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# H BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

MARCH 19, 2010



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## Street work almost finished

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

City officials can see the figurative light at the end of the tunnel with regards to street improvement projects. Crews with Price Construction have been busy for most of the past 12 months paving streets and pouring concrete, but that work is now entering its final stages, Assistant City Manager Todd Darden said.

Of the three major street repaving projects, significant work remains only on Lancaster Street, Darden said. Work on Scurry Street is complete, while only a two-block section of Main Street awaits repaving.

"Crews still have to repave Lancaster from King Drive to Fourth Street, so that project is about 50 percent complete," Darden said. "And I'd say work on Main Street is about 95 percent done."

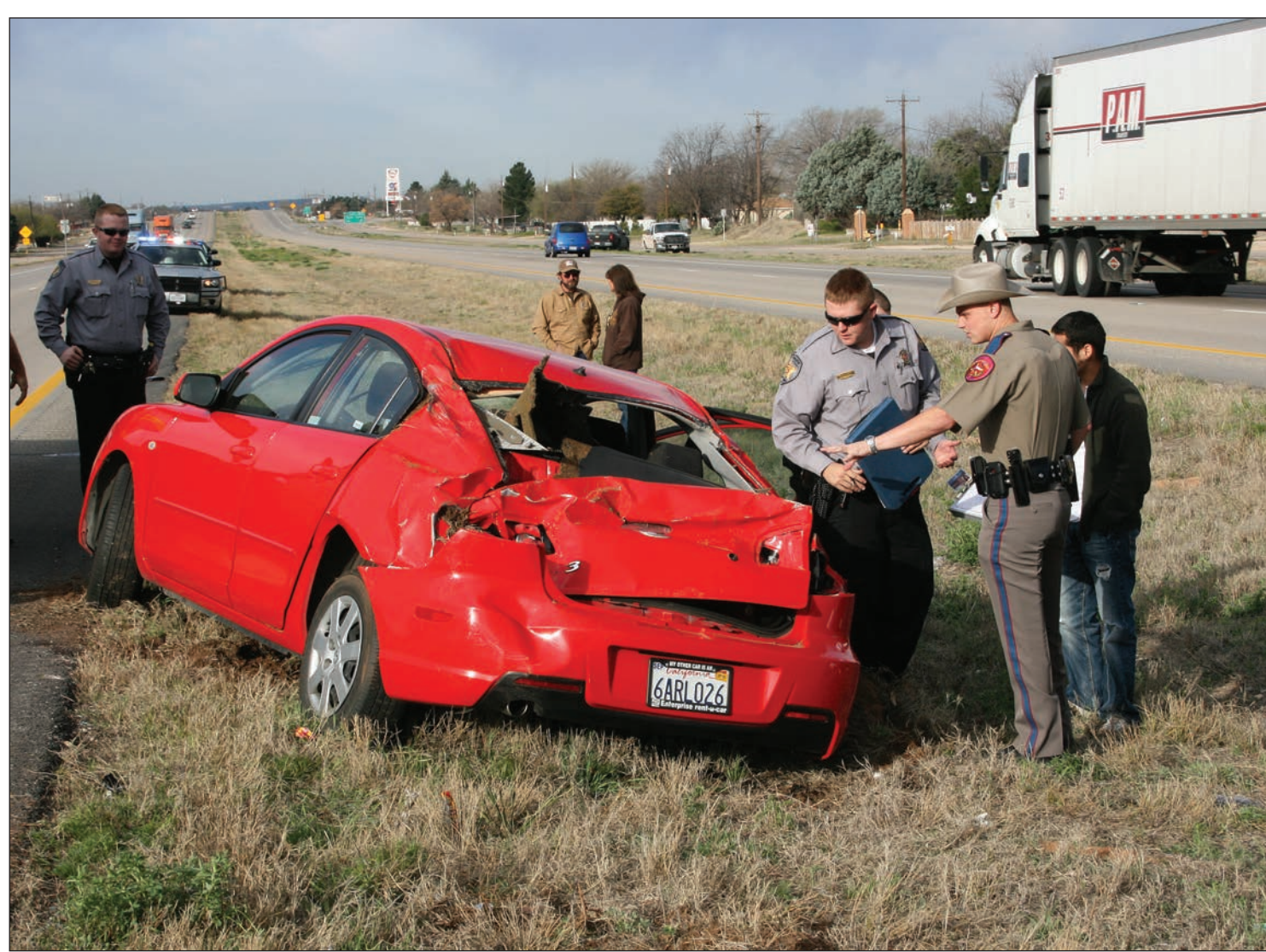
The majority of work still remaining is in the area of curbing and landscaping, he noted. The major curbing project attracting workers' attention is at the county courthouse area, where crews are widening curbs alongside Main Street.

"We still lack some paving on Main between Fifth and Third, but the work is progressing well," he said.

Also on tap is landscaping and lighting work on the new medians on Main Street. Darden said irrigation lines have been installed; the next step will be to finish concrete work on that street before crews complete other projects.



Dardsn



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Emergency responders look over this wrecked Mazda following a two-vehicle accident on Interstate Highway 20 between Big Spring and Coahoma early Friday morning. According to officials at the scene, two adults and a child were traveling westbound in the car when a black Chevrolet pickup moved over into the lane they were in. The driver of the Mazda, which is registered in California, swerved to miss hitting the truck, went off the roadway and flipped the car. No major injuries were reported as a result of the accident.

## Bunny trail leads to veterans' facilities, Comanche Trail Park

Herald Staff Report

It's an eggsciting time of the year. Easter is a significant time for Christians for many reasons but it's also a time of play and that age-old tradition, Easter egg hunting.

While various groups and churches hold Easter egg hunts, usually for a select group, at least three entities in Howard County will be holding community wide events — all on April 3 this year.

- First Church of the Nazarene will sponsor its Second Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt April 3 at the Comanche Trail Park for ages 2-10 beginning at 10 a.m. The Easter egg hunt is divided by age groups. There will be food, prizes and a bounce house.
- For more information, call First Church of the Nazarene at 267-7015.
- The VA Employees Association in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus will be hosting its first Easter egg hunt at the West Texas VA Health Care Medical Center on Saturday, April 3, beginning at 11 a.m.

Parents with children ages 1-12 years old are invited to visit with the Easter Bunny and hunt for eggs. Children will be divided into four age categories. Children ages 6 and under will need to be accompanied by a parent during the hunt.

All children are encouraged to attend.

See **EASTER**, Page 3A

See **STREETS**, Page 3A

**INDEX**

Comics	6B
Classified	3-5B
Religion	5-8A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-2B

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## Democrats pushing toward Sunday vote on health care

ERICA WERNER  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Slowly but steadily, support is building behind President Barack Obama's health care legislation in the House, the result of intense lobbying and politically targeted changes aimed at reassuring waverers and winning over critics.

