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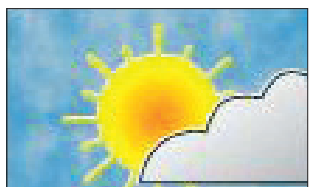
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H BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY
MARCH 23, 2010



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Howard College honors late trustee

Occupational Building renamed Donald McKinney Career and Technical Education Center

By CINDY SMITH
 Special to the Herald
 The Howard College trustees gave special recognition to one of their own, Donald B. McKinney, by renaming the Occupational Building on the Big Spring campus in his honor during their regularly scheduled meeting Monday. The Occupational Building, now called the Don McKinney Career and Technical Educa-



McKinney

tion Center, was renamed to honor McKinney for his years of service to Howard College and his ongoing commitment to educating the youth of Howard County. "Don McKinney was driven with a passion for education," said Dr. John Freeman, board of trustees chairman. "He

knew how important it was to have many different options for all different types of learners." McKinney, who passed away in December 2008, served the Howard County community for more than 36 years as an active member of the college board. He was instrumental in the growth of Howard College and was a leader in the development of the South West Col-

legiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID) campus. "Mr. McKinney was chairman of the board of trustees when the decision was made to construct this building in 1981," Freeman said. "He always championed the importance of career and technical education." The recent effort to focus on career and technical education revitalizes the original purpose of this building and

the vision of McKinney, officials said. "Howard College has more opportunities for learning, thanks, in great part, to his efforts and he is very deserving of this permanent recognition for his untiring efforts," said Freeman. A ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony to celebrate the new building name honoring McKinney will be held this summer.

Obama to sign health bill; will celebrate with allies

DARLENE SUPERVILLE
 Associated Press Writer
 WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's yearlong health care overhaul drama featured dozens of speeches, contentious debate and a televised summit with lawmakers before a divided Congress passed the bill. An elaborate White House signing ceremony kicks off the next act: selling the sweeping changes to a skeptical public. House and Senate Democrats who backed the bill as well as lesser-known people whose health care struggles have touched Obama were expected to join him Tuesday for the ceremony in the East Room. Afterward, Obama and much of that audience were heading to the Interior Department for an even larger celebration. The White House did everything possible to make sure Obama's health care victory lap carried the day with no competition. A planned announcement of the administration's new drug control policy by Vice President Joe Biden was called off, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs declined to hold his regular daily briefing for reporters and all Obama's meetings were closed to coverage, including one with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Act II begins Thursday when Obama visits Iowa City, Iowa, where as a presidential candidate he announced his health care plan in May 2007, to talk about how it will help lower health care costs for small businesses and families. The House late Sunday voted 219-212 — no Republicans voted in favor — to send the 10-year, \$938 billion bill to Obama. The measure, which the Senate passed in December, eventually will extend coverage to 32 million uninsured Americans, reduce federal budget

Texas Republican says he shouted 'It's a baby killer'

By JIM ABRAMS
 Associated Press Writer
 WASHINGTON — Texas Republican Rep. Randy Neugebauer acknowledged Monday that he is the lawmaker who shouted out the words "baby killer" during a floor speech by Rep. Bart Stupak, an anti-abortion Democrat whose vote was crucial to passing the Democratic health care bill Sunday evening. Neugebauer, who has represented a solidly GOP district that includes Big Spring since 2003, said he had apologized to Stupak for his outburst, which drew a rebuke from the chair during the often-rowdy debate. "Those that are shouting out are out of order," said Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., who was presiding in the chair at the time. Neugebauer insisted in a statement that he was not referring directly to Stupak but to the agreement that the Michigan Democrat helped work out with the White



Neugebauer

See **SHOUT**, Page 3

deficits and ban such insurance company practices as denying coverage to people with existing medical problems. A companion measure sought by House Democrats to make a series of changes to the main bill was approved 220-211. It goes to the Senate, where debate could begin as early as Tuesday. Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., says he has the votes to pass it — though only under special budget rules requiring just a simple majority vote. Republicans are united in opposition to Obama's redesign of the health care system, and are assailing it as an unwarranted government takeover, threatening a move to repeal it. In the Senate, the GOP plans to offer scores of amendments to slow or change the companion measure, which Democrats hope to approve as written and send directly to Obama for his signature.

See **BILL**, Page 3



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

County Judge Mark Barr goes over an inter-local agreement between Howard County and the Harris County Department of Education during the commissioner's Monday morning meeting.

Co. commissioners ink pact with design & construction firm

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 Howard County commissioners unanimously approved an inter-local agreement with the Harris County Department of Education Monday, a step that could have a Houston-based firm handling building design and construction for the county in the future. "During our last meeting we saw a presentation from Basic IDIQ (Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity) Inc.," County Judge Mark Barr said. "It's my opinion that (using this firm) will simplify some building contracting and purchases, and kind of take the burden off (the county). Will it be any cheaper? I do not know. We can answer that question when we get to look at what they do." The court met with Tina Boneta, account executive for Basic IDIQ, March 8 to discuss the possibility of working together. "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 can not 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." Commissioner Gary Simer, who made the motion to move forward with the agreement — which is necessary to allow the county to begin dealing with Basic IDIQ — said the county has nothing to lose.

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Obituaries

Lillie Faye Martin Irvin

Lillie Faye Martin Irvin, 49, died March 21, 2010, in a San Angelo hospital. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, 2010, at the Salvation Army Chapel. Arrangements are by Shaffer Funeral Home.

She is survived by her daughter, Melissa Martin of Big Spring; her father R.B. Martin; her mother, Lorene Runkles; her brothers, Ronny Martin and Weldon Ray Runkles; and one sister, Sylvia Kiser, all of San Angelo.

Ethan 'Hobbes' Grant Parsley

Ethan "Hobbes" Grant Parsley, 19, of Midland died Saturday, March 20, 2010. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland.

John Restelli

John Restelli, 89, of Big Spring died Monday, March 22, 2010, in a Midland hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support Groups

TUESDAY
• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

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

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

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

Police blotter

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

Note: According to officials with the BSPD, activity and arrest reports for the corresponding times were not available Tuesday morning due to ongoing computer problems. It's unclear at this time when these issues, which have been persistent for several days now, will be corrected.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 56 inmates at the time of this report.

• RAYMOND D. DIAZ, 40, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of harassment.

• CECILIA GONZALES, 23, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a Bexar County warrant for theft of service.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of S. Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Willia. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 2000 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1100 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 2100 block of FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Rosia. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

• An account has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Faye McGee of Big Spring to help defray the cost of medical bills and treatment. She is in ICU at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Contact CFCU at 400 E. Marcy in Big Spring, account 762989 or call Cosden at 264-2600 or toll free 800 725-2673.

• Home Hospice is looking for adult volunteers and junior volunteers. New training time will be at 9 a.m. April 17 at the Hospice office, 111 E. Seventh St. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.

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

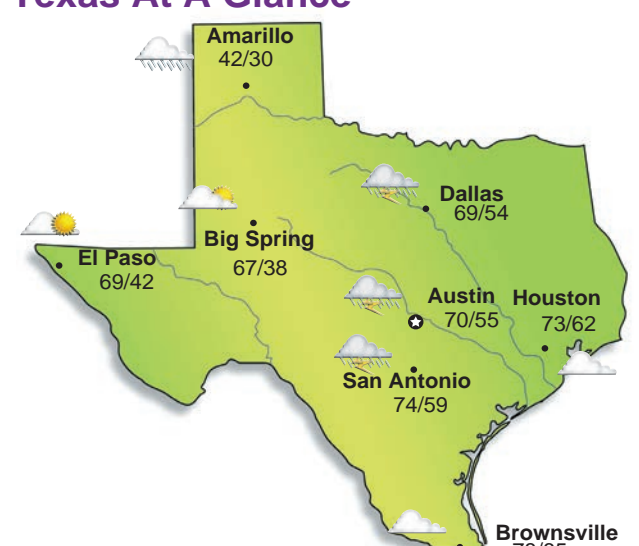
• Attention military personnel and dependents: The Salvation Army currently has funding for Texas military personnel now serving or who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Members or dependents may apply at the Salvation Army Office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., or call (432) 267-8239.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 3/24	Thu 3/25	Fri 3/26	Sat 3/27	Sun 3/28
67/38 Mostly cloudy skies. High 67F. Winds NE at 10 to 15 mph.	67/37 Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	76/49 Sunshine. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	79/45 Windy with times of sun and clouds.	65/39 Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 8:00 PM	Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 8:01 PM	Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 8:02 PM	Sunrise: 7:41 AM Sunset: 8:02 PM	Sunrise: 7:39 AM Sunset: 8:03 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	63	40	t-storm	Kingsville	79	65	cloudy
Amarillo	42	30	rain	Livingston	74	57	cloudy
Austin	70	55	t-storm	Longview	75	56	cloudy
Beaumont	74	61	cloudy	Lubbock	59	34	rain
Brownsville	78	65	cloudy	Lufkin	75	59	cloudy
Brownwood	66	48	t-storm	Midland	71	42	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	74	65	cloudy	Raymondville	81	64	cloudy
Corsicana	69	53	t-storm	Rosenberg	73	62	cloudy
Dallas	69	54	t-storm	San Antonio	74	59	t-storm
Del Rio	80	54	cloudy	San Marcos	71	56	t-storm
El Paso	69	42	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	74	56	cloudy
Fort Stockton	75	43	pt sunny	Sweetwater	63	40	t-storm
Gainesville	65	49	t-storm	Tyler	75	56	cloudy
Greenville	70	52	cloudy	Weatherford	65	48	t-storm
Houston	73	62	cloudy	Wichita Falls	62	42	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	73	48	pt sunny	Minneapolis	54	33	pt sunny
Boston	52	35	rain	New York	60	41	windy
Chicago	56	37	pt sunny	Phoenix	73	50	sunny
Dallas	69	54	t-storm	San Francisco	64	48	pt sunny
Denver	38	26	snow	Seattle	66	46	cloudy
Houston	73	62	cloudy	St. Louis	58	47	cloudy
Los Angeles	73	51	mst sunny	Washington, DC	67	47	mst sunny
Miami	78	62	pt sunny				

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 6-16-28-31. Bonus Ball: 32.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 3-7-22-24-29.

Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 5-7-0-6. Sum It Up: 18.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-1-8. Sum It Up: 11.



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News briefs

Sources: Charges eyed for Blackwater's ex-president, others

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal prosecutors are considering filing weapons charges against former top officials of the Blackwater Worldwide private security company over allegations they illegally stockpiled automatic rifles at the company's North Carolina headquarters, The Associated Press has learned.

Senior Justice Department officials are reviewing a draft indictment against former president Gary Jackson, former Blackwater lawyer Andrew Howell, and a third man who used to work at the firm's armory, people close to the case told the AP. A decision is not expected until at least next month.

Any indictment, even of former executives, would be unwelcome news at a company beleaguered since a 2007 shooting involving Blackwater guards in Baghdad left 17 people dead. Under a new name, Xe, the firm is trying to win Defense Department approval to train police in Afghanistan. The contract could be worth up to \$1 billion but has drawn the ire of some in Congress.

The potential charges stem from a raid conducted by federal agents in 2008 that seized 22 weapons, among them 17 AK-47s.

Multiple law enforcement officials familiar with the case said investigators are trying to determine if Blackwater obtained the official letterhead of a local sheriff to create a false justification for buying the guns. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to

discuss the investigation.

Jackson employee describes scene in bedroom as singer lay dying

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The man who called 911 as Michael Jackson lay dying in his rented mansion told police he was stunned by what he saw in the singer's bedroom.

Alberto Alvarez, who worked as Jackson's logistics director, told investigators that after receiving a distress call from another worker June 25, he rushed up the stairs of Jackson's home and entered a bedroom to find the singer lying on a bed with his arms outstretched and his eyes and mouth open.

At his side, Jackson's personal physician, Dr. Conrad Murray, was administering CPR with one hand.

"Alberto, Alberto, come quickly," Murray said, according to a statement obtained by The Associated Press. "He had a reaction, he had a bad reaction."

Two of the star's children, Prince and Paris, came in the room and cried as they saw Murray trying to save their father. They were quickly ushered away.

Health law will require calorie counts in menus in 200,000 restaurants nationwide

WASHINGTON (AP) — That Caesar salad you're

about to eat? It's 800 calories, and that's without the croutons. The fettuccine alfredo? A whopping 1,220 calories. You may choose to ignore the numbers, but soon it's going to be tough to deny you saw them.

A requirement tucked into the nation's massive health care bill will make calorie counts impossible for thousands of restaurants to hide and difficult for consumers to ignore. More than 200,000 fast food and other chain restaurants will have to include calorie counts on menus, menu boards and even drive-throughs.

The new law, which applies to any restaurant with 20 or more locations, directs the Food and Drug Administration to create a new national standard for menu labeling, superseding a growing number of state and city laws. President Barack Obama was expected to sign the health care legislation Tuesday.

The idea is to make sure that customers process the calorie information as they are ordering. Many restaurants currently post nutritional information in a hallway, on a hamburger wrapper or on their Web site. The new law will make calories immediately available for most items.

"The nutrition information is right on the menu or menu board next to the name of the menu item, rather than in a pamphlet or in tiny print on a poster, so that consumers can see it when they are making ordering decisions," says Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin, chairman of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, who wrote the provision.

SHOUT

Continued from Page 1

House. That eleventh-hour agreement, under which President Barack Obama said he would issue an executive order pledging that no federal funds be used for abortions, helped seal the last votes Democrats needed to pass the bill.

Neugebauer said his exact words, referring to the bill, were "it's a baby killer."

"While I remain heartbroken over the passage of this bill and the tragic consequences it will have for the unborn, I deeply regret that my actions were mistakenly

interpreted as a direct reference to Congressman Stupak himself," he said.

But Neugebauer also acknowledged that the House chamber "is a place of decorum and respect. The timing and tone of my comment last night was inappropriate."

Neugebauer is one of the House's most conservative members, consistently speaking out about the need for lower taxes and smaller government. Last year he co-sponsored a resolution requiring that presidential candidates produce copies of their birth certificates. That followed "birther" movement allegations that Obama was born outside the United

States and not qualified to be president.

In an interview Monday with Fox News, Stupak lamented the prevalence over the past year of "uncivilized behavior" when lawmakers are trying to speak on the House floor. "We can disagree on these issues as we should and we should have a meaningful debate but personal attacks have no place on it."

Later, talking to MSNBC, Stupak said he accepted Neugebauer's apology but questioned the Texas Republican's claim that it was not personal. "I certainly took it as a personal attack on me," Stupak said. If not, "maybe Randy needs to apologize

to the House of Representatives."

The outburst was reminiscent of last September when another GOP conservative, Rep. Joe Wilson of South Carolina, yelled out "you lie" when Obama was addressing Congress on the health care issue. He also issued an apology.

Unlike that incident, Wilson was quickly identified by reporters covering the speech. This time, it was not immediately known who did the shouting and it was nearly a day before Neugebauer came forward.

In Wilson's case, the House on a mainly party line vote passed a resolution of disap-

proval formally criticizing him for violating basic rules of decorum and civility.

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., asked Monday about Neugebauer, noted that he had apologized.

"He shouldn't have done it. ... I don't think further action is needed," Hoyer said.

Neugebauer's "baby killer" shout came at the end of a day of passionate and often vitriolic speeches on both sides of the health care issue. There were also tea party movement protests against the health care bill in which some demonstrators used racial slurs against black members of Congress and reportedly spit at one black lawmaker.

BILL

Continued from Page 1

Within six months of enactment of the bill — or by the end of September — consumers should notice some changes. Among them, insurers would be required to keep young adults as beneficiaries on their parents' health plans until they turn 26,

and companies would no longer be allowed to deny coverage to sick children.

Other changes would not kick in until 2014.

By then, most Americans will for the first time be required to carry health insurance — either through an employer, through a government program or by buying it for themselves. Those who refuse will face penalties

from the IRS.

Tax credits to help pay for premiums also will start flowing to middle-class working families with incomes up to \$88,000 a year, and Medicaid will be expanded to cover more low-income people.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said the bill awaiting Obama's signature would cut federal budget deficits by an esti-

mated \$143 billion over a decade.

The second measure, which House Democrats demanded before agreeing to approve the first one, includes enough money to close a gap in Medicare prescription drug coverage over the next decade, starting with an election-year rebate of \$250 later this year for seniors facing high costs.

Polls show the public

is split over the bill, so Obama will stick with the sales job for the foreseeable future, with an eye toward helping those Democrats who cast risky votes for his plan and who are facing tough re-election battles in November.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

"Well, it doesn't cost anything to try it," Simmer said.

"That's right, Gary. It doesn't cost us anything to give them a try," Barr affirmed.

Barr said the contract and the services provided by the Houston-based company could come in extremely handy if the county finds itself in a situation where a major building or facility must be constructed.

"We found out really quick just how complicated designing

and constructing these buildings and facilities can be when we worked on the new jail," said Barr. "You have to work with the architects and the construction managers, and there's a lot you have to figure out. Using this company would take a lot of the burden off the county when it comes to projects like that one."

According to officials with Basic IDIQ, the company was founded in 2002 as an operating division of Basic Industries Inc. The division was formed with an objective of promoting, implementing and executing Indefinite De-

livery Indefinite Quantity contracts for large facility owners such as the federal government, universities, cities and other municipalities.

Basic IDIQ is an employee owned and man-

aged company.

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

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

March Madness coming to town in MHMR event

March Madness is in full swing and it seems that lots of people to some degree or another get whipped into a basketball frenzy when the NCAA Basketball Tournament begins.

For 10 teams — the field has almost doubled since last year — that will be the case Friday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

No, there won't be any NCAA tourney games played, but the home of the NJCAA national champion Howard College Hawks will be the site for lots of basketball during the Sixth Annual "Hoops, Dreams and Goals" competition — a day-long tournament sponsored by West Texas Centers for MHMR, Howard College, the Arc of Howard County, Alon USA, Prescription Services Inc., ViaMedia and KBST-FM/AM. In addition, many other businesses and individuals from the counties served by the WTCMHMR provide assistance.

There's no question Friday's event it will be much more than just a basketball tournament. That's why the coliseum will be filled with some of the most enthusiastic fans anyone has seen at a local basketball event in years.

"It's not just a basketball tournament," said WTCMHMR CEO Shelley Smith. "There's no way you can leave this event without a smile on your face. Everyone who takes part is uplifted by the basketball, music, food and dances."

