obstacles to reach our nation's goals.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas and is the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

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I am not familiar with Jane Velez-Mitchell; evidently she is a host on the HLN network (where Nancy Grace hangs out). She has written a book on her recovery processes from addiction to alcohol, work, pleasing people and other issues. In "iWant: My Journey from Addiction" (070.92 VEL J), you can read all about how she changed and transformed herself into a healthy person.

John Saul has a stellar list of thrillers of psychological suspense and supernatural horror. When Sarah Crane's mother died (Sarah was 14), she was forced to grow up quickly. Her father found solace in the bottle. When he is jailed for a barroom fight and a car accident that injured Sarah, she is thrust into a cold, soulless foster home. In "House of Reckoning" (F SAU J), she is drawn into a haunting home filled with evil. I will leave the rest to your imagination; you can find this in the fiction section.

Dr. Tim R. Mason has had a varied life. He has been a nutritionist for animals and has served as a minister for Churches of Christ. He has written a western titled "Four Wind Across Texas" (W MAS T) wherein Buck Bradley, a Texas Ranger, is drawn into a range war along the Nueces Strip. Western lovers will enjoy reading it. Another western just in, is William W. Johnstone and J.A. Johnston's "Sidewinders" (LP W JOH W). This is (perhaps) the first in the series that star a couple of seemingly simple cowboy drifters. Scratch Morton and Bo Creel are drifters and aren't above breaking the law — vagrancy and spitting in public are a couple of their crimes. Drifting along in Arizona Territory, they get caught up in a stagecoach war and of course, there is a woman involved.

I think that I have already written about Michael Connelly's "9 Dragons" in the regular print; we now have it in large print. Walk on over to the LP area and check out "9 Dragons" (LP F CON M). Husband has read it and has asked me to fetch home some more Harry Bosch stories.

If you are in the mood to read Claire Seeber's debut novel, (an overlong thriller) with a reasonable

scenario — an abducted baby, a distraught mother and a husband under a slight cloud of suspicion. Add a sexy French nanny, a beautiful but cold ex-wife, a kid brother with a serious drug problem, and you've got a raft of possible kidnappers. Quite a mix, the book takes place in London and it can be found in the large print mystery area; the title is "Lullaby" (LP M SEE C).

Harry Turtledove has written "The Golden Shrine" (SF TUR H), a story of war at the dawn of time. The glaciers are in retreat and a gap has opened in the ice war. From that gap comes the "Rulers." Their cavalry rides on the back of mammoths; their arrows shoot far; the shaman is powerful. Against the Rulers stand Bizogots Count Hamnet Thyssen and a few friends. Come see how war was fought before the time of written history.

Now for some fiction. Phillipa Gregory turns to the War of the Roses: The battles between the Houses of Lancaster and York. Book 1 in her Cousins' War Series, is "The White Queen" (F GRE P). Gregory tells the story of a woman of extraordinary beauty and ambition who, catching the eye of the newly crowned boy king, marries him in secret and ascends to royalty. While Elizabeth rises to the demands of her exalted position and fights for the success of her family, her two sons become central figures in a mystery that has confounded historians for centuries: the missing princes in the Tower of

London whose fate is still unknown. From her uniquely qualified perspective, Philippa Gregory explores this most famous

shut. Their teacher is close behind; both the children and the town's innocence is shattered that day. Hoag draws a deep secret out into the open for the world to see.

While Peter Mayle's "The Vintage Caper" (F MAY P) is found in the fiction area, it is a story of a wine heist of the most exquisite vintage. Danny Roth, entertainment attorney extraordinaire, with a wine collection to match, discovers that his cellar has been stolen. Enters Sam Levitt, former corporate attorney and wine connoisseur, who has been called in by the insurance company to chase down the robbery. I don't think there is much blood and gore, but rather a chase after some overpriced wine!

Howard County Library is open from 9 to 6, Monday through Friday and Saturday from 10 until 2. The Internet/Video room closes one-half hour before closing and Saturdays it is closed from 12-1. The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.



HOLLIS MCCRIGHT



unsolved mystery of English history, informed by impeccable research and framed by her inimitable storytelling skills. This description is from the book flap; however Gregory is a masterful story teller.

In another genre; modern suspense writer Tami Hoag has "Deeper Than Dead" (F HOA T). In 1985, four children are running through the woods, when they stumbled upon a partially buried woman, eyes and mouth glued

NATIONAL
**SEXUAL
ASSAULT**
AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH



HOW WILL YOU REMEMBER
YOUR SPRING BREAK?

"We went to the beach for Spring Break we all were together, Next thing I remember I woke up in a different room not knowing anyone."

SEXUAL ASSAULT IT DOES HAPPEN

Every 2 minutes, someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted. Here's the math. According to the U.S. Department of Justice's National Crime Victimization Survey — the country's largest and most reliable crime study — there were 248,300 sexual assaults in 2007 (the most recent date available.) Help is available through the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE, and online at www.rainn.org, or locally at Victim Services 432-263-3312 24/7 www.vsofbigspring.com

"It was our last hurrah before graduation, the last time we would be together as a group. Good Times! How did I end up alone? How can I explain to my parents I will not be going to college but facing up to 20 years for Sexual Assault? This was not suppose to happen I had a scholarship.