Obama himself was to talk up the sweeping overhaul in a midday speech Friday in Virginia, his fourth outside-the-Beltway event in two weeks

**With the addition of the 153 pages of revisions, the bill would expand health care to 32 million uninsured, bar the insurance industry from denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions and trim federal deficits by an estimated \$138 billion over the next decade.**

as he scrambles to rally the public ahead of a climactic vote this weekend. On Capitol Hill, congressional leaders were focusing on those rank-and-file Democrats, includ-

ing moderates and opponents of abortion, who remained undecided after the release Thursday of a final package of changes to the massive 10-year, \$940 billion legislation.

"Every vote around here is a heavy lift," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said. "We don't have a rubber-stamp Congress or a rubber-stamp (Democratic) caucus. So, we have our full airing of issues."

The White House and Democratic leaders trumpeted two new converts to their cause, as retiring Rep. Bart Gordon, D-Tenn., and first-term Rep. Betsy Markey, D-Colo., an-

See **BILL**, Page 3A

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# Baseball roundup: Steers fall, Forsan wins

### Herald Staff Report

The Big Spring Steers closed their pre-district schedule in familiar fashion — with yet another one-run loss.

The Steers picked up two runs in the fifth and three runs in the sixth to get within one of Greenwood on Tuesday in Midland, but they couldn't complete the comeback as they fell 8-7.

Max Papajohn struck out 10 Rangers in five innings of work, allowing four earned runs in the game. Eight Steer errors didn't help Big Spring's cause.

"When you have eight errors, you're not going to beat anybody," Steers coach Bert Otto said. "But it's good we're playing close — at least we know we can compete, but we just have to be consistent."

Papajohn also blasted a solo home run with two outs in the fifth to help his cause. Yanez also scored in the inning when he singled, stole second, third and scored on the catcher's errant throw.

The Steers came up with three in the sixth was Steven Islas and Anthony Saracho singled, followed by RBI singles from Xavian Parnell and Garrett

Stuteville and an RBI double from Yanez.

The Steers begin the district portion of their schedule Tuesday against Plainview. First pitch is 7 p.m.

### Forsan wins again

The No. 3 Forsan Buffs keep finding ways to win as they put down their 10th straight win to open the season with a 9-6 decision over Winters.

Evan Burton gave up three earned runs in four

innings and went 2-for-3 at the plate, blasting a three-run home run and a triple.

Foster Burchett went deeper on a burl shot along with a double for two RBI on the day.

"We haven't played as well the past two games, but the good thing is we've found ways to win two games in a row against two pretty good teams," Coach Jason Phillips said. "In a way

it's good to see how you're going to respond to a bad inning ... hopefully we won't have too many of those."

Payton Parker earned the win in relief, tossing three innings and allowing four hits and one earned run.

Forsan is off until next Friday, when they play Hermeleigh. The Buffs rescheduled their game with Loraine to the following Saturday.

# Hawks cruise in dominant 2nd half

BY JOE ZIGTEMA  
Sports Editor

HUTCHINSON, Kan. — The Howard Hawks went into halftime tied at 31 and still looking longed out of rhythm on the offensive end of the floor.

That changed once the whistle blew to start the second half, however, as the Hawks came out of the locker room on an 10-2 run en route to a 72-56 win over Walters State in the second round of the NJCAA national tournament in Hutchinson, Kan. on Thursday. The Hawks outscored the Senators 41-25 in the last 20 minutes.

Josh Watkins scored 21 points in the win, complemented by Jae Crowder with 16 and Carlos Emory with 12 on 6-of-8 from the floor.

"Like coach said, we have to put all our chips in," Watkins said. "There are no second chances at this level."

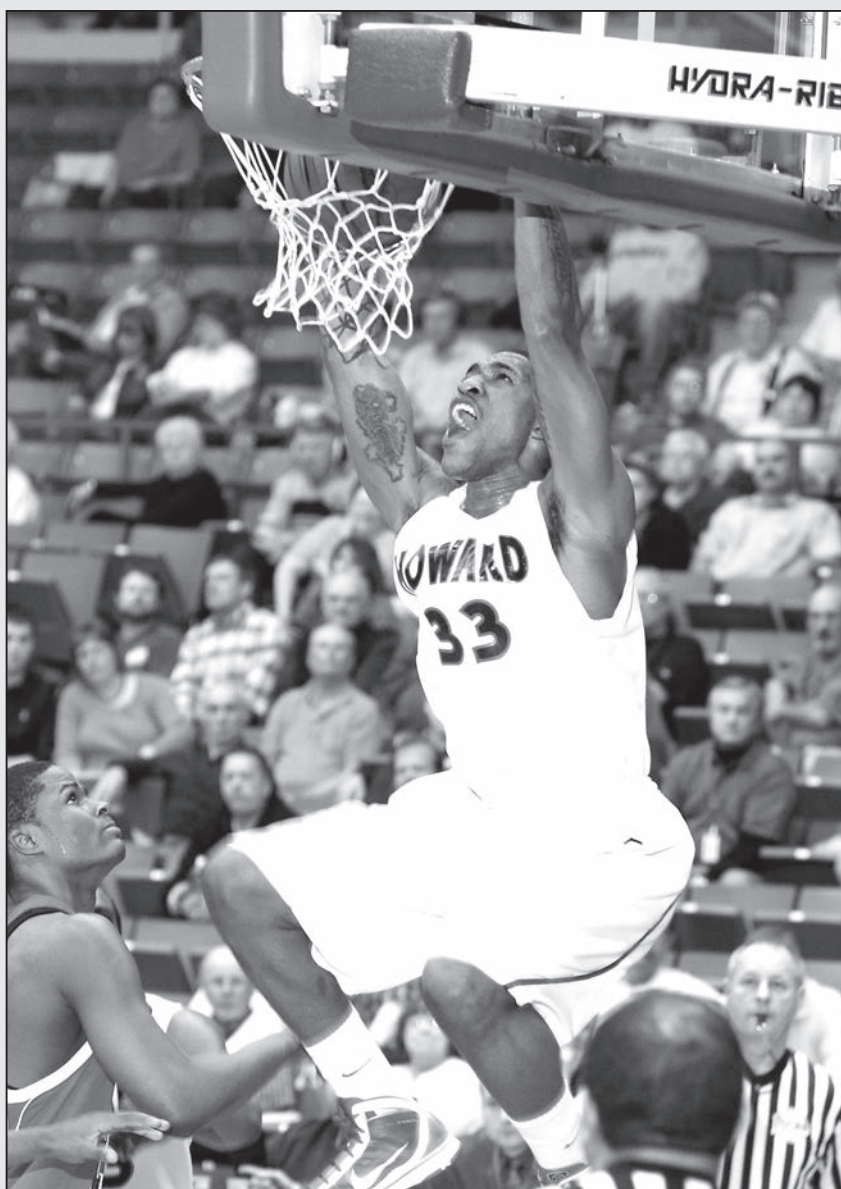
The Hawks move on to play Eastern Utah today at 8 p.m., which beat Wallace State 82-66 Thursday.