Tip-off is set for 9 a.m. Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen and State Rep. Joe Heflin will be on hand for the event's opening ceremonies.

Teams participating in bracket play are: Big Spring Heat, Sweetwater Red Rattlers, Ballinger Longhorns, Snyder Wildkat, Seminole Pink Panthers, Monahans/Pecos Warriors, Midland Panthers, Odessa Tigers, Abilene Chili Peppers and the San Angelo Bobcats.

But more is at stake than bragging rights. There will be lots of plain, old-fashioned fun with cheerleaders, coaches, managers and spectators.

Smith says she just wishes everyone would come out and watch the games.

We'll echo that sentiment.

One doesn't have to spend the full day, but be warned, all that fun and excitement is infectious.

In fact, it's addictive.

Just ask Smith. She always calls the event the "highlight of her year."

In other words, you won't be disappointed.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we ask for help and support from You, Lord, through prayer.

Amen

What did Founding Fathers want?

The pillars of American conservative thought and action — top officials from over a dozen national groups — assembled along the Potomac last month. At Northern Virginia's historic Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, these luminaries met to "recommit" themselves to the one ideal they believe all conservatives can share. That ideal: small government.

"Through the Constitution," the solemn conservatives declared in a position paper they dubbed the Mount Vernon Statement, "the Founders created an enduring framework of limited government based on the rule of law."

That "principle of limited government," the Mount Vernon Statement urges, ought to be applied to "every proposal" that comes before America's lawmakers.

Americans of a more progressive bent tend, of course, to consider all this solemnity around the "principle of limited government" as just so much mumbo-jumbo, meant to keep the rich and powerful safe from any challenge to their wealth and power.

And progressives also don't much appreciate conservative moves to claim the generation

of 1776 as the original carriers of the conservative torch. But right-wingers, on this one, have a point. The founders, the most progressive of them included, did believe in limited government. The question for us today: Why?

Today's conservatives don't bother with that question, and for good reason, as historian James Huston explained over a decade ago in his still timely epic, *Securing the Fruits of Labor: The American Concept of Wealth Distribution 1765-1900*: The founders believed in "limited government" because they wanted to limit what today's conservatives celebrate — the concentration of wealth.

America's revolutionaries had read their history. Every previous attempt to establish republican rule, they knew, had failed. Athens. Rome. Venice. Florence. The cause of that failure, as the founders saw it: a deep and divisive maldistribution of wealth.

The founders came to believe, notes Huston, that a republic could only endure with "an equal or nearly equal distribution of landed wealth among its citizens." OK, at least the land-owning white male citizens, but bear with me.

To the generation of 1776, equity seemed nature's way. Most colonials lived on small, semi-subsistence family farms. In this overwhelmingly agrarian setting, grand fortunes hardly ever accumulated. Some farmers did work harder than others, but the earth could yield, no matter

how much work was performed upon it, only so much wealth.

That reality, observes historian Huston, had kept gaps in colonial income and wealth relatively limited. And those gaps would stay limited, the generation of 1776 devoutly believed, so long as all who labored were guaranteed the "fruits of their labor."

America's original revolutionaries agreed that republican liberty would surely fail if their new nation ever let elites expropriate what average citizens labored so hard to earn. And how did elites expropriate? By manipulating politics to gain economic advantage. The aristocrats of Europe did that manipulating all the time.

If the economy were just left alone, America's original revolutionaries believed, equality would grow naturally. No one could ever become fabulously wealthy in an economy where labor, and labor alone, determined a citizen's worth.

The founders, in sum, cared deeply about the link between democracy and equality and worried that vast extremes of wealth and poverty would doom their new republic. You won't find one whit of that worry in the new conservative Mount Vernon Statement. The founders wouldn't be pleased.

Sam Pizzigati edits Too Much, the online newsletter on excess and inequality published by the Washington, D.C.-based Institute for Policy Studies.



SAM
PIZZIGATI



Women, we're making history!

It's hard to believe that I had almost forgotten that March was National Women's History Month. It was, in fact, my husband who reminded me, after he heard a news story about a woman who had survived Indian captivity during the 19th century.

For years, American history curriculums have been void of women's experiences, perspectives, accomplishments and contributions to our culture and society. It may be difficult to ever find and recognize all the women that make up our nation's early history, since many of their stories were probably never documented, recorded or thought worthy enough to be saved.

Most of us hopefully know about those gutsy women whose bravery, courage and determination resulted in women having the right the vote. Women like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and Alice Paul, to name only a few.

Many notable and ordinary women have blazed the trails women now walk.

These were women who were visionaries, problem solvers and mentors. Some made headlines and some without loud fanfare, but all left their indelible mark in their homes, workplaces and communities.

And my women friends today need to remember that they, too, are part of making women's history for future generations.

I think the women (and men, too, for that matter) who capture my greatest respect are those

who do whatever it takes to overcome some impossible obstacle.

One of these women is Mary Baker Eddy. Larry Lipman, when serving as President of the National Press Club, said, "What do you do if you're eighty-eight years old, you've already created a denomination, and the newspapers of the day start attacking you? Well, if you're Mary Baker Eddy, you create your own newspaper, and you show them how it's supposed to be done."

His speech was honoring The Christian Science Monitor, which Eddy founded in 1908 amid an era of rampant yellow journalism that dominated American newsrooms.

I find myself facing my own obstacle at this time in my life. I long to overcome whatever it is that is keeping me from understanding my purpose in this life. No, it's nothing so earth-shattering or significant that it will make much of a difference to anyone else but me. But it feels like my world is at a turning point of some kind.

Since becoming an empty nester, I've struggled with feelings of regret and insignificance.

I feel like there is more I'm supposed to do with my life, but I'm not sure exactly what that is. Many times I've pushed myself to try new things and explore ideas and possibilities never considered before. But still, the search continues.

As I write this column, I am only three days from doing something I've never done before and never imagined doing. All I can say is that I feel like it's something I must do, even though I don't fully understand why.

I was invited to travel to Italy with a couple of girl friends — without husbands.

I'm a mishmash of excitement and fear. I decided I could not allow my insecurities to stop me from making this trip, so here I am. Three days until departure and the packing has begun.

When I explained all of my uneasy feelings to my daughter, she responded with a quote she recalled reading somewhere, "It's time to put your big girl panties on and deal with it!"

After doing a little research, I found these words published on countless things from T-shirts to magnets, from wine glasses to coffee mugs.

I'm not sure who said it first. Regardless, I must admit it does rather sum up what I feel I must do about my pending trip and probably a few other quandaries as well.

I think it was Bette Davis who once said, "Fasten your seat belts. It's going to be a bumpy ride." Perhaps that sentiment sometimes sums up our life, ladies and gentlemen, but I have a feeling that we may decide that bumpy ride was well worth it.

My life story may not be published in the history books, but my story, just like your story, is important.

We are each a gift from God, and our life and purpose is precious in His sight. Each of our lives makes a difference in this world of ours — whether we know that or not.

Whether our story is one of survival or of great strength and ability, we are making history, and someone will be benefited by our example.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. Her columns are published weekly by numerous websites and newspapers. E-mail her at annettebridges@gmail.com

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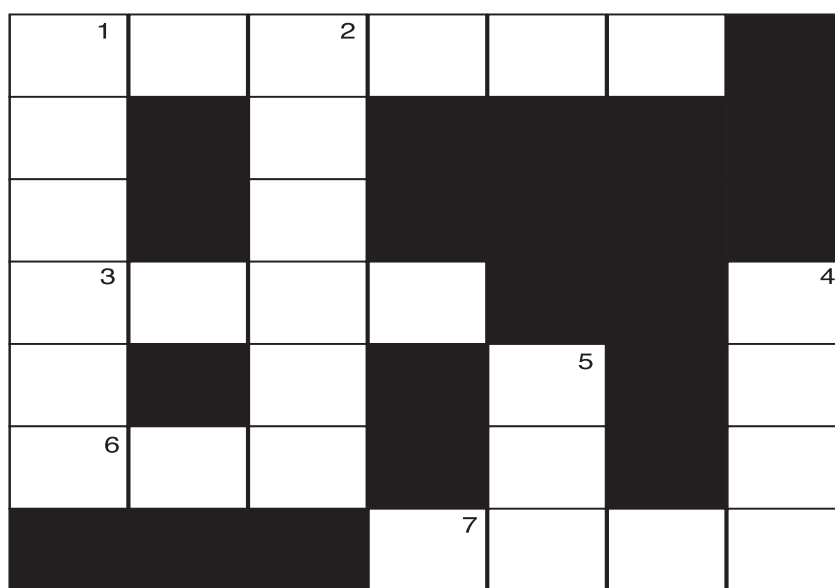
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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Relating to dogs
- 3. Hoofed animal
- 6. To consume
- 7. Parasite

DOWN

- 1. Hold close in arms
- 2. Most recent
- 4. Pass the tongue over
- 5. Garland of flowers

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1954: KING CHARLES II OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND IRELAND IS CROWNED IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.
- 1985: COCA-COLA INTRODUCES THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED "NEW COKE."
- 2003 THE SARS VIRUS FORCES ALL SCHOOLS IN BEIJING TO CLOSE.



TRUE OR FALSE?

YOU CAN USE FLEA/TICK PRODUCTS FOR DOGS ON CATS, TOO.

UPON WHICH PET YOU HAVE.