RAINN's Top 10 Spring Break Tips Include

1. Get to know your surroundings before you go out and learn a well-lit route back to your hotel or rental property.
2. Always carry emergency cash and keep phone numbers for local cab companies handy.
3. Form a buddy system with close friends and agree on a secret "butt in" signal for uncomfortable situations.
4. Trust your instincts. If you feel unsafe in any situation, go with your gut.
5. Avoid being alone or isolated with someone you don't know and trust.
6. Don't accept drinks from people you don't know or trust.
7. Never leave your drink unattended, and if you do lose sight of it, get a new one.
8. Always watch your drink being prepared.
9. Try to buy drinks in bottles, which are harder to tamper with than cups or glasses.
10. Avoid putting music headphones in both ears so that you can be more aware of your surroundings, especially if you are walking alone

Sexual assault is a crime of motive and opportunity. Unfortunately, there is no surefire way to prevent an attack. If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual assault, please know that the assault is not your fault and that you are not alone. Help is available through the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE, and online at www.rainn.org, or locally at Victim Services 432-263-3312 24/7 www.vsofbigspring.com

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207085

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mars, the planet of conquests, has been giving us a review in the art of war for the past few months. Even if we're not exactly battling anyone, it takes a good fight to make anything happen in life, including a good relationship or a challenging career. Efforts that have been thwarted have a ve taught us plenty, but now it's time to learn by moving forward.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). In your world, there is no such thing as waiting around. Delays are inevitable — terrific news. You are uniquely equipped to make use of unexpected stalls. You will use the time to your advantage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Chances are, you are using a great deal of intuition to manage your life now. Practical action also becomes necessary today. Take the time to organize yourself and everything will work out beautifully.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Soon you will come to the point where your biggest problem is no longer an issue. It is easy to repel what you don't want when you are so focused on what you do want that you can't even remember the other thing.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll travel down the wrong road.

Maybe the directions were wrong, or perhaps you weren't following them. Being slightly off course will give you a different view of your destination, and you'll be richer for it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Some scientists are claiming that exercise is just as effective as drugs in treating certain forms of depression. Imagine what it does for people who aren't depressed. Get running and you could just find your inner superhero.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People do things for their own reasons. You'll be a sleuth, rooting around until you discover the true motives of those around you. You'll enjoy the satisfaction that comes from your new understanding of human nature.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've heard about people going through a "dark night of the soul," and someone you know is experiencing this. Except it's not one night — more like a month or a year. Draw healthy boundaries around your heart.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You will be an expert salesperson of things that you yourself have purchased, committed to and enjoyed. However, you won't be able to sell what you haven't personally bought.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have your eye on an expensive object. But it's not time to expand in this way yet. Wait until this purchase seems small to

you. Tend the bounty you already have, and it will grow and make you rich.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have an idea that will only work if you can get a group of people on board. Think it through, and then write your plans out on paper. If you're willing to take a risk, others will be, too.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Everyone has prejudices of some kind — even an open-minded, forward-thinking free spirit such as yourself. You'll confront a quiet, stubborn, deeply rooted belief that may surprise you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You really don't care what a certain person thinks of you, and that is why you are able to treat this difficult character with great tenderness and compassion. You'll get the best results because of your detachment.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 10). You'll feel content with your family life. You are able to express your wishes and concerns, and your loved ones will be amenable to your suggestions. April brings financial risk and reward. June is your chance to expand your social network. Join groups. New friends will connect you to love and money. Libra and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 25, 10, 33 and 19.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "My mom is overbearing. She gets into my business and invades my privacy,

and she has done this my entire life. I'm 33, and she's still hounding me about the men I date, how clean my apartment is and what I eat — seriously! How do I get a Gemini to get her own life and stop trying to live mine for me? I'm an Aquarius."

Part of the reason your mom bothers you so much is that you are so much alike. You are both air signs with a similar way of processing the world. Because she understands you so well, your mother feels she can in some way live vicariously through you. By being involved in your world, she feels that she can nab opportunities she didn't have when she was younger and experience bits of life that were not available to her. Of course, she can't really do these things. Knowing more about your mother and her background will help you find some compassion for her. Since repelling your mother doesn't seem to work, try getting closer to her. Your curiosity and love may just defuse this invasive force in your life.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: She plays Miley Stewart's best friend on the Disney series "Hannah Montana," and loyal friendship is also a real-life talent of Pisces Emily Osment. With Venus, Mars and Saturn all in social Aquarius, Osment has an open heart and a strong sense of philanthropy that she's only beginning to explore. With this kind of natal chart, all chari-

table moves lead to happiness and even greater wealth.

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. © 2010 CREATORS.COM

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Necessary Assumption

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

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

The bidding:

| | | | |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| South | West | North | East |
| 3♣ | Pass | 3♥ | Pass |
| 4♣ | Pass | 4♦ | Pass |
| 5♣ | | | |

Opening lead — three of spades.

There are many instances where a defender has to hope that a certain lie of the cards exists without any assurance that it actually does. In these cases, the defender simply adopts the stoic philosophy that if the situation he's hoping for does not exist, nothing else could be done to alter the outcome.