"I thought we had much better effort today, showed a lot of toughness, but we were out of sync on offense," coach Mark Adams said. "I thought our defense in the halfcourt was exceptional, and I thought once we settled down in the second half we played much better."

Howard outrebounded Walters 33-30 in the game as Crowder and Emory led the way with eight apiece.

"I was surprised when I saw the rebounds that they outrebounded us by three," Walters State coach Bill Carlyle said. "I thought they were getting them all."

The Howard defense pressured the Senator guards into 20 turnovers, which led to 26 points on the break.



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

**Carlos Emory jams a ball home for two of his 12 points Friday against Walters State at Hutchinson Sports Arena. The Hawks outscored the Senators 41-25 in the second half to win.**

"We made some mistakes and I'll give them credit, they were the reason for it," Carlyle said. "They put the heat to us and we didn't respond very well."

The Hawks shot 55 percent in the second half as they started to figure out the multiple zone defenses thrown at them.

"We have to make a lot of adjustments during the game, as we did at halftime, and that's been a little frustrating because

it's taken longer to make those adaptations than I thought we would," Adams said. "But I thought we came out in the second half and played the kind of basketball I hoped we could play."

The Hawks looked strong in the early going as they build an 8-2 lead in the first five minutes, not allowing a Walters

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B

# No upset for Kansas; N. Iowa wins at buzzer

### Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — There was no Patriot League miracle this time, which means top-seeded Kansas will continue on in the NCAA tournament.

Upset victims to Bucknell exactly five years earlier in the same building, Kansas fell behind Lehigh by eight points in the opening minutes on Thursday night in their first-round Midwest Regional game. But the Jayhawks rallied for a 90-74 win, although it never was as comfortable as might be expected against a 16th-seeded foe.

Marcus Morris had 26 points and 10 rebounds, Sherron Collins scored 18 points and Cole Aldrich added 11 points, eight rebounds and five blocked shots for Kansas (33-2), which figured to dominate the smaller Mountain Hawks from Bethlehem, Pa., but couldn't seem to put them away.

Kansas committed four turnovers and missed five shots in the first six minutes as Lehigh (22-11) went ahead 12-4. But after Kansas coach Bill Self called a timeout, the Jayhawks responded with a 21-2 run to make it 25-14.

"I don't think we played great," Self said. "I think Lehigh played very, very well. I think we played tight early and the lid came off the

basket."

The Mountain Hawks trailed 35-29 at halftime, pulled within 37-32 at half and were as close as nine points with 10:32 left before Kansas gradually started building its lead to as many as 21 points.

"I never felt in the second half after we started playing that we were in jeopardy of losing the game, but I did feel like we just didn't put them away," Self said.

Lehigh freshman C.J. McCollum scored 26 points and Zahir Carrington added 17 in the Mountain Hawks' fourth NCAA tournament appearance.

"Even when things Kansas a little and Kansas made a few runs, at no point did I really lose a lot of confidence or faith in our ability to build a run ourselves," Lehigh coach Brett Reed said.

Kansas next will play ninth-seeded Northern Iowa, which won an NCAA tournament game for the first time since 1990 by beating UNLV 69-66 on Ali Farokhmanesh's deep 3-pointer with 4.9 seconds left. The senior guard's heroics came after the Panthers had blown a 9-point lead in the final 7:22.

Oscar Bellfield tied the score for eighth-seeded UNLV (25-9) with

See **OK CITY**, Page 2B

# Kentucky dominates; Missed free throws doom Texas vs. Wake

### Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The initiation of Kentucky's fabulous freshmen to the NCAA tournament went as well as John Calipari could have hoped.

Eric Bledsoe set a school record for 3-pointers in a tournament game with eight during a 29-point effort, and the top-seeded Wildcats led by 30 in

the first half and 40 in the second while cruising to 100-71 blowout of East Tennessee State.

"Hopefully, we're this good," Calipari said. "I'm not sure if we are, but we'll see if we can keep it going."

That result had spectators falling asleep in their seats Thursday evening, but those who waited around for the late game between Wake Forest and Texas saw

an overtime thriller. It ended with Ishmael Smith's pull-up jumper in the final seconds of the extra session lifting the Demon Deacons to an 81-80 victory.

The eighth-seeded Longhorns' loss punctuated a puzzling slide from as high as No. 1 in the national rankings in January to a first-round exit from the NCAA tournament.

"Towards the season,

we stopped doing the little things that made us a good team," said Texas point guard J'Covan Brown. "Coach was trying to keep that in our minds. And every game, you know, just play as a team. But we just got away from it."

In the South Region, Baylor won a tournament game for the first time in six decades, pulling away in the

final 2:30 for a 68-59 win over an upset-minded Sam Houston State squad that had the game tied inside the final four minutes. The Bears now move on to play 11th seed Old Dominion, 51-50 upset winners over Notre Dame.

It was Old Dominion's first NCAA tournament win since beating Villanova in triple overtime in 1995.

"I think it reflects the magic of March, the way the two teams battled," Old Dominion coach Blaine Taylor said. "One of the officials turns to me at the two-minute mark and said, 'It's been a heck of a game,' and I really think it was."

It might have turned out better for Notre Dame if standout

See **BIG EASY**, 2B

# Sports in brief

### Rag Ball tournament to benefit BSISD students

Big Spring students are putting on a rag ball baseball tournament to raise money for their trip to the World Strides "Science in Motion" festival.

The tournament will be held Friday at 8 p.m. at the Cotton Mize Ball Field at Comance Trail Park.

Sign up early by calling 935-2371 after 6 p.m. or show up to the tournament for registration from 5-8 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person or \$75 per team.

### Watch NJCAA tournament live via Web feed

The NJCAA national tournament will be available live on the Web via NJCAA TV.

Howard plays its first game at 1 p.m. Wednesday against Southeastern Illinois. Log on to www.njcaa.org/tv to find out how to watch the game live from your computer.

Check the *Herald* for game recaps and photos from Hutchinson.

### Big Spring Country Club to hold 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.





**STREETS**

Continued from Page 1A

“Once the concrete and paving is done, then we’ll go in with the plants,” Darden said, noting that 12 different species of greenery will be planted on the medians that stretch from Fourth to Ninth streets on Main.

Darden was reluctant to estimate when the overall project will be completed, saying city officials will meet with Price representatives later today to discuss how much longer work will continue.