ANSWER: FALSE. ONLY USE PRODUCTS SPECIFIC TO DOGS OR CATS, DEPENDING



TICK

small, blood-sucking parasites

Answers:
Across
1. canine 3. deer 6. eat 7. tick
Down
1. cuddle 2. newest 4. lick 5. lei

How they SAY that in...

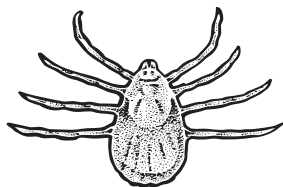
ENGLISH: Disease

SPANISH: Enfermedad

ITALIAN: Malattia

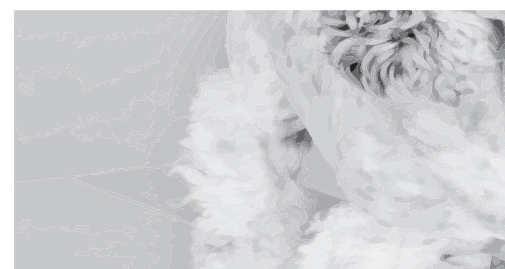
FRENCH: la Maladie

GERMAN: Krankheit



TICKS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SPREADING MANY DISEASES, INCLUDING LYME.

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: COCKER SPANIEL

Stained Glass Window Eggs

Materials:

Construction paper

Clear contact paper

Glue or glue stick

Scissors

Hole punch

Suction cup hanger

Colored tissue torn into approx. 1" pieces



1. Cut out an egg shape from the center of a piece of construction paper. Repeat, using the first sheet as a guide so the sheets are identical.
2. Cut out a piece of clear contact paper about an inch larger than the egg shape and attach it to one of the pieces of construction paper making a "window".
3. Have an assortment of torn tissue paper ready to use in various colors.
4. Attach pieces of tissue paper to the sticky side of the "window" of the egg shape until it's fully covered.
5. Using glue or a glue stick, glue down construction paper #2 to construction paper #1, lining up the eggs to match exactly. Be sure to glue right up to the edge of the egg shape. Allow to dry if using glue.
6. Cut another piece of contact paper a little larger than the egg shape and carefully press it down on top of the tissue covered egg to seal everything.
7. Trim around egg leaving about 1/2 inch of the construction paper for a border.
8. Punch a hole at the top of the egg and hang in a window.

Bird Poop:

Wayward duck
freed from cop's
back yark pokey

Having fallen asleep on the couch during the late night shows, we were startled awake by the incessant noise of the telephone. With my fragile mother in mind, we were surprised when the caller said he had a duck in his backyard.



BEBE
McCASLAND

On the drive to the man's home, Art wondered about the details the man had given. Why would such a bird be in the middle of town? Far from the lake nestled in our city park, the duck would have had to navigate through old growth trees to rest inside a six-foot fenced enclosure.

Standing in his driveway and still in uniform, a police officer greeted us with a grateful handshake. As we headed through the gate that led to his backyard, he mentioned he had just finished his shift. Shaking his head while laughing, he said he had driven into his carport, exited his vehicle and noticed the duck as he walked toward the steps leading to his back door. "That's the last thing I'd expect to see at this hour of the night," he continued. Closing the gate behind us, he pointed toward the

fence line. As Art's flashlight slowly illuminated the area, the resting mallard stood and stared defensively at the intrusion.

Approaching the duck from opposite ends of the fence, we thought the man's neighbors would surely wonder what kind of commotion had disturbed their sleep. While Art readied the pole net, I unfolded the large beach towel so often used in capturing birds.

Springing upward from the ground, then zigzagging rapidly to elude capture, the wary mallard evaded our first few attempts. As we stopped to reconnoiter, we decided to corner the duck to lessen his chances at escape.

With the towel and pole net extended at full length, we slowly inched toward the elusive drake. Finally, our devices met. The bird glanced quickly from the burnt orange, ragged terry cloth to the large circular netting.

During that brief moment of confusion, Art quickly netted the duck and held it close to the ground. Fighting to be free, the mallard repeatedly challenged the confining nylon as I slipped my hand under the aluminum edge of the rim.

Nipping my hand, the mallard was incensed at being held captive. As it turned toward Art, I was finally able to place my hand on top of its back. While



Courtesy photo

A freshwater duck, the mallard is capable of flying 30 to 50 mph. Wearing its breeding colors from October through May, the drake is less noticeable during the summer months.

I held the bird to the ground, he untangled the mesh. Once the pole net was removed, I slid my old towel over and around the duck.

No longer able to see its captors helped to calm the distraught bird. Bundled like a baby, yet able to breathe through the open end of the towel, the mallard was suddenly still.

Having saved a large, cardboard box in which an appliance had been delivered, we had an ideal enclosure for our guest. After placing containers of water, corn and grains inside, Art lowered the duck into its new accommodations.

The next morning we appreciated even more the breeding plumage we had previously seen in the dimly lit backyard. Lustrous green feathers of the mallard's head extended down his neck where they were accented by a

thin, white band. Seemingly proud of his rust colored breast, the drake was known to display his proud frontage during courtship.

Extending his wings revealed purplish blue patches edged with white. From below, his white wing linings were prominent. His brownish back, whitish sides and black rump led to another notable characteristic, upwardly curved black feathers on the top of his white tail. It was as if nature had used a curling iron to cause such an effect.

Completing his colorful attire was his yellowish bill and reddish orange legs and feet. During non-breeding season, his plumage would appear similar to that of the drab, brownish female. Even his beak would acquire a dark splotch and lessen into a subtle orange.

While we would never know how this duck arrived in the officer's

back yard, we were taking no chances. After a call to the Midland wildlife sanctuary, we knew it would receive a thorough examination and several weeks of observation before any release.

Having prepared a carrier for the mallard, Art watched as I approached the box. Bending over the tall sides and reaching down toward the duck, I was suddenly greeted with its thrashing three-foot wingspan. After again waiting patiently for the bird's attention to focus elsewhere, my next attempt was successful. Knowing the almost three-pound, wiggling migrant was safely inside the carrier was a relief.

The report several days later was encouraging. While there were no breaks seen on X-rays, the duck would be held and eventually released on a conservation lake. It would then

be free to leave when the desires of nature dictated.

To know the "greenhead" would once again rise straight up from ponds and lakes as it flew to breeding grounds in the northern United States and Canada was encouraging. Along the way, it could avail itself of whatever the environment offered.

Feeding on land, grains, seeds, acorns and grasses would be available. On water, frogs, snails, small fish, mosquito larvae and pupae might tempt his appetite.

With courtship awaiting the mallard's return, the amorous "darling of the ducks" could look forward to another journey northward.

Bebe McCasland is author of The Scoop from Bird Poop. She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

Central Texas woman can't help but try to help

ERIN QUINN

Waco Tribune-Herald

ROBINSON — As the area's only licensed wildlife rehabilitator, Jane Thomas cares each year for 600 to 800 battered, bloodied and needy animals that otherwise wouldn't have a prayer.

Hawks that slam into 18-wheelers. Deer tangled in shredders. Pelicans shot by children given a gun for Christmas.

For the past 32 years, the 54-year-old Thomas has spent her days wrapping broken limbs, cleaning foul-smelling

cages and chopping up meat and vegetables to feed a variety of animals — from bobcats to roadrunners.

She says she saves about 85 percent of the wildlife. Although she's the go-to person for animal shelters in McLennan County and its surrounding counties, Thomas does not get paid.

"I always say I don't want to do it anymore," said Thomas, who lives in Robinson with her husband, Dennis. "But who else is going to do it?"

Karen Froehlich, director of the Waco Hu-

mane Society, said good Samaritans consistently bring wildlife to her organization at 2032 Circle Road.

"Oh, gosh, you name it, and they bring it in," Froehlich said. "Wild rabbits, squirrels, cranes, bobcats. A lot of birds. Especially this time of year — people start mowing their lawns and mow over all sorts of critters."

When a woman in Limestone County on Monday found an injured great horned owl in her driveway, she called the county's game warden, who brought the bird to the society's

animal shelter.

The owl sat in the group's conference room until Dennis Thomas picked it up and brought it home.

Wearing a pair of elbow-high gloves, Jane Thomas cradled the bird in her arms and examined his swollen and wounded talon.

In a shelter next to her house, permeated with pungent odors and deafening screeches of about a dozen birds of various species, Thomas cared for the owl with peroxide and a smiley-face bandage wrap.

She then placed it in one of her dozens of

cages.

"Does that hurt, baby?" she said to the bird as she put it in an empty cage.

A self-proclaimed tomboy, Thomas downplays her volunteer work with animals. She shrugged her shoulders when asked why she has given so much of her life to wildlife.

Thomas grew up in rural Ohio as the youngest of five children. She said her family was so poor, she had no shoes. Her mother made her save her only pair for church.

Because the nearest children her age were miles away and her brothers and sisters were older, she befriended critters in her

backyard.

Every time she would bring them home, her parents would yell at her.

Thomas was long dubbed "The Bird Lady of Live Oak" when she lived in Waco near the old Hillcrest Hospital.

"At one point, I had 250 to 300 birds," she said. "Birds intrigue me because they look so soft and beautiful, but you can't touch them."

She is a licensed wildlife rehabilitator by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

She admits she lets herself get attached to each animal.

She and her husband also take in men and women recovering from alcohol and drug abuse.