Consider West's predicament early in the play of today's deal, where South reached five clubs on the bidding shown. The opening spade lead was taken by East's ace, and his four-of-spades return was

covered by the ten and jack, putting West on lead at trick three.

It was obvious to West that if South's presumed seven-card club suit was headed by the K-Q-J or K-Q-10, the contract could not be defeated, since declarer would inevitably score seven club tricks plus the A-K of hearts and A-K of diamonds. He therefore had to hope South's clubs were not solid.

West reasoned further that if his partner had the K-x of clubs, the contract would fail no matter what he did next. But if East held either the Q-x or J-10 of clubs, it was necessary to force dummy to ruff a spade.

Accordingly, West returned the king of spades at trick three. Declarer ruffed with dummy's ace, but later had to lose a club to West's nine for down one.

Although West had no choice but to lead a third round of spades under the circumstances, it is important to note that after winning the jack of spades at trick two, West knew for sure that South had at least one more spade. Declarer's spade holding was revealed by East's return of the four — his original fourth-best spade — on the second trick.

With only one lower spade — the deuce — unaccounted for at that point, East could not have started with more than five spades, marking declarer with at least three cards in the suit.

Tomorrow: It looks wrong, but it's right.

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NOBODY ASKS FOR IT

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su | do | ku

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ANSWERS

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

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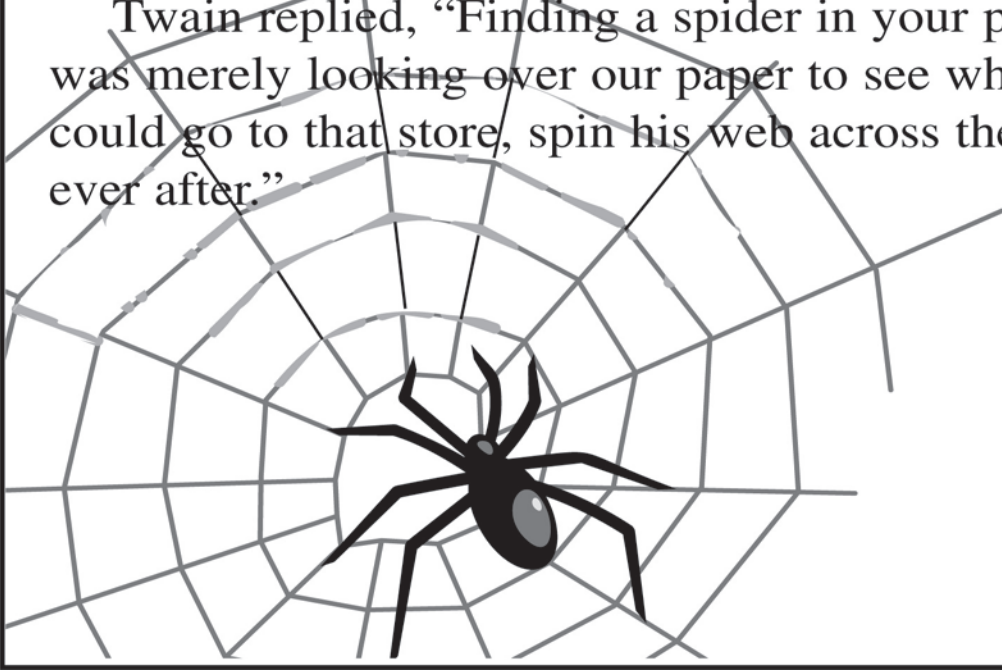
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The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."



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News briefs

Obama touts anti-fraud measures as he takes closing argument for health overhaul on the road

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama has chosen a suburban St. Louis high school to make his closing argument for a health care overhaul, pushing a new anti-fraud plan as he cranks up the pressure on skittish Democratic lawmakers to act fast.

Obama is to speak Wednesday at St. Charles High School, his second health care address in three days. His speech comes as congressional Democrats stand on the brink of delivering the president a dramatic success with passage of his sweeping overhaul legislation — or a colossal failure if they can't get it done.

Business groups that oppose the legislation are also stepping it up, with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce announcing a coordinated campaign to spend as much as \$10 million on ads, starting Wednesday, saying, "Stop this health care bill we can't afford."

Leaders in the House and Senate are waiting for a final cost analysis from the Congressional Budget Office in the next day or so that will allow them to start counting votes — and twisting arms — in earnest. In the House, in particular, getting the needed majority will be touch and go.

The two-step approach now being pursued calls for the House to approve a Senate-passed bill from last year, despite House Democrats' opposition to several of its provisions. Both chambers then would follow by approving a companion measure to make changes in that first bill.

U.S. vice president's West Bank tour overshadowed by new Israeli settlement plans in Jerusalem

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Israel's new plan to build 1,600 apartments for Jews in Palestinian-claimed east Jerusalem overshadowed Vice President Joe Biden's visit to the West Bank on Wednesday.

Biden was to hold talks with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Prime Minister Salam Fayyad, in part to ease their doubts about the latest U.S. peace efforts. Israel's Interior Ministry announced late Tuesday that it had approved the new construction, an embarrassing setback for Biden after a day of warm meetings with senior Israeli officials.

Fayyad said the Israeli announcement was "damaging" and posed a "great challenge" to restarting

peace talks. Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said the new construction would be the main item on the Abbas-Biden agenda.