Right now, the major

culprit hindering work is Mother Nature.

“All this rain we’ve been getting certainly isn’t helping things,” Darden said. “Of course, we’ll take it .... but it has delayed the projects.”

Despite some delays, Darden is pleased with the work’s progress.

“Overall, it’s moving along fairly well,” he said. “If it hadn’t been for the delays caused by weather, we’d be close to being finished by now.”

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

**EASTER**

Continued from Page 1A

tend and participate. To learn more, call 263-7361, ext. 5389.

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home will begin its annual children’s Easter egg hunt at 3 p.m. on the 3rd. Last year,

the event drew more than 3,000 children and gave away approximately 50,000 stuffed eggs. They will have games, drawings and an appearance by the Easter Bunny.

Age groups will be 0-3, 4-6 and 6-12. Hogdogs will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call 268-8387, ext. 122.

**BILL**

Continued from Page 1A

nounced their support after opposing an earlier version of the legislation last year. Markey cited improved deficit cuts. Gordon said his backing was unrelated to a new provision sending higher Medicaid payments to Tennessee hospitals that treat large numbers of uninsured.

As rumors flew around the House chamber of more possible opponents-turned-supporters — and also of previous “yes” voters who might withdraw their support — Pelosi worked her members, seeking out lawmakers individually or in small groups on the House floor to try to win them over. With Republicans unanimously opposed after a year of corrosive debate, the vote set for Sunday was expected to be a cliffhanger, and Democratic leaders don’t yet command the 216 commitments they need.

Obama postponed until June a planned Asia trip that was set to begin Sunday, allowing him to stay in town for the House vote and action next week in the Senate. Thursday afternoon, Obama played host to individual lawmakers seeking favors or reassurance. House Democrats were hoping to get a letter of support Friday signed by enough Senate Democrats to guarantee passage of the package of changes

in that chamber, something leaders hope will reassure rank-and-file House members that they won’t be left hanging out to dry.

But a climate of uncertainty remained the dominant dynamic as the climactic vote drew near. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer acknowledged Friday that the leadership still lacks enough votes to win this weekend’s climactic vote.

The Maryland Democrat said on CBS’s “The Early Show” he believes House members “are going to conclude by Sunday that this is a bill that does what we said it was going to do.”

And Rep. Bart Stupak, a Michigan Democrat who has led a dozen House Democrats in opposing the bill because of the abortion issue, reiterated Friday that his group may vote no when the final vote comes.

“My group of 12 here can make the difference on this vote,” he said on ABC’s “Good Morning America.”

Stupak said “there’s a principle we’re standing up for. ... Protect the sanctity of life. Keep current law. No public funding for abortion. Let’s keep that principle intact and you can probably get our vote.”

With the addition of the 153 pages of revisions, the bill would expand health care to 32 million uninsured, bar the insurance industry from denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions

and trim federal deficits by an estimated \$138 billion over the next decade.

Beginning in 2014, most Americans would be required for the first time to purchase insurance or face penalties if they refused. Large businesses would face fines if they did not offer good-quality coverage to their workers. Millions of families with incomes up to \$88,000 a year would receive government help to defray their costs.

To address concerns of House Democrats, those subsidies were raised by an estimated \$25 billion over a decade in the package of changes offered Thursday. Seniors who experience a gap in coverage in the Medicare prescription drug program would receive a \$250 rebate this year — an election-year bragging point for Democrats as they look toward the fall campaign with control of Congress at stake. A special deal giving extra Medicaid money to Nebraska was struck in exchange for more Medicaid money for all states, though other special deals decreed by Obama stayed in the bill.

The changes also included another of Obama’s top priorities:

Federally guaranteed student loans would now be made only by the government, ending a role for banks and other for-profit lenders who charge fees. The savings, an estimated \$60 billion over a decade, would increase Pell grants for needy college students as well as support for programs such as aid to historically black colleges, a priority of the Congressional Black Caucus.

The package of changes would modify the sweeping health care legislation that cleared the Senate late last year. In a strategy designed to skirt Republicans’ new ability to filibuster in the Senate, House Democrats on Sunday will move to pass both the Senate measure and the package of changes to it; the bill making changes could pass the Senate under rules allowing for a simple majority, not 60 votes.

In the Senate, Republicans plan to challenge select provisions by claiming they are not eligible to be included in a measure considered un-

der non-filibuster rules.

Associated Press writers David Espo, Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, Charles Babington, Alan Fram, Laurie Kellman and Ann Sanner contributed to this report.

**News briefs**

**Fess Parker, TV’s ‘Davy Crockett,’ dies at 85**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fess Parker, a television icon to a generation of youngsters as Davy Crockett and later Daniel Boone, has died at the age of 85 of natural causes.

Parker, who was also a major California winemaker and developer, died Thursday at his Santa Ynez Valley home, family spokeswoman Sao Anash said. His death came on the 84th birthday of his wife of 50 years, Marcella.

Anash said Parker was coherent and speaking with family just minutes before his death. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

The 6-foot, 6-inch Parker was quickly embraced by 1950s children as the man in a coonskin cap who stood for the spirit of the American frontier. Baby boomers gripped by the Crockett craze scooped up Davy lunch boxes, toy Old Betsy rifles, buckskin shirts and trademark fur caps. “The Ballad of Davy Crockett” (“Born on a mountaintop in Tennessee...”) was a No. 1 hit for singer Bill Hayes while Parker’s own version reached No. 5.

**Oregon lawsuit claims Boy Scouts failed to prevent sex abuse by local leaders, cover up**

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The Boy Scouts of

America has long kept an extensive archive of secret documents that chronicle the sexual abuse of young boys by Scout leaders over the years.

The “perversion files,” a nickname the Boy Scouts are said to have used for the documents, have rarely been seen by the public, but that could all change in the coming weeks in an Oregon courtroom.

The lawyer for a man who was molested in the 1980s by a Scout leader has obtained about 1,000 Boy Scouts sex files and is expected to release some of them at a trial that began Wednesday. The lawyer says the files show how the Boy Scouts have covered up abuse for decades.

The trial is significant because the files could offer a rare window into how the Boy Scouts have responded to sex abuse by Scout leaders. The only other time the documents are believed to have been presented at a trial was in the 1980s in Virginia.

At the start of the Oregon trial, attorney Kelly Clark recited the Boy Scout oath and the promise to obey Scout law to be “trustworthy.” Then he presented six boxes of documents that he said will show “how the Boy Scouts of America broke that oath.”

He held up file folder after file folder he said contained reports of abuse from around the country, telling the jury the efforts to keep them secret may have actually set back efforts to prevent child abuse nationally.

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# Church News

## Coahoma United Methodist

Coahoma United Methodist Church invites all to join us weekly as we praise and worship our Lord. We have Sunday school for all ages beginning at 10 a.m. each week, followed by our traditional worship service at 11.