Howard County Awarded Federal Funds Through FEMA

HOWARD COUNTY HAS BEEN AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER THE EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM. Howard County has been chosen to receive **\$14,776.00** to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army; American Red Cross, United Jewish Communities; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; and United Way of America. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A local Board, made up of the County, City, United Way and other local charitable organizations will determine how the funds awarded to Howard County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local organizations chosen to receive funds **must:** 1) be private voluntary nonprofits or units of government 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice nondiscrimination, 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

Howard County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with The Salvation Army, Isaiah 58, Northside Community Center, St. Vincent DePaul Society, Emergency Services Chaplain Corps participating. These agencies were responsible for providing over 8,000 meals, 8,000 pounds of food and over 300 nights of lodging.

Public or private voluntary organizations interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact **Jeanie Coor at the United Way of Big Spring at (432) 267-5201** or come by **215 W. 3rd Street** for an application. The deadline for the submission of applications is **March 26, 2010**.

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Hawks softball wins 5 on Arizona road trip

Herald Staff Report

The Howard softball team made a trip to Arizona worthwhile as the Hawks went 5-2 in the Coolidge, Ariz., tournament.

Howard played two pick-up games before starting tournament play in Arizona, beating Western Nebraska 7-0 and San Jacinto 3-2.

Michelle Plum tossed a no-hitter in the win over Western Nebraska and Olivia Hires, Cheyene Crum and Kelby Doughty all knocked in runs.

The Hawks beat San Jacinto with a run in the bottom of the seventh on a Katie Smith sacrifice fly that scored Alexis Beltran, who picked up the win. She tossed the full seven, giving up two unearned runs and striking out five.

Starting tournament play, the Hawks beat Glendale College 5-3 as Beltran went seven innings, giving up six hits and two earned runs with five strikeouts. Beltran had a double and home run in the game with four RBI.

Howard's winning streak

would come to an end against Phoenix College in its next game, falling 1-0 in the seventh.

Plum took the loss in the game as she allowed six hits and just the one run.

But Howard would get back in the win column against Eastern Arizona in its last pool play game, taking a 6-5 decision in nine innings.

With Howard down three runs in the seventh, coach Kelly Raines sent pinch-hitter Melanie Ramos up with two on. Ramos responded by belt-

ing a three-run blast to tie the game, which Howard won two innings later on a Hires base hit.

"That was big time," Raines said of the home run.

Rachelle Vasquez earned the win in that game, allowing three runs and six hits in seven innings in relief of Beltran.

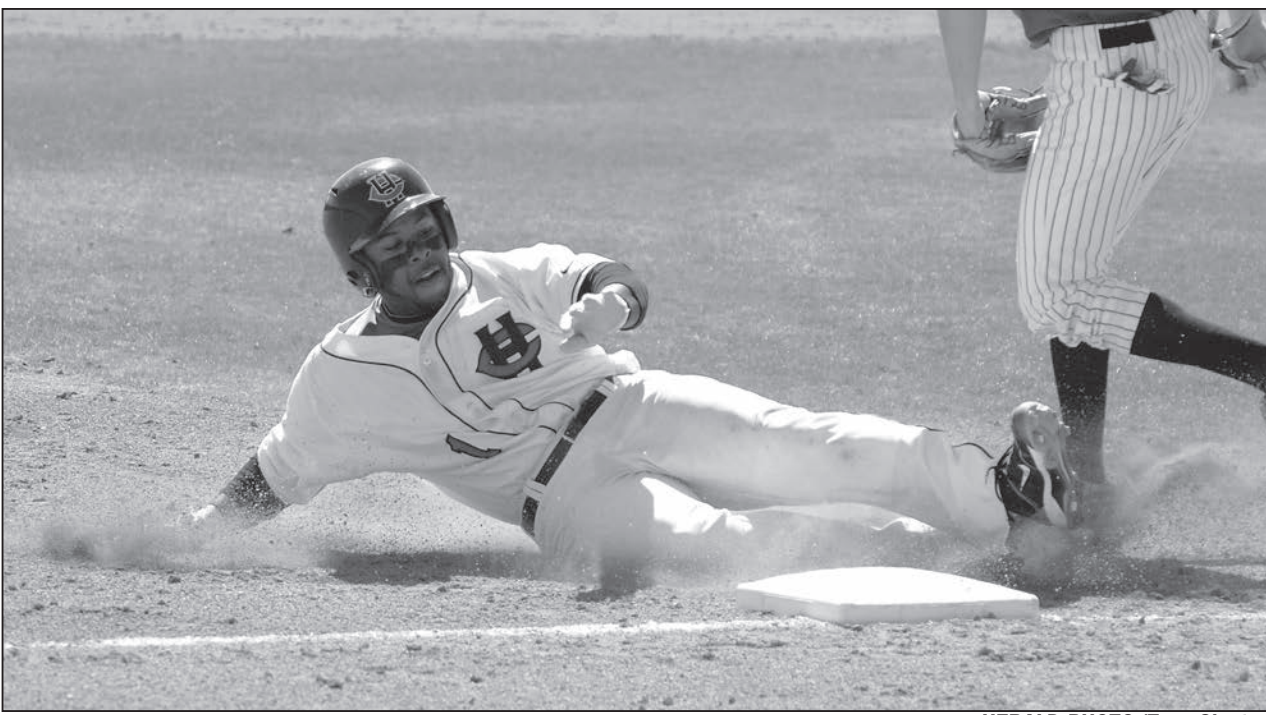
The Hawks kept it rolling against Lamar College to begin bracket play as they cruised to a 9-2 win.

Plum earned the victory with seven strikeouts in seven

innings, allowing two runs and six hits. Lana Dominguez hit a three-run home run to power the Hawks to the win.

The ride ended for Howard against Phoenix College again in another close ball game. Howard had a 1-0 lead going into the fifth, but Phoenix would go on to win 8-1 going away.

The Hawks play Midland College this weekend in a key WJCAC matchup. The two will play in Midland Friday at 4 and 6 p.m., and in Big Spring at 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday.



HERALD PHOTO/Tony Claxton

Marcellous Biggins slides safely into third in a March 13 game against Seward at Jack Barber Field. Biggins went 6-for-11 in Howard's sweep of NMMI with a home run in the Hawks' nine spot in the order. The Hawks have won six in a row as they travel to El Paso this weekend.

Howard wins series over NMMI

Herald Staff Report

The Howard Hawks wrapped up a four-game set over NMMI on Sunday, taking all four games and outscoring the Broncos 55-3 in the series at Jack Barber Field.

No. 5 Howard (23-5, 8-0) took sole possession of first place in the WJCAC standings, one game ahead of Clarendon.

Howard ranks No. 1 in the country in team batting average as Hawks are making contact at a .398 clip.

The Hawks won game one 18-0 in five innings of work. Justin Smith allowed just three hits and struck out seven over

five frames to earn the win.

At the plate, Marcellous Biggins, Kevin Sah, Anthony Calhoun, Nathan Burns, Landon Steinhagen and Tate Allison all homered for the Hawks, who scored 14 runs in the first three innings. Eleven Hawks tallied hits in the game, and all those who homered also notched multi-hit games. Steinhagen and Sah each had four RBI.

Josh Ezernack earned the win in game two in a 15-1 Howard win in five innings. Ezernack allowed five hits and one unearned run in the game with three strikeouts.

Patrick Palmeiro went 3-for-3 at the plate with two home runs and six RBI in the game. Rick Stover and Steinhagen also went deep in the game as Howard pounded 14 hits.

A four-run third inning powered the Hawks to an 11-1 win Sunday as Tyler King gave up one earned run over six innings for the win. He struck out eight.

Stephen Niedwiecki, Burns and Joe Leftridge hit home runs in the game, and Howard stole nine bases. Sah continues to lead the NJCAA in swiped bags with 24, with Leftridge not far behind at 22.

Leftridge, Burns and

Biggins all notched multi-hit games.

Howard wrapped up the four-game sweep with another 11-1 win in the nightcap Sunday.

Carter Hahn tossed all five innings, allowing five hits and one unearned run in the win with five strikeouts.

At the plate, Stover went deep again while going 3-for-3 at the plate with four RBI, a triple short of the cycle.

The Hawks hit the road this weekend as they travel to El Paso Community College for a four-game set. The Tejanos are 8-17 on the year and 0-4 in WJCAC play.

Baseball, softball games on tap today

Herald Staff Report

Area softball and baseball teams will each play at Jim Ned in Tusculu today. The Bulldogettes are 16-5 on the season.

Forsan's baseball team is looking to continue its streak to 11 straight games to open the season as the Buffs host Albany today at 4 p.m.

The Lady Buffs, fresh off 12-1 and 12-2 wins Monday against Eldorado and Junction, respectively, play on the road today against Menard at 4 p.m.

Check Wednesday's *Herald* for game recaps.

Hornets down Mavs as PG Paul returns

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Chris Paul's first appearance in 25 games coincided with one of New Orleans' most impressive victories this season.

The way Marcus Thornton, David West, Morris Peterson and Darren Collison performed, the Hornets might have won without their All-Star point guard.

Thornton scored 28 points, West added 25 points and 10 assists, and the Hornets had a remarkable run of 23 straight points without Paul on the floor in a 115-99 triumph over the

Dallas Mavericks on Monday night.

"We won. I was just happy to get out there on the court," Paul said. "I wasn't worrying about scoring or anything like that. I just wanted to try to get the feel back and get the win."