"I think the Israeli government is making it almost impossible for us, the Americans and the international community, to take a one centimeter step in the direction of reviving the peace process," Erekat said.

In an apparent snub, Biden pointedly arrived 90 minutes late to his scheduled dinner with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and he sharply rebuked the Israeli step — which came just after the Palestinians agreed to a new round of indirect peace talks under U.S. mediation after a 14-month lapse.

Runaway Prius driver, patrol officer recount burning brakes as Toyota reputation suffers blow

EL CAJON, Calif. (AP) — Before he called 911, James Sikes says he reached down with his hand to loosen the "stuck" accelerator on his 2008 Toyota Prius, his other hand on the steering wheel. The pedal didn't move.

"My car can't slow down," he began when a California Highway Patrol dispatcher answered his call.

Sikes, 61, rolled to a stop 23 harrowing minutes later, he and his blue Prius emerging unscathed but Toyota Motor Corp. suffering another big dent. Toyota has watched its reputation for quality crumble with recalls tied to risks that cars can accelerate uncontrollably or can't brake properly.

Todd Neibert, the CHP officer who gave instructions to Sikes over a loudspeaker as they went east on mountainous Interstate 8 in San Diego County Monday afternoon, said he smelled burning brakes when he caught up with the Prius.

The officer said he told Sikes to push the brake pedal to the floor and apply the emergency brakes as the Prius neared 85 mph. The car slowed to about 55 mph, at which time Sikes says he turned off the ignition and the car came to a stop.

AP-GfK Poll: Americans detest Congress, sticking by Obama in tough times ahead of elections

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans have come to detest Congress ever more deeply as it nears the end of a nasty fight over health care. But more than half still back President Barack Obama, a bright spot for a Democratic Party counting on its leader to help stave off expected losses in elections this fall.

The latest Associated Press-GfK poll found that fewer people approve of Congress than at any point in Obama's presidency. Support has dropped significantly since January to a dismal 22 percent as the health care debate has roiled Capitol Hill. Neither Republicans nor Democrats are safe; half of all people say they want to fire their congressman.

Conversely, Obama's job-performance standing is holding fairly steady at 53 percent. And over the past two months, the Democrat has gained ground on national security issues, specifically the subsidizing Iraq war and the escalating Afghanistan war, as he has spent most of his time — at least publicly — on domestic matters like the economy and health care. On those issues, he still has the support of about half the people.

"I agree with what Obama is trying to do, but nobody is listening to him," said Grace Pope of

Waterville, Maine. But this 75-year-old Democrat added, "I don't think that the Congress is doing anything."

Such sentiments and the survey's results make clear that Obama remains far more popular than House and Senate members as he leads a Democratic Party facing a volatile election-year environment that, so far, seems to be trending in Republicans' favor. Judging by his standing at this point, Obama seems to be an asset for his rank and file.

Taliban claim responsibility for attack on NATO-Afghan base that killed 2 NATO personnel

KHOST, Afghanistan (AP) — The Taliban claimed responsibility Wednesday for a suicide bombing inside a U.S.-Afghan base in eastern Afghanistan that killed two NATO service members.

A Taliban operative wearing an Afghan police uniform infiltrated the base Tuesday night and detonated his explosive vest next to a group of soldiers who were warming their hands beside a fire, Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid told The Associated Press by phone.

U.S. troops command most of the eastern area bordering Pakistan, and local officials said they only knew of U.S. soldiers and Afghan border police on Chergotah base. A NATO statement on the attack confirmed that two of its service members died but did not give their nationalities. A number of others were wounded in the attack, the military alliance said.

The attack was a reminder of the increasing sophistication and reach of insurgents — who have expanded attacks against targets like the capital and heavily guarded military outposts even as NATO forces have started to take back some of their strongholds in the south.

In December, a suicide bomber infiltrated a CIA base in Khost city, killing seven CIA employees and a Jordanian intelligence officer.

Bipartisan Senate support expected for jobless aid, business tax breaks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Legislation blending help for the jobless with popular tax breaks for businesses and individuals is slated to pass the Senate Wednesday over protests from conservatives who say it adds too much to the \$12.5 trillion national debt.

But compassion for the jobless and the political power of an annual package of tax breaks is likely to produce a bipartisan vote to pass the measure, even though it would add more than \$130 billion to the budget deficit over the next year and a half.

The bill would provide unemployment benefits of up to 99 months in many states for people mired in joblessness as the economy slowly recovers from the worst recession in decades. The measure easily cleared a procedural hurdle Tuesday by a 66-34 vote, with eight Republicans voting with Democrats to break a GOP filibuster.

The measure illustrates the great extent to which direct help for the jobless and the poor makes up a large portion of Democrats' election-year agenda on jobs — and threatens to squeeze out other items amid concerns about a budget deficit projected at a record \$1.6 trillion this year.

The sweeping bill cleans up a host of unfinished congressional business from last year that languished as the Senate focused on health care. It would also prevent doctors from absorbing a 21 percent cut in Medicare payments and extends through December a generous 65 percent subsidy of health insurance premiums for the unemployed under the COBRA program, at a cost of \$10 billion.