The special Lenten season is upon us and we invite you to join us in worship service Sunday as we study The Liturgical Year in an "Ancient Practices" series of services focusing on the season.

Coahoma UMC is located at 401 N. Main. Reach us at (432) 394-4432 or 270-1602 or coahomaumc@gmail.com

## First Presbyterian, Coahoma

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

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

Our congregation is invited to a series of Lenten devotionals and luncheons. The March 25 lunch will be hosted by First Christian Church and led in devotion by Father Bernard Gully.

We invite you to make plans to join us for worship opportunities that will be offered during Holy Week, beginning with Sunday worship on Palm Sunday, March 28. We will have our regular Bible study on Wednesday evening. We will join with First Presbyterian, Big Spring, for a Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. April 1, at Eighth and Runnels. The Big Spring Presbyterians will join us at First Presbyterian, Coahoma, for a Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 8:30 p.m. April 2. Saturday, April 3, we will have our annual pre-Easter breakfast at 9 a.m. and an Easter Vigil service at 11 p.m. Easter Day will begin with a Sunrise Service at Coahoma Presbyterian at 7 a.m. and a celebration of the Resurrection at the 11 o'clock worship service.

The lectionary for the fourth Sunday in Lent is Isaiah 4

## First Presbyterian, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study met Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. Choir practice was at 6 p.m.

The calendar for Lenten services at First Presbyterian Big Spring includes a choir cantata, Dubois' "The Seven Last Words of Christ" during worship Palm Sunday, March 28. Maundy Thursday, April 1, we will be joined by First Presbyterian, Coahoma for a Service at 7 p.m. On April 2, we will join the Presbyterians in Coahoma at their church for a Tenebrae Service at 8:30 p.m. Sunday, April 4, we will celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord at Sunday worship and receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

In the children's Sunday school classes, the unit on "Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet" will conclude with a drama/storytelling workshop led by Donna Amonett. The following Sunday they will begin a unit on "The Resurrection of Jesus" based on John 20:1-18.

Presbyterian Women are meeting at 2 p.m. in the library Tuesday, March 23, for the monthly Bible study.

The lectionary for the fifth Sunday in Lent is Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8. The chancel choir will present "Giver of Every Perfect Gift" by K. Lee Scott. "Set Me as a Seal" by Rene Clausen is the offertory anthem.

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

## North Birdwell Lane United Methodist

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church meets at 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday for worship.

The Sunday school discussion will be on "Family as Community," taken from Ruth 1:1-9 and will be led by Guy Teague.

Bible study is held the first and third Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. We are studying the Book of John. The United Methodist Women will not be meeting again until May.

Sunday, we will meet after worship for a fellowship lunch and administrative council meeting. We will be discussing plans to welcome Boy Scout Troop 101 from Ohio to our church to an overnight stay June 7.

Angel Food delivery will be held at 10 a.m. March 27. We welcome Colorado City to our host site.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church is located at 2702 N. Birdwell and welcomes all who wish to work for the Lord. For more information

# Only an idiot would pray for patience

"Only an idiot would pray for patience," my friend told me. Having made that mistake several times, I have to agree that praying for patience is not a wise choice.



BONNIE WHEAT

Years ago, when I was a young mother with two small children of my own and had six others standing in the rain on my doorstep asking if they could come in to play, I prayed for patience. As a substitute teacher, working two or three days a week, I really wasn't interested in becoming the neighborhood babysitter. Somehow though, all the preschool-aged children within walking distance of my house seemed to know when I was at home. Their mothers must

have been watching early in the morning to see if I came out the door with a baby on my hip, herding a three year old toward the car.

It wasn't that I didn't like children; I did. But I seemed to be the only mother on the block who understood that small children need a lot of supervision. I often saw preschoolers playing in the street or roaming around the neighborhood by themselves. I didn't know how to solve the problem, so I let them come inside. Then I prayed — for patience.

Reflecting on the situation, I can see that I really didn't want patience. I wanted God to solve my problem. I was caught in a dilemma of feeling that I had been taken advantage of and knowing that the neighborhood children needed a safe place to play.

The more I prayed, the more I saw the futility of praying for patience. I had made the same mistake that Christians often

make. We tend to think that praying for patience is more acceptable than admitting that we don't know how to handle a situation. What we really want is for God to do something about our problem.

However, as I prayed for patience, God showed me how patience is obtained. In the Scripture I read: "... but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope" (Romans 5:3 KJV).

Wow! What a revelation that was. Tribulation worketh patience.

Patience isn't a microwave-ready virtue given out on demand. Patience is a Godly trait developed by coping with problems.

When we pray for patience, God is faithful to provide a sufficient amount of stress to enable us to develop patience.

My friend was right. Only an idiot would pray for patience.

on services, programs or Angel Food, call 267-2203. Leave a message if there is no answer.

## Signal Mountain Emmaus Community

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

Next meeting, April 8. Mark your calendar. At this month's meeting we will honor the 2002 Walks; Women's Walk 27 LD Rhonda Harding, Men's Walk 28 LD Danny Wright, Women's Walk 29 LD Sonya Metcalf, Men's Walk 30 LD John Plaia. Plan to attend. Bring a dish and join us at 6 p.m. for a potluck fellowship.

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

## First United Methodist

Dr. Wesley Putnam will be bringing his Day-spring Revival to our church beginning with Sunday morning's services of worship. Putnam has a unique style of dynamic worship and music for the whole family. He will stir your heart and God will touch your spirit. Each evening at 5:30 through the 24th there will be a snack supper followed by a special time of Bible Quest with elementary age children followed by an amazing time of worship for the entire family at 7.

Tuesday, March 23, there will be a 7 a.m. men's breakfast in Garrett Hall. Putnam will also speak at Wednesday noon Bible study and luncheon on the 24. You are not only invited but urged to attend any and all these wonderful sessions sure to bring joy to your soul.

This Sunday's service will also include a Mission Moment featuring a representative from CASA. Be sure to hear the short message of great concern to the Big Spring area.

Thursday, March 25, the last of the Lenten services will be held with Father Gulley speaking at the meeting to be held at First Christian Church. This series of ecumenical services has been a true blessing; our thanks to all those participating.

During Holy Week we will have our regular noon Bible luncheon Wednesday in Garrett Hall. On Maundy Thursday there will be an evening communion service for groups of 12. These services will be held beginning at 5 and continue every 15 minutes until 9.

This is a wonderful time for friends, Sunday school classes and families to share this very meaningful event. Sign up sheets are available weekdays in the church office and Sundays in the sanctuary foyer.