Returning from a left knee injury, Paul started but Hornets coach Jeff Bower limited his playing time to 21 minutes. Paul finished with 11 points and three assists.

"I asked, 'Could I play more,' but they was like, 'No, no way,'" Paul said. "It was like I had a cell phone. At halftime, I kept

See **MAVS**, Page 12

Baylor sweetly proves its better than 10th in Big 12 Conference

Associated Press

WACO — Tweety Carter and LaceDarius Dunn knew before even playing a game this season that Baylor had a much better team than the Big 12 coaches expected.

They have already proven that, and have a chance to accomplish even more since they are still playing.

"Being picked 10th, we took that as disrespect," Dunn said Monday. "We knew we're a better team than 10th. ... We knew we had to come out and prove a point."

The Bears (27-7) have made it to the NCAA round of 16, joining Kansas State as the only Big 12 teams still left with a chance to play for the national championship.

What about Kansas, the preseason Big 12 favorite by the coaches and the No. 1 overall NCAA seed? The Jayhawks have already been eliminated along with Texas, the league coaches' preseason No. 2 which started 17-0 and reached No. 1 in the AP poll in mid-January.

"I don't play this game to worry about what anybody else thinks. As

long as this family here is tight, I'm all right," said Carter, the point guard and one of only two Baylor seniors. "At the same time, it comes up in the back of your mind, you've got to come out and show them why we're better than 10th."

In an NCAA tournament filled with upsets, most notably Kansas' second-round loss to

Northern Iowa, Baylor has remained unscathed as the No. 3 seed in the South Regional.

After defeating Sam Houston State and 11th-seeded Old Dominion in New Orleans, the Bears will be even closer to home for their next game. They play in Houston on Friday night against No. 10 Saint Mary's (28-5), which advanced with victo-

ries over Richmond and Villanova.

Before last week, Baylor hadn't won an NCAA tournament game since 1950. The Gaels, often overshadowed in the West Coast Conference by Gonzaga, had gone only nine years fewer without an NCAA victory.

"Both teams had simi-

See **BAYLOR**, Page 12

Sports in brief

Big Spring's Williams named to All-Region team

Big Spring senior Jerrell Williams was named to the All-4A, Region 1 team announced by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches.

Williams joined Canyon High's Brandon Kimsey and El Paso Austin's Timothy Bell and Tony Baker on the team. The Steers beat Canyon in the area round before falling to El Paso Austin in the regional quarterfinals.

Coahoma softball signups getting under way

Coahoma youth softball signups will take place Thursday and Friday at the Coahoma Community Center for girls ages 4 and up.

Signups will go from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the community center. On March 29-30, signups will be from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Cost is \$50 per child. Tryouts will be April 10 at 10 a.m. Contact Amy Shifflet at 213-5615 for info.

Relay For Life to host volleyball tournament

Tawanna's Troopers are sponsoring a Relay For Life volleyball tournament Saturday for three boys and three girls per team aged 10 and up.

The tournament costs \$5 per person to play. Registration starts at 10 a.m. with game beginning at 11 a.m. at the junior high gym. Bring extra money for the concession stand.

Contact Jennier at 213-1288 for more info.

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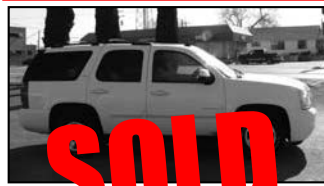
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

When the moon is in Cancer, she relaxes in the comfort of her own home. And that's just what you can do to improve your fortune. Consider the feng shui of your current living arrangement. Make

simple adjustments to increase the flow of nurturing energy through your domestic realm. Home should be a peaceful and inspiring place.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There is no one right way to present yourself. You can follow the advice of an expert without coming across like a cookie-cutter clone. Create positive energy in the way that is most meaningful to you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Each object in your environment has a feeling. Whether it is functional or sentimental, it should support you and give you a happy vibration. Get rid

of material items that disempower you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your life is changing, and so your methods for managing it will need to change to keep up. Get organized. Take a few hours to create a system, and you'll avoid wasting valuable time looking for what you need.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You will start out with at least a mild enthusiasm for what the day will bring. Don't let that get tamped down by the little snafus that occur around lunchtime. Power through with optimism and there's a prize for you tonight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are a passionate person, and you don't just change your mind on a whim. Once you make an emotional attachment, it takes a little while to work through it. Be patient with yourself. Honor your process.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The only thing holding you back is your own fear. If you dwell on it, you'll make it come true. So be open-minded as to the many possibilities that could

happen. One outcome would be wonderful for you. Focus on that one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You may not be hearing a symphony of support from the people around you, but that doesn't mean you're on the wrong path. Your instinct is keen, and others simply aren't as in tune right now. Believe in yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are a VIP who expects others to live up to their promises. Give a courteous reminder to people you're going to meet with, and to those who are supposed to deliver a product or money to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you make a decision, it tends to be final. Once it's over, there is no going back. So you want to be careful to take into account every aspect of a situation before you make your choice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You will be highly impressionable, which you can use to your advantage by hanging out with a winning crew. When the people around you are supportive, positive and doing

their job, you will feel balanced and invigorated.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Those who are closest to us often get the best — and the worst — treatment. Make sure your actions show a partner that he or she is important to you and very much loved.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The confidence you're feeling sparkles up your personal life. And you'll get to enjoy the rare gift of reciprocal feelings. Yes, the other person feels the same way about you. Wonderful!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 23). This is a wonderful moment in your personal life. You make new vibrant connections, and a longstanding relationship becomes stronger and more playful, too. A major purchase delights you in May. July brings work you'll love. You will be visiting a house with a name or a place with rich history in August. Taurus and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 2, 41, 20 and 33.

ASTROLOGICAL

QUESTIONS: "I know the 7th house is about marriage, but what if I'm single?"

While it's true that the seventh astrological house is concerned with marriage, it also refers to other important partnerships in your life. If you're in a serious, committed relationship but haven't officially tied the knot, that counts as a seventh house matter. Do you have a business partner, agent, manager, financial adviser, broker, lawyer, Realtor, therapist or some other individual with whom you have a binding legal contract? That's also the kind of partnership that would fall under the jurisdiction of the seventh house. In some cases, a doctor could be your partner if, say, you are working together long-term to tackle some chronic medical issue. If you have an especially close relationship with an employee, such as a nanny, pet-sitter or personal assistant, I could make a case for this person being a partner, too. And let's not forget our so-called "partners in crime," those special friends who typically just see

one-on-one and without whom you would be lost. So don't despair, singles! There are many ways to interpret your seventh house. The universe doesn't discriminate against the unwed.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Do you know what Aries actress Keri Russell has in common with Britney Spears? It's the same thing she has in common with Ryan Gosling, Justin Timberlake and Christina Aguilera. They were all Musketeers on Disney's "The All New Mickey Mouse Club." With Mars and Saturn in maternal Cancer, Russell's role as a mother brings her spectacular joy and good fortune on all fronts.

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

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HOLIDAY
MATHIS

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: When I met my husband, he told me he was separated from his wife. At the time, I was separated, too. It turns out I was the only one telling the truth.

My husband is in the service, and when he met me, his wife and children were at home waiting for his return.

After three years of marriage, I heard the real story — how he blindsided his wife by asking for a divorce and how devastated she was.

Then last night, he said if he hadn't met me, he would still be married to her.

He has also lied about other stuff, but those lies are minor compared to this one.

I totally regret marrying him and realize he could do the same thing to me that he did to his ex. Please help. — *Seeing the Future*

Dear Seeing: One of the foundations of a good marriage is trust, and Hubby has thrown yours away.

This does not mean he doesn't love you, but it does make it harder to feel secure in the marriage.

Ask him to go with you for counseling to see whether there is any way to help him understand why his behavior was so wrong and whether your relationship can be salvaged. As always, if he won't go, go without him.

Dear Annie: May I say a word about behavior at the movies?

With the increase in home entertainment options, movie theaters have lost some of their popularity and need our support.

If bad behavior in movie theaters keeps us from going, the remaining theaters will be forced to charge higher rates or go out of business.

So, here are my guide-



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

lines for today's moviegoers:

1. Go Unplugged: Turn off electronic devices with glowing screens or sound, such as MP3 players, PDAs, cell phones, iPods and pagers. Do not text (the screen glows). Do not use laser pens. If you can't be without your devices for two hours, stay home.

2. Make Sure the Movie Fits: If you're bringing young children, avoid films with violence and sex, and also make sure the movie is appropriate for your child. If you have to explain everything happening onscreen, you're better off with a different movie.

3. Tackle the Tantrums: Please wait until your child is able to sit quietly for at least two hours before you take him to his first movie.

Also, don't bring the kids at night when they are tired. Make sure they have had their naps, snacks and anything else they need to be comfortable.

If little Prunella does have a tantrum despite your best efforts, remove her quickly and quietly.

4. Take a Load Off and Keep it There: Once you find a seat, stay there. Getting up or going in and out frequently is distracting.

5. Check the Time: It's irritating to have the door opening during the film. Try to get in early, and if the movie has

already started, wait for the next showing.

Thanks, Annie. —
MM2010

Dear MM: People sometimes forget that others want to enjoy the film, as well. Your guidelines are simply a way to show consideration, and we thank you.