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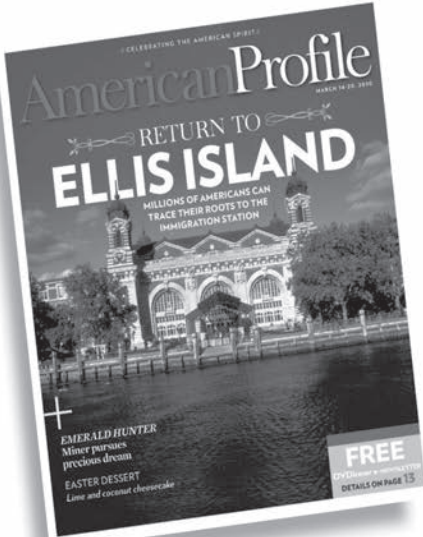
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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



MILLIONS OF AMERICANS CAN TRACE THEIR ROOTS TO THE IMMIGRATION STATION

EMERALD HUNTER
Minty pursues precious dream
EASTER DESSERT
Lime and coconut cheesecake

FREE
DETAILS ON PAGE 13

A spiritual home

About 40 percent of Americans have an ancestor who came to this country through Ellis Island. It represented a spiritual home for their beginnings as Americans. For the rest of us, Ellis Island is a symbol of welcome and opportunity. Plus, the emerald hunter and lime and coconut cheesecake.

AmericanProfile

| | 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 |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 5:PM :30 | News ABC | News ABC | Locura Notic. | Lopez Lopez | News CBS | Noticias Noticiero | News NBC | Friends Office | Cortes Harris | World Business | Cash Cab Cash Cab | boys, Donald Sutherland | CSI: Crime Scene | Law & Order | 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live | Phineas Deck | Around Interrupt | SportsCenter |
| 6:PM :30 | News Ent | Jeopardy! Wheel | Mi Pecado (SS) | Two Men Two Men | News Ent | 12 Cora-zones | Millionaire | Seinfeld Program | House | PBS News-Hour | MythBusters | Movie: The Fugitive, Sela Ward | Ways Die | Bones | Movie: Evans vs. Silva | Movie: Brown Sugar, Mos Def | College Basketball | College Basketball |
| 7:PM :30 | Scrub Middle | Scrub Middle | Hasta que el Dinero | Human Target | Chris Gary | EI Clon | | Browns Browns | Rabbi Ralph Messer | At Close Range | MythBusters | | UFC 108 | Bones | Movie: Four Brothers | College Basketball | College Basketball | |
| 8:PM :30 | Family Cougar | Family Cougar | Corazon Salvaje | American Idol | Criminal Minds | Perro Amor | Law & Order: SVU | Browns Browns | Light of the Southwest | Saint-Gaudens | MythBusters | | UFC | | | College Basketball | College Basketball | |
| 9:PM :30 | (:01) Ugly Betty | (:01) Ugly Betty | Don Francisco | Simpsons Friends | CSI: NY | ¿Dónde Está Elisa? | Law & Order: SVU | Payne | | Great Performances | Solv.History | | UFC | | | Phineas Montana | | |
| 10:PM :30 | News Nightline | News Nightline | Impacto Noticiero | Raymond TMZ | News Letterman | Noticias ¿Dónde Está Elisa? | News Jay Leno | Lopez Tonight | Upd Dr. Young | Charlie Rose | MythBusters | Movie: The Bone Collector, Queen Latifah | Players Blue | Leverage | The Mo'Nique | Wizards Deck | SportsCtr. Final | SportsCenter |
| 11:PM :30 | Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live | Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live | Gancho | Law & Order: SVU | Late | Decisiones | Late Night | Name Sex & Sala | Israel T. Smiley | World (Off Air) | MythBusters | | MAN | Leverage | Wendy Williams | Suite Life So Raven | Fastbreak SportsNation | |
| 12:AM :30 | News Paid | News Paid | Amar sin Limites | Paid King-Hill | Insider | Pagado | News Poker After Dark | Sex & Sala | Charles | | | Movie: The Fog, Janet Leigh | UFC | Leverage | Movie: State Property | Kim Replace | NASCAR College Basketball | SportsCenter |
| 1:AM :30 | News Paid | News Paid | Mujer... Cero | Paid RENO 911 | Insider | Pagado | News | Sex & Sala | Charles | | | | UFC | Leverage | Movie: State Property | Kim Replace | NASCAR College Basketball | SportsCenter |

DENNIS THE MENACE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

HAGAR



"DON'T FEEL BAD, JOEY. YOU COULD TAKE UP BOWLING... STRIKES ARE A GOOD THING IN THAT GAME."



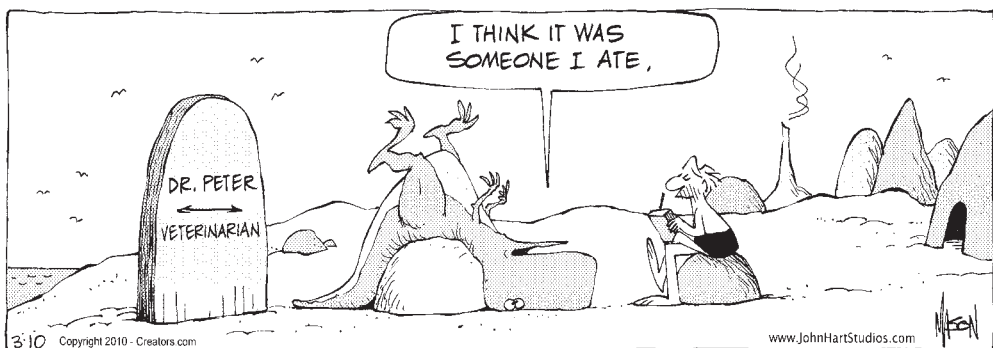
"Sorry, the only perfume I'd like would smell like a chocolate-chip cookie."