Good Friday's Tenebrae Service will begin at 11:30 with a snack lunch served in Garrett Hall before going into the sanctuary. For those who do not have time to attend the lunch as well as the service there will be sack lunches provided to take as you leave.

The United Methodist Women will be hosting an Easter brunch at Sunday school time on Easter. You are asked to bring your favorite breakfast type finger foods to Garrett Hall for this time of fellowship.

And those of you who have spring flowers please remember to bring a few of them to fill in the cross for Easter. It will be on a table in the foyer until time for the service. And remember, this Sunday is the deadline for ordering your Easter lilies for the Easter service.

Plan to join us; we're First Methodist, located at Fourth and Scurry in the heart of downtown Big Spring, where families grow in Christ.

## Baptist Temple

This Sunday morning's message will be "Keeping Your Former Ways in their Place" from Matthew 6:13. We have been focusing each week on different aspects of the Lord's Prayer. We will focus on the warfare going on in us as we are tempted daily to do things that go against God. Only God can provide the strength to flee those temptations. Sunday evening's message will be from 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.

Our Financial Peace University class meets on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. We have already started for the spring semester, but will offer this course again in the fall.

Our weight-loss support-group SPEED (Shedding Pounds Eagerly Every Day) meets on Tuesdays at the church at 6 p.m.

Our 12-Step Recovery group, led by Dean Thomas, has also resumed and meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

You are always welcome here. Sundays, we have classes for all ages starting at 9:45 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesdays, we have groups for all ages starting at 7 p.m.

We are located at 400 E. 11th Place. For more information, call us at 267-8287 or check us out on the Web at btcbigspring.org.

## St. Mary's Episcopal

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's this Sunday. Holy communion is celebrated at 10:30 a.m. We have Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m.

St. Mary's noon Holy Eucharist service is every Wednesday in the chapel.

St. Mary's Lenten Soup and Studies is at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, in the parish hall. Our Inquirer's Class, for those interested in learning about the Episcopal Church, is at 6:30 p.m. March 25 in the parish hall.

The deacons of St. Mary's will lead the Friday noon "Stations of the Cross" in the church through March 26.

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

## East Fourth Street Baptist

Our congregation wishes to invite those of you who are seeking a church home to come visit with us. On Sundays we have Sunday school for all ages starting at 9:45 a.m., morning worship at 11 a.m. and Sunday evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesdays, we have adult Bible study led by our pastor, Keith Weaver; youth Bible study and music led by Milton Woody and Melody Spradling. Children's Backdoor Bible Study is taught by Lillian Bohannon. These all begin at 7 p.m. Saturdays, a mens Bible study is at 7 a.m. Our church is located at 401 E. Fourth St. Our phone number is 267-2291.

The adult choir is rehearsing the Easter cantata to be presented on Sunday morning, March 28. We

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 7A

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Randy Cotton  
Pastor

God loves everyone, but probably prefers fruits of the Spirit over religious nuts.

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Table with 29 columns representing different TV channels and their respective programming schedules for the day.

DENNIS THE MENACE



I FIND THE CHANNEL I LIKE, THEN I HIDE THE REMOTE FROM MY PARENTS.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



... 'cept Mommy's came with more curves and things.

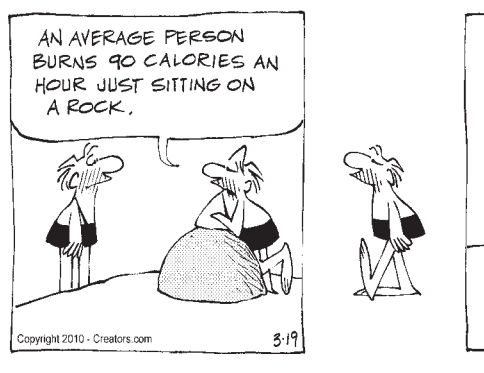
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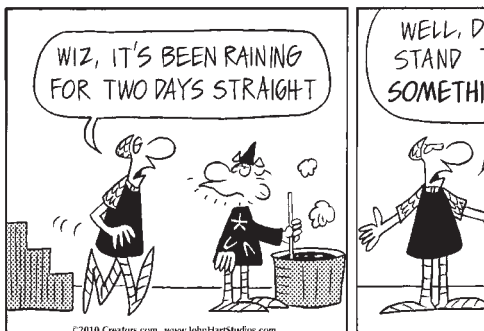
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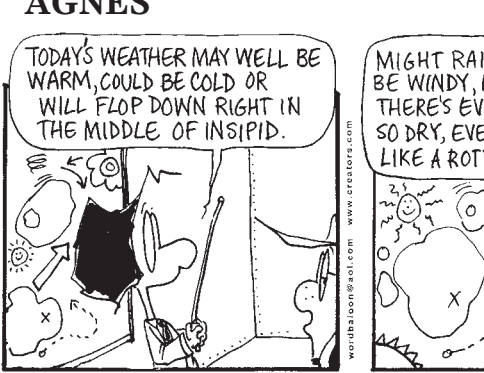
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

ACROSS 1 Obi-Wan Kenobi, e.g. 5 Succotash bean 9 Nucleomorphers hubby 14 Ready for recycling 15 Turow title 16 Atlanta institution 17 Jutlander 18 In the know about 19 Shaq shot 20 No longer flustered? 22 Fatuous 23 Have a hero 24 Good as new 25 Tear down a housetop? 31 Lime and the like 32 Run up a bill 33 Shipbuilder's material 37 Admeasured 38 Play purpose 39 My Life on Trial author 40 B-book connection 41 Creature comfort 42 Market for goods 43 Elegant stunner? 45 Robin Hood accessory 49 AL positions 50 Up to 51 Talkative confusion? 57 "\_\_\_ at the office"

This Date In History

Today is Friday, March 19, the 78th day of 2010. There are 287 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On March 19, 1860, lawyer, congressman, three-time Democratic presidential nominee and U.S. Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan was born in Salem, Ill. On this date: In 1859, the opera "Faust" by Charles Gounod premiered in Paris. In 1917, the Supreme Court, in Wilson v. New, upheld the eight-hour work day for railroad workers. In 1918, Congress approved Daylight-Saving Time. In 1920, the Senate rejected, for a second time, the Treaty of Versailles by a vote of 49 in favor, 35 against, falling short of the two-thirds majority needed for approval. In 1931, Nevada Governor Fred B. Balzar signed a measure legalizing casino gambling.