Dear Annie: I was deeply disturbed by "Mom of an Unhappy Toddler," whose child saw a commercial for Cymbalta and wanted some so she could be "happy."

That mother should be outraged that they even show drug commercials on TV.

It's no wonder our society is so addicted. When my children were sick, I took them to the doctor.

I did not look to the TV for symptoms, nor would I have thought it was funny had they acted like that 3-year-old.

These drug companies are using our babies as guinea pigs. I can't believe people would even take these drugs after hearing about all the side effects. —
Furious Grandma

Dear Grandma: You make a good point. All drugs have side effects, and even doctors are not immune to the influence of good advertising.

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

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There's something for everyone in the
Big Spring Herald's Classifieds!

Grandpa sold his sailboat

Mama found the missing piece for her china set...

Papa bought a great used car ...

Little Brother traded his baseball cards for a guitar...

Big Brother found an awesome set of free weights...

Cousin Bill found a great apartment ...

Big Sister found a great new job...

Aunt Sue found a dining room table...

**ALL THIS IN THE
CLASSIFIEDS**

To place an ad in the Classifieds

Call 263-7331

**BIG
SPRING HERALD**

710 Scurry • Big Spring

GARAGE SALES

Hidden treasures? Junk?

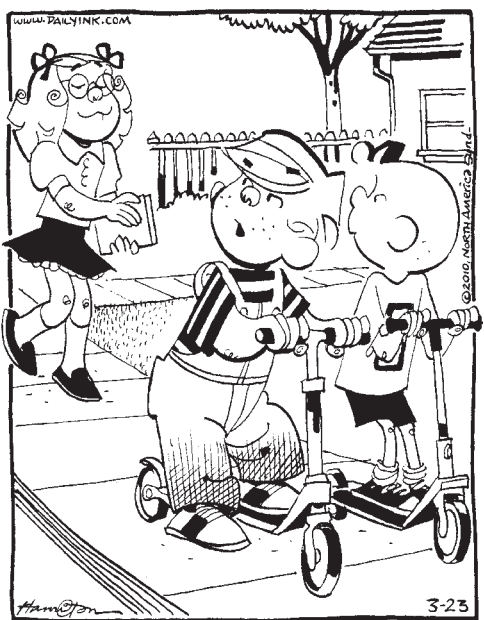
Recycle your unwanted items!

Call 263-7331 today. A friendly Classified Consultant

will help you create an ad that gets results!

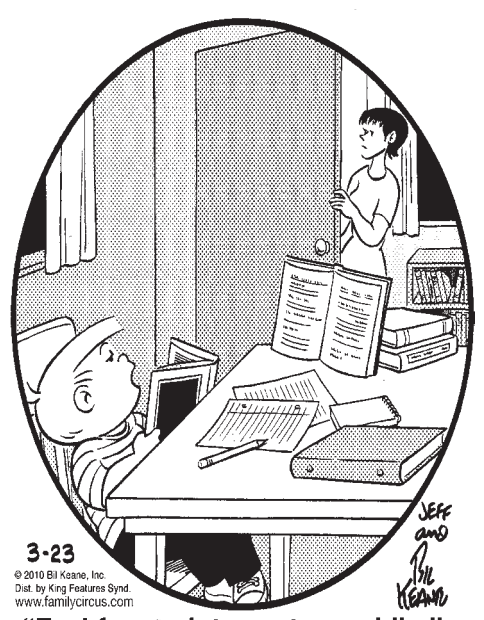
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias NBC	News NBC	Friends Office	Scrivner Uri Harel	World Business	Cash Cab	Craft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas and Ferb	Interrupt Basket	SportsCenter
6:PM	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Mi Pecado (SS)	Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones	News NBC	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	PBS News-Hour	Solv.History	UFC Un-leashed	Bones		Wizards of Waverly Place	Women's College Basketball	College Basketball	
7:PM	Lost	Lost	Hasta que el Dinero	American Idol	NCIS	El Clon	The Biggest Loser	Office	Harris	NOVA (DVS)	Most Wanted	Movie: The Pelican Brief, Sam Shepard	UFC Un-leashed	Bones	Movie: Who's Your Caddy?, Terry Crews	Movie: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Women's College Basketball	College Basketball
8:PM	Lost	Lost	Corazon Salvaje		NCIS: Los Angeles	Perro Amor		Office	Light of the Southwest	Frontline (DVS)	Most Wanted	UFC Un-leashed	Bones					
9:PM	(:06) V	(:06) V	Aquí y Ahora (SS)	Simpsons Friends	The Good Wife	¿Dónde Está Elisa?	Parenthood	Fam. Guy		Independent Lens	Jack the Ripper	Blue	Southland	Vick	Phineas and Ferb			
10:PM	News ABC	News ABC	Impacto	Raymond	News CBS	Noticias NBC	News NBC	Lopez Tonight	Mark Cortes	Charlie Rose	Most Wanted	Movie: Something to Talk About, Robert Duvall	Ways Die	CSI: NY	The Mo'Nique	Wizards of Waverly Place	Score	SportsCenter
11:PM	Insider	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Gancho	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones	Late Night	Office	Ministerio-Vida	World T. Smiley	Most Wanted	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Suite Life	Fastbreak	NFL Live	
12:AM	News ABC	News ABC	Amar sin Limites	King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	News NBC	Sex & Church	Brad	Jack the Ripper	Overhaul	Movie: Rain Man, Valeria Golino	Blue	Leverage	Movie: Who's Your Caddy?, Terry Crews	Cory	Kim	NASCAR
1:AM	News ABC	News ABC	Mujer... Cero	RENO 911	Insider	Pagado	News NBC	Sex & Church	Brad	Jack the Ripper	Overhaul	Movie: Rain Man, Valeria Golino	Blue	Leverage	Movie: Who's Your Caddy?, Terry Crews	Replace Emperor	Poker - Europe	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



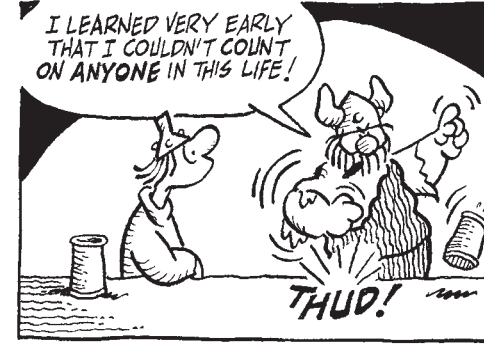
"HERE COMES MARGARET, AND I'LL BET SHE HASN'T USED UP ALL OF HER WORDS FOR THE DAY."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



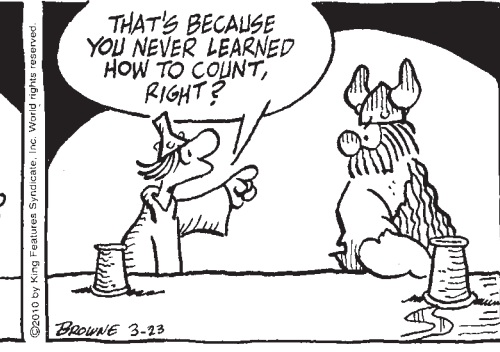
"Feel free to interrupt me while I'm doing my homework."

HAGAR



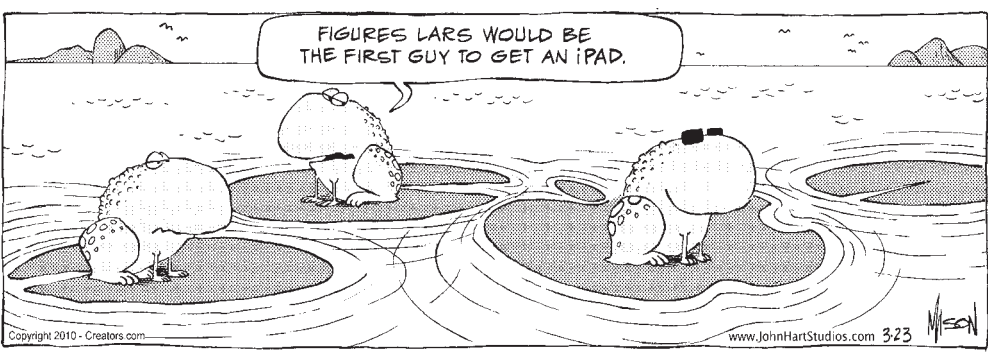
I LEARNED VERY EARLY THAT I COULDN'T COUNT ON ANYONE IN THIS LIFE!

HAGAR



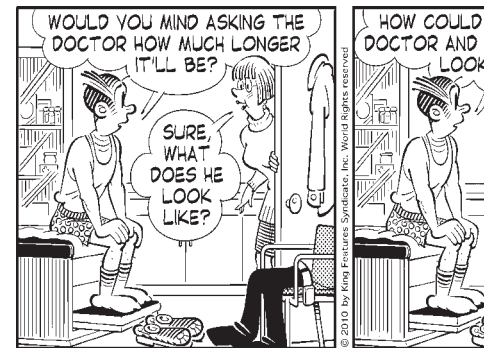
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU NEVER LEARNED HOW TO COUNT, RIGHT?