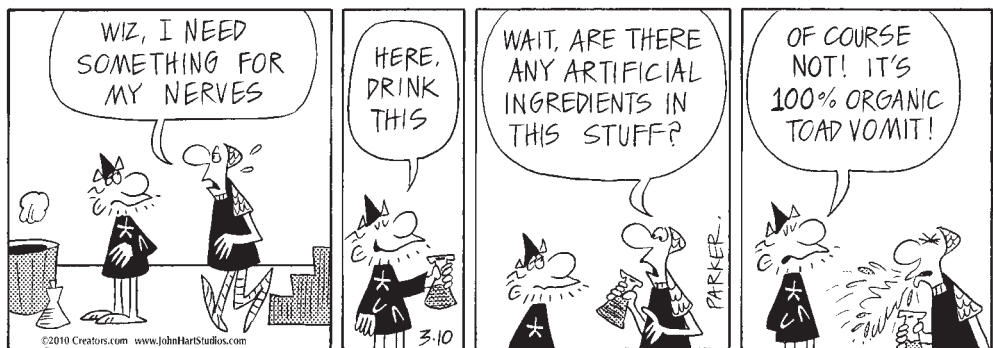
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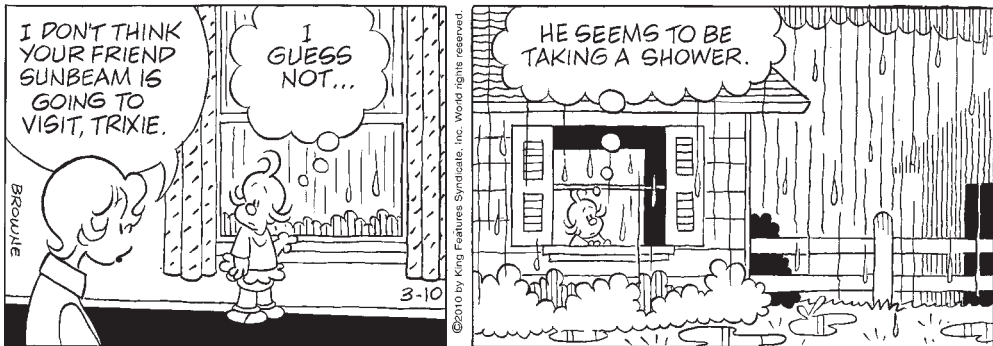
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AGNES



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THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, March 10, the 69th day of 2010. There are 296 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On March 10, 1876, the first successful voice transmission over Alexander Graham Bell's telephone took place in Boston as his assistant heard Bell say, "Mr. Watson — come here — I want to see you."

On this date: In 1496, Christopher Columbus concluded his second visit to the Western Hemisphere as he left Hispaniola for Spain.

In 1785, Thomas Jefferson was appointed America's minister to France, succeeding Benjamin Franklin.

In 1848, the Senate ratified the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the Mexican-American War.

In 1880, the Salvation Army arrived in the United States from England.

In 1910, luggage maker

Samsonite Corp. had its beginnings as the Shwayder Trunk Manufacturing Co. was founded in Denver by Jesse Shwayder.

In 1948, the body of the anti-Communist foreign minister of Czechoslovakia, Jan Masaryk, was found in the garden of Czermin Palace in Prague.

In 1949, Nazi wartime broadcaster Mildred E. Gillars, also known as "Axis Sally," was convicted in Washington, D.C. of treason. (She served 12 years in prison.)

In 1969, James Earl Ray pleaded guilty in Memphis, Tenn., to assassinating civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. (Ray later repudiated that plea, maintaining his innocence until his death.)

In 1980, "Scarsdale Diet" author Dr. Herman Tarnower was shot to death at his home in Purchase, N.Y. (Tarnower's former lover, Jean Harris, was convicted of his murder; she served nearly 12 years in prison before being released in January 1993.)

In 1985, Konstantin U. Chernenko, who was the Soviet Union's leader for just 13 months, died at age 73.

Today's Birthdays: Talk show host Ralph Emery is 77. Bluegrass/country singer-musician Norman Blake is 72. Actor Chuck Norris is 70. Playwright David Rabe is 70. Singer Dean Torrence (Jan and Dean) is 70. Actress Katharine Houghton is 65. Rock musician Tom Scholz (Boston) is 63. Former Canadian Prime Minister Kim Campbell is 63. Producer-director-writer Paul Haggis is 57. Alt-country/rock musician Gary Louris is 55. Actress Shannon Tweed is 53. Pop/jazz singer Jeanie Bryson is 52. Actress Sharon Stone is 52. Rock musician Gail Greenwood is 50. Magician Lance Burton is 50. Actress Jasmine Guy is 48.