SOUND EXCHANGE

Richard Silvestri Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 11 Like Fido, literally 12 Trim, as a the tree 13 Really pushed 21 Honored 24 Clod chopper 25 Variety of tomato 26 Graph components 27 Ristorante serving 28 Fall setting 29 Way to go 30 Personal 33 Pent- minus one 34 First name in scat singing 35 Jack on 30 Rock 36 Toy with a tail 38 Turkish topper 39 Warren Beatty film 41 Course number 42 Rather unconventional 43 Eliminate 44 Flies around 45 Paper quantity 46 Role for Randall 47 Author Calvino 48 Quite bright 51 Seed 52 Recitative relative 53 Corona relative 54 Gung-ho 55 Time division 56 It holds water

Answer to previous puzzle

Grid for crossword puzzle answers: CZAR LUNCH STAB, BONA INURE CASE, SOAP MITER ACHE, SHATTERPROOF, POBOY SYL RESTS, UPENDS SOD, LARGEPRINT ALI, ERRS LIBYA SLID, STY ABNEGATIVE, ALT EVOKES, BULGE STA EVENT, OVEREXPOSURE, LUVE RANIN TAIL, ALOE ATEAT OPKY, SASS YESNO PEKE

CREATORS SYNDICATE

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# Sometimes forgiveness is a long time coming

By THE REV.  
MONTY CLENDENIN  
Special to the Herald

More than 54 years ago, an incredible and frightening thing happened at the Baptist camp next to the city park in Big Spring. The camp was on the hill above the monkey cages and across the road from the amphitheater. As I recall there were 20 to 30 surplus Army barracks converted into church cabins. Our little country church at Vincent shared a cabin with the First Baptist Church of Coahoma.

It would be an understatement to say that we were a little rowdy. Our group got into a conflict with the boys from Denver City. The encampment was covered with cucurbita pepo "mate" gourds. After a short watermelon rind fight, we started pelting each other with those wild gourds. The gourds were tough and had a thick rind, so each got hurled a number of times before they would bust. In a short time we had used up all the gourds in the camp, so we began using rocks. Thankfully, we were all bad shots and as I recall no one was seriously injured by our missiles.

However, our conflict had escalated out of control. One evening after worship service, the counselor from Denver City walked with me back to the cabins. He asked me if I was a Christian.

I knew what he meant and knew that I had not "come to Jesus" at that time. The next day the counselors gathered the 30 or so boys into a circle and began to lecture us about the danger and inappropriateness of our ongoing conflict.

The Denver City leader told everyone gathered at the peace accord, "If one of you had hit Monty in the head and killed him, he would have gone straight to Hell." Well,

that got my attention and started me on my journey toward salvation and my profession of faith a few weeks later.

The following day, still bearing the burden of all the sins of an 11-year-old, I was walking across the camp and came upon two boys playing horseshoes. Being a mischievous soul, I feigned picking up one of the horseshoes.

The boy next to me said, "Stop! Don't move it." At the same instant, the other boy let go what might have been a "ringer," but instead, it hit the boy next to me right on the top of his head.

The horseshoe peeled back a large flap of skin and blood gushed everywhere. The injured boy ran off across the camp screaming and bleeding. I faded into the mesquites, now with the added burden of guilt of almost causing the death of the boy.

I've told this story as part of my testimony for more than 45 years.

My dad spent the last few years of his 30-year career at the East Vealmoor Natural Gas Plant near Luther keeping pump stations running all the way from the East Howard Field to the rim of the Llano Estacado.

Part of his routine was to stop in Coahoma at the coffee shop, then he would stop by his insurance agent, A.J. Pirkle Sr., for another cup of java. It was a routine he continued after Mr. Pirkle died when his son, A.J. Pirkle Jr., took over the insurance agency.

A.J. and I were in the same senior class of 1964 at BSHS. We did not know each other very well. A.J. played in the band and I played basketball. At our reunions, A.J. and I would often talk about our fathers' friendship and my dad's visits with A.J.

Recently, A.J. and



Monty Clendenin (left) and A.J. Pirkle pose with one of the gourds the youth at the old Baptist camp waged war with 54 years ago.

Courtesy photo

I became Facebook friends and have shared stories, jokes and the joy of being connected with former classmates.

The senior class of 1964 shares an unusual closeness and love that has "kept us all as one" and brings us together every five years for homecoming in Big Spring.

Last month, A.J. and his wife, Debie, told us that they would be in Alabama where my wife, Delonna, and I have lived for 20 years.

They would have a free day, so we made arrangements to meet them for lunch and give them the 15-cent tour of our city, Anniston, Ala. We took them to all the historic sites and finally arrived at the Covenant Presbyterian Church where I am minister.

We were standing in my office looking at all my memorabilia when I picked up one of the six gourds I keep in a Native American pottery bowl. I began

telling A.J. and Debie the story of my coming to Jesus.

When I finished, A.J. said, "I had a similar experience at the Baptist Camp at the city park, too. I was playing horseshoes and I got hit right on the top of my head"

I chimed in and to his amazement, finished his story. "A.J.! Oh my Lord, I was the kid who caused you to reach down to stop from picking up the horseshoe."

After 54 years ... mystery solved! We both had goose-bumps run up the length of our spines.

Turns out A.J. went to the doctor, got 12 stitches that day and came back and made his profession of faith at that evening's worship service.

The boy I thought I had nearly killed, found his life that day. A.J. sings with the Singing Men of West Texas Men's Chorus and plays

French horn in their orchestra. For all those years, his testimony has included this story. A.J. not only forgave me, he thanked me for helping knock salvation into his head and heart.

*The Rev. Monty Clendenin pastors Covenant Presbyterian Church and Leyden Hill Presbyterian Chapel in Anniston, Ala. He worked in the Herald's circulation department in 1965 and 1966.*

## CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 5A

invited you to come see and hear our choir perform the musical, "Nail-Scarred Hands."

A women's seminar led by Denise Weaver will be April 30-May 1. Pamphlets will be out soon. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

Come be a part of our worship service. You'll be welcomed and leave feeling blessed. You're sure to find a friend at East Fourth Street Baptist.

### First Baptist, Coahoma

At First Baptist Church in Coahoma, it's all about "Sharing Hope" in 2010. Our church is working hard to reach our community with the Hope of Jesus Christ. Over the past few weeks we have been involved with a scripture distribution project.

"Our goal is to get one of our Sharing Hope gift bags into every home within the city and our surrounding area before Easter Sunday morning," reports the pastor, Wes Massey. "It has been a tremendous challenge, but the church has stepped up and hit a home run on this one."

Within each of these Sharing Hope packets, the recipients will find a letter from the church, a gospel track, an invitation/registration card for our upcoming "Spring Fling" and a CD containing various testimonies, scripture portions and computer links to some 400 Bible translations. These packets are being given away as a simple means for our church to say "thank you" to such a great community.

"We really want folks to use all of the materials in the packets," says Pastor Massey. "We also want everyone to especially use the "Spring Fling" invitation registration card they find included in the packet."