BC

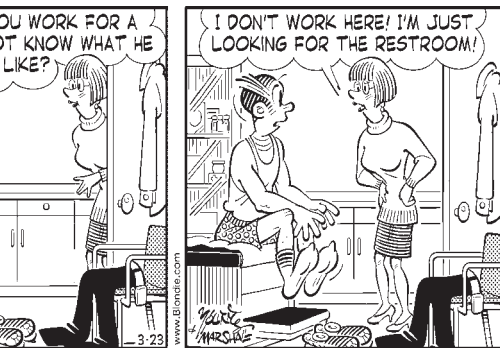


FIGURES LARS WOULD BE THE FIRST GUY TO GET AN IPAD.

BLONDIE



WOULD YOU MIND ASKING THE DOCTOR HOW MUCH LONGER IT'LL BE?



HOW COULD YOU WORK FOR A DOCTOR AND NOT KNOW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE?

This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, March 23, the 82nd day of 2010. There are 283 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 23, 1775, Patrick Henry delivered an address to the Virginia Provincial Convention in which he is said to have declared, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

On this date:

In 1743, George Frideric Handel's oratorio "Messiah" had its London premiere. (During the "Hallelujah Chorus," Britain's King George II, who was in attendance, stood — followed by the entire audience.)

In 1792, Joseph Haydn's Symphony No. 94 in G Major (the "Surprise" symphony) was performed publicly for the first time, in London.

In 1806, explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, having reached the Pacific coast, began their journey back east.

In 1910, Japanese movie

director Akira Kurosawa was born in Tokyo.

In 1919, Benito Mussolini founded his Fascist political movement in Milan, Italy.

In 1933, the German Reichstag adopted the Enabling Act, which effectively granted Adolf Hitler dictatorial powers.

In 1956, Pakistan became an Islamic republic.

In 1965, America's first two-person space flight began as Gemini 3 blasted off from Cape Kennedy with astronauts Virgil I. Grissom and John W. Young aboard for a nearly 5-hour flight.

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan first proposed developing technology to intercept incoming enemy missiles — an idea that came to be known as the Strategic Defense Initiative. Dr. Barney Clark, recipient of a Jarvik permanent artificial heart, died at the University of Utah Medical Center after 112 days with the device.

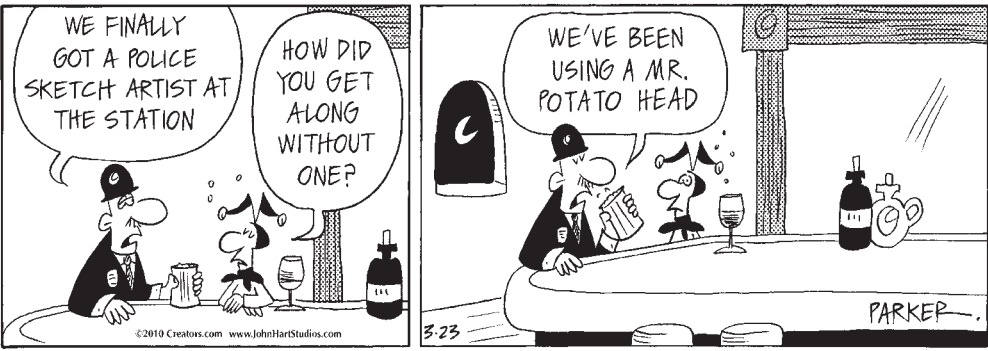
In 1994, Luis Donaldo Colosio, Mexico's leading presidential candidate, was assassinated in Tijuana.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Marty Allen is 88. Sir Roger Bannister, who broke the 4-minute mile in 1954, is 81.

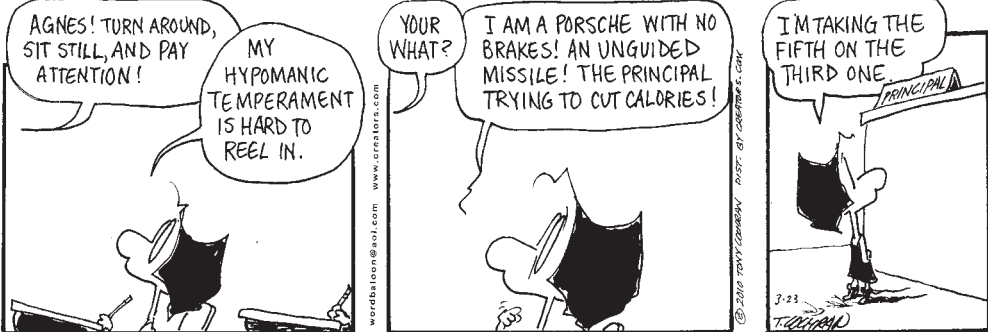
Movie director Mark Rydell is 76. Motorsports Hall of Famer Craig Breedlove is 73. Singer-producer Ric Ocasek is 61. Singer Chaka Khan is 57. Actress Amanda Plummer is 53. Actress Catherine Keener is 51. Actress Hope Davis is 46. Comedian John Pinette is 46. Actor Richard Grieco is 45. Country musician Kevin Griffin (Yankee Grey) is 45. Actress Marin Hinkle is 44. Rock singer-musician Damon Albarn (Blur) is 42. Actress-singer Melissa Errico is 40. Rock musician John Humphrey (The Nixons) is 40. Actress Michelle Monaghan is 34. Actress Keri Russell is 33. Actress Nicholle Tom is 32.

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WIZARD OF ID

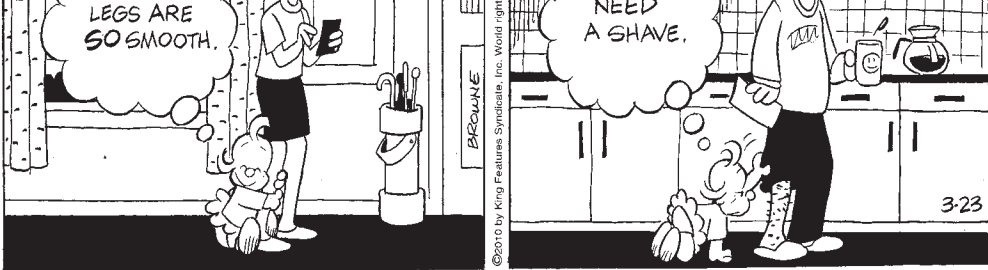


WE FINALLY GOT A POLICE SKETCH ARTIST AT THE STATION



WE'VE BEEN USING A MR. POTATO HEAD

AGNES

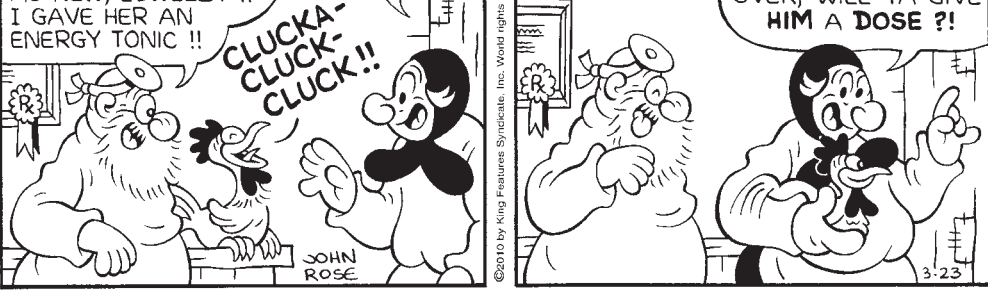


AGNES! TURN AROUND, SIT STILL, AND PAY ATTENTION!



I AM A PORSCHE WITH NO BRAKES! AN UNGUIDED MISSILE! THE PRINCIPAL TRYING TO CUT CALORIES!

HI AND LOIS



MOMMY'S LEGS ARE SO SMOOTH.



YOU NEED A SHAVE.

THE OTHER COAST



DO YOU THINK MANKIND WILL EVER GET TO MARS?

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Accumulate
 - 6 Mountain incline
 - 11 NBC rival
 - 14 Parking-lot attendant
 - 15 Tablecloth fabric
 - 16 "A likely story!"
 - 17 Supermarket vehicle
 - 19 Nation s. of Canada
 - 20 Small sofa
 - 21 Rain or snow, for short
 - 23 Knights' titles
 - 25 Long-leg joint
 - 26 Nuclear-reaction process
 - 30 Completely original
 - 33 Follow, as advice
 - 34 Battered
 - 35 Off-road transport, briefly
 - 38 Big family
 - 39 Like a cactus
 - 40 Storybook monster
 - 41 Pleasant smell
 - 42 Tennis, for one
 - 43 Nose, informally
 - 44 Get away from
 - 46 Stir in
 - 47 One walking back and forth
 - 49 Grain-storage building
 - 51 Pleasant smells
 - 53 Drooped
 - 57 Potpie veggie
 - 58 Construction-site conveyance
- DOWN
- 1 Part of GPA: Abbr.
 - 2 Scratches up
 - 3 Hand-cream ingredient
 - 4 Religious group
 - 5 Cowboy hat
 - 6 More cunning
 - 7 Driver's document: Abbr.
 - 8 Out __ limb
 - 9 Criminal, to a cop
 - 10 Contest hopeful
 - 11 Cattle-drive food dispenser
 - 12 Pesto herb
 - 13 Physical condition
 - 18 Harness strap
 - 22 U-turn from WSW
 - 24 Literary spoofs
 - 26 Piece of information
 - 27 USC rival
 - 28 Old West transport
 - 29 Charged particle
 - 31 Pre-Easter time
 - 32 Install, as carpet
 - 34 Each, slangily
 - 36