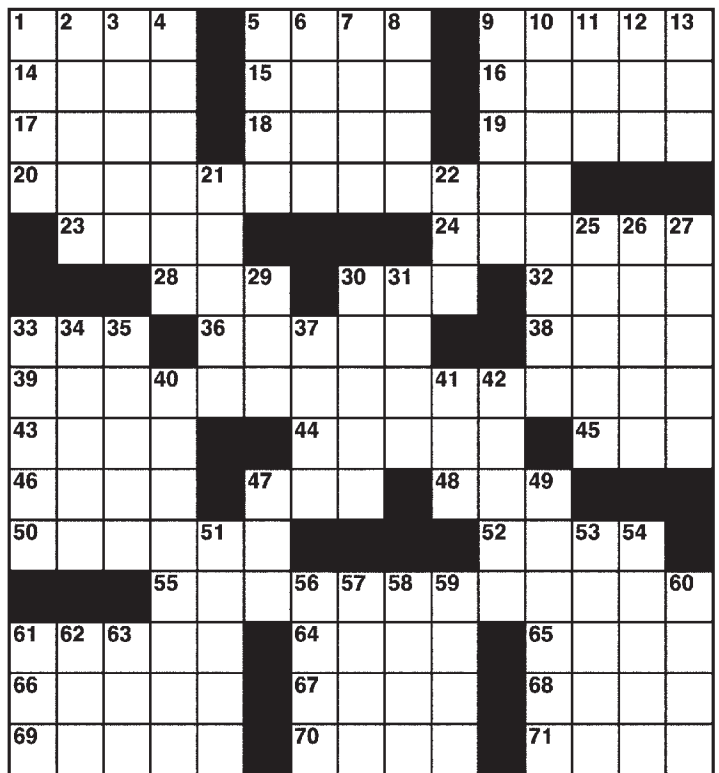
Answer to previous puzzle

| | | |
|-------------|--------|--------|
| SHUN | EBBS | SATAN |
| TATA | AREA | TWINE |
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| ITSTOOSMALL | ONME | |
| PRES | PEP | SEATED |
| SOS | BEAST | AMASS |
| ALI | IDS | |
| WHYCANTIGET | CASH | |
| HOOTS | ODES | OBOE |
| INGOT | PERK | SLUR |
| PEARS | SASS | TYPO |

Newsday Crossword

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

- ACROSS
- 1 Huskies' tow
- 5 Pantry pests
- 9 Filled beyond full
- 14 Pueblo dweller
- 15 Calm under pressure
- 16 Make smooth, as wood
- 17 Bug-eyed
- 18 The lowdown
- 19 Get away from
- 20 Wimbledon category
- 23 Wall St. letters
- 24 Brother of Prince Charles
- 28 Fight stopper
- 30 Passport datum
- 32 At any time
- 33 Blond shade
- 36 Untouchables leader Ness
- 38 Actor Rob or Chad
- 39 Results of remarriages, often
- 43 Nota (take notice)
- 44 Whiteboard support
- 45 Abbr. on some shingles
- 46 Slots city
- 47 Driveway material
- 48 Zilch
- 50 Stop the flow of
- 52 Mr. Potato Head parts
- 55 Cards ready to be dealt
- 61 Andrews of The Sound of Music
- 64 "Bummer!"
- 65 Touch-screen image
- 66 Greek alphabet ender
- 67 Freebie, in 46 Across
- 68 Cash on the Continent
- 69 Render impure
- 70 Typical mall rat
- 71 Meat-and-potatoes dish
- 7 Veggie-burger ingredient
- 8 Unkempt one
- 9 Risk a ticket
- 10 Words of assurance
- 11 Cross shape
- 12 Extremity
- 13 Poor grade
- 21 Faked out, at the rink
- 22 Superman foe Luthor
- 25 Steer clear of
- 26 Take new vows
- 27 Get toggled out
- 29 Chihuahua cheer
- 30 Up to now
- 31 LAX postings etc.
- 33 e.g., i.e., and
- 34 Winter forecast
- 35 Salon dye
- 37 Brainstorming result
- 40 Storefront blazer
- 41 Guys
- 42 Coming-clean words
- 47 Turkey Day day: Abbr.
- 49 Part of LGPA
- 51 Use a crib sheet
- 53 Edit further
- 54 Get home safely
- 56 Almanac tidbit
- 57 Arctic ice
- 58 Excuse, as an excuse
- 59 Channel for basketball fans
- 60 Have down pat
- 61 Write quickly
- 62 Actress Thurman
- 63 Luau adornment





Courtesy photo
 On Feb 26., the Greater Big Spring Rotary Club presented three student of the month awards to Judson Chevalier of Coahoma High School, Kalea Neff of Coahoma High School and Tap McIntosh of Big Spring High School. Pictured left to right are Chevalier, Neff, Greater Big Spring Rotary President Shelley Smith and McIntosh.



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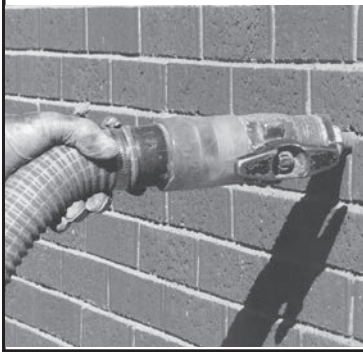
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STARGAZER

By PAUL DERRICK

Galileo's Sun and ours

Everyone knows the Sun is a brilliant round ball that travels around Earth each day. Perfect and unchanging, it is made of shiny quintessence, a heavenly substance not found on Earth.

At least that's what sophisticated Europeans thought in the early 17th century

when Galileo and others began studying the heavens with the newly invented telescope 400 years ago.

That view of the Sun began to crumble when Galileo and other early astronomers discovered sunspots. They seemed to be clear evidence that the Sun wasn't perfect after all.

Further, the sunspot blemishes came and went and changed sizes, demonstrating that the Sun isn't unchanging. And seeing the sunspots move across the Sun's surface indicated that the Sun was rotating on its axis. However, neither Galileo nor his contemporaries had any idea what sunspots were, or what the Sun was made of.

Galileo's observations, especially of Jupiter and Venus, also led him to accept Copernicus' theory that the Sun doesn't go around the Earth, but rather Earth and the other planets go around the Sun.

And as mentioned in previous columns, his promotion of these heretical ideas got him in serious trouble with the ecclesiastical-governmental authorities.

Today, of course, the Sun-centered view of our solar system is universally accepted, and we have a much better understanding of the nature of our Sun.

An ordinary star, the Sun is a huge gaseous ball composed not of any exotic heavenly substance but primari-

ly of hydrogen, the most common element in the known universe. It's heat, light, and other forms of energy come from nuclear reactions deep within its core.

At its center, the temperature is 27 million degrees whereas the temperature at the visible surface (called the photosphere) is a mere 10,000 degrees. The sunspots which so intrigued and baffled Galileo are now known to be areas of magnetic disturbance; they are darker in appearance because they are cooler.

And finally, our Sun, like all stars, is not eternal. It was born 5 billion years ago and will die in another 5 billion years.

(Much of this information is from Stephen P. Maran and Laurence A. Marschall's book, Galileo's New Universe, reviewed in this column; my Web site contains an archive of previous columns.)

— Sky Calendar.

• March 7 Sunday: The Moon is at 3rd quarter.

• 15 Monday: The Moon is new.

• 16 Tuesday evening: A very thin crescent Moon is to the lower right of Venus low in the west at dusk, and above the planet the next evening.

• 20 Saturday: Spring (vernal) equinox, the northern hemisphere's first day of spring when day and night are (about) 12 hours long.

• 20 Saturday evening: The crescent Moon grazes the Pleiades star cluster, a sight best seen in binoculars; the star Aldebaran, the "red eye of the bull," is to their upper right.

• 21 Sunday: Saturn

is at opposition (on the opposite side of Earth from the Sun) when it rises at sunset, is up all night, and sets at sunrise.

• 23 Tuesday: The Moon is at 1st quarter.

• 24 Wednesday evening: The gibbous Moon is to the upper right of Mars and below the planet the next night.

— Naked-eye Planets. (The Sun, Moon, and planets rise in the east and set in the west due to Earth's west-to-east rotation on its axis.) Evening: Mars is high in the east as Saturn rises an hour after sunset; Venus is visible very low in the west after sunset. Morning: Saturn, low in the west, is currently the only morning planet. Mercury and Jupiter are now in the Sun.

— Astro Milestones. March 13 is the birthday of William Herschel (1738-1822) who discovered the planet Uranus in 1781 from Bath, England. March 14 is the birthday of Albert Einstein (1879-1955), who set forth the theories of relativity in the early 1900s.

— Time Change. Set clocks forward ("spring forward") to Daylight Saving Time Sunday, March 14, at 2 a.m.

Stargazer appears every other week. Paul Derrick is an amateur astronomer who lives in Waco. Contact him at 918 N. 30th, Waco, 76707, (254) 753-6920 or paul-derrickwaco@aol.com. See the Stargazer Web site at stargazerpaul.com.



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Town hall meetings scheduled for West Texas

ABILENE — West Texas citizens will have an opportunity to talk transportation at town hall meetings in San Angelo and Lubbock.

The first meeting in West Texas is scheduled in Lubbock on Wednesday, March 31. The Texas Department of Transportation is partnering with the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization. They will be on hand to address questions and to discuss regional issues and local transportation projects with residents. The meeting will be held in the City of Lubbock Council Chambers, 1625 13th Street, Lubbock.

The second opportunity for West Texans to discuss transportation with TxDOT officials will be in San Angelo on Wednesday, April 14, 2010. TxDOT is hosting this meeting along with the San Angelo Metropolitan Planning Organization. The meeting is being held in the McNease Convention Center Council Chambers, 500 Rio Concho Drive in San Angelo.

Both meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. with registration starting at 5:30 p.m.

During registration, TxDOT, along with local transportation representatives, will be there to answer questions and provide information on projects and funding, including a brief perspective on regional infrastructure requirements for the future.

"It's important to engage Texans in the discussion to bring citizens to the table so they can contribute to shaping our future transportation system and participate in the statewide funding conversation," said Amadeo Saenz, TxDOT executive director.

Citizens are encouraged to attend these meetings to ask questions and provide feedback on regional transportation issues. The information received will be used to help Texas plan and develop an efficient transportation system.

-one that is sophisti-