The church will be hosting its "Spring Fling" Saturday, April 3 from noon to 4 p.m. and everyone in the family is invited. There will be different games and activities, lots of great food and we will even be giving away door prizes. All you have to do is turn in your registration card at the registration desk when you come that Saturday morning. There will be four drawings with a winner every time. The cost is free and every thing is open to the public.

"Its going to be a great weekend," says Massey, "and we want to make sure that everyone knows they're welcome to come and enjoy the fun."

### Alive in Christ Lutheran LCMS

We are located at 2805 Lynn Str. in the Kentwood Subdivision in Big Spring. Our phone number is (432) 264-7818. Our Web site is [www.lutheranonline.com/aliveinchristbstx](http://www.lutheranonline.com/aliveinchristbstx). We would love to have you join us for church Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:15.

This week's acolyte will be MaKayla Overton. Our elders are Bobby Roever and Darren Byrd. The liturgy will be read by Phillip Reid. The readings are Isaiah 43:16-21, Psalm 126, Philipians 3:(4b-7)8-14, and Luke 20:9-20.

Wednesdays at 6 p.m., join us and work on our new banners. We hope to make several banners for the upcoming

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 8A

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# In respect of the temple

Saint Augustine summed it up very succinctly

ly when he said, "Men go abroad to wonder at the height of mountains, at the huge waves of the sea, at the long courses of the rivers, at the vast compass of the ocean, at the circular motion of the stars; and yet, they pass by themselves without a single wonder."

In Psalm 139:13-14 David said, "You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fear-

fully and wonderfully made." But the majority of people today the world over do not understand the miracle of the human body. If more people realized the significance of this awesome dwelling place, they would be more loyal to the maintenance of it.

1 Corinthians 3:16 tells us that our bodies are the temple of God and His Spirit dwells in us. Verse 17 reminds us that "if anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, which temple you are." The body is identified as God's temple, made holy by the indwelling presence of God's Spirit.

One of our greatest responsibilities is honoring and taking care of our temples. Three

of the major problems that defile the temple are unforgiveness, failing to love our neighbor as ourselves and a lack of good physical fitness. When we break or disobey a law, we always create a loss. Bad conduct demeans the price Christ paid to redeem us from the fall. We are representatives of these temples and it is our responsibility to keep them both spiritually and physically fit.

People who harbor anger often do not realize it, but they are poisoning their own lives. Our bodies were created for goodness, not to house ill feelings and bitterness. In order to keep our spiritual lives healthy, we cannot harbor hostility as it only produces bitter fruit and soon contaminates

everything about us, including our attitudes and personalities. Bitterness that has taken root within is like a dam whose walls have been flattened. What once was a controlling force is now a vehicle of devastation and destruction.

According to Mark 11:25, unforgiveness keeps God's goodness from flowing into our lives. "Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses." These words should serve as our personal lighthouse, beaming God's truth into our lives. If we obey the instructions, they will change our course. Wake up and get involved in the life and

freshness of God's goodness.

Forgiveness is a choice, but not an option. Take inventory of your heart. Stop, look, listen and pray. In doing so, God will show us where the problems lie. As we obey themissive, He will bring restoration of peace to our hearts.

Loving our neighbor as ourselves is another step in keeping our temples in good working order. God placed enough value on treating our neighbors respectfully that He included it as one of the Ten Commandments. The easiest way to fulfill this charge is to simply stop and think how we desire to be treated, and then behave likewise toward others.

Caring for the physical temple is of great value. As God's servants, we have a directive to look after them, both physically and spiritually. Our participation is rewarded by bodies that work to maintain as high a quality of physical fitness as possible.

The number one step in caring for our bodies is to drink more water, the ultimate thirst quencher and most satisfying drink in the world. It keeps the body hydrated and nourished from the inside out. By God's design, our bodies have a built-in trigger called thirst that alerts us to our need for water.

Our bodies also need physical exertion to stay in peak form. Exercising, bicycle riding, walking, stretching and breathing in the good fresh air are all beneficial.

These activities also aid in promoting a good night's sleep.

There is a little-known scripture in the Amplified version of Proverbs 18:9 that states, "...and he who does not use his endeavors to heal himself is a brother to him who commits suicide." God entrusted these temples to us, therefore, it behooves us to make our best efforts when handling and caring for them.

God bless.



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## CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 7A

ing seasons of the church year.

Wednesday, Pastor Carroll Kohl will be preaching on The Dying Word, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit" from Luke 23:46.

This Sunday after Sunday school, we will be forming a call committee with a pot luck following at 12:30. Everyone needs to be present.

Services on Good Friday, April 2 at 7 p.m. will be a combination of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Sunrise Service on Easter morning will be followed by the Easter pancake breakfast. Traditional services will be held later that morning.

The Board of Education is preparing for the Second Annual Easter Festival to be held Saturday, April 3 from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be games and prizes, egg hunt, crafts, coloring of Easter eggs, cookie decorating, face painting, egg walk, etc.

The Board of Education is asking all members of our congregation to bring individually wrapped candies for the Easter egg hunt. These candies need to be at the church by Palm Sunday. We will be filling the Easter eggs during the next week.

The LWML will be taking items from the Candelaria, Texas, Mission wish list to the West Texas LWML Spring Rally on April 10. Please have any items at church by April 7. If you need a list of items, check with Jaunell Roever.

The LWML will also meet April 8 at 7 p.m. at the church and will serve refreshments at the VA on April 12.

The Board of Education will meet April 13 and Elders will meet April 15, both at 7 p.m. at the church.

### First Church of the Nazarene

Our Second Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held April 3 at the Comanche Trail Park for ages 2-10 beginning at 10 a.m. The Easter Egg Hunt is divided by age groups. There will be food, prizes and a bounce house. Coming May 16 is Biker Sunday.

Need a flip, makeover, renovation, or just a renewal? Christ is the perfect general contractor for the job. FCN knows how you feel. Follow the road construction on Lancaster to find references to his work.

Sunday morning fellowship begins at 9:30 and worship service is at 10. Children's Church, for ages 4-11, is in the fellowship hall.

Wednesday night classes begin at 6:30 for all ages. Ages 4 years. through third grade meets in the classrooms at the north end of the fellowship hall for Bible class. The fourth through 6th grade pre-teens have their own "gender focused" classes learning to grow into Christian men and ladies. The boys meet under the Salt Shaker in the gym and the girls meet in the east classroom under the Salt Shaker. And Youth Explosion for seventh through 12th graders meets with Pastor Cal in the Salt Shaker. For adults there are three options: A study of the holiness movement in the Commons, the "Sunday Sermon Revisited" class is in the conference room, or you can enjoy "The Coffee Class" in the library for fellowship and discussion of various topics.

FCN also has small groups. Thursdays at 7 p.m. there is the College and Young Adults Life Group. Sunday evenings at 6:30 is the Harvest Life Group and Financial Peace University is at 6.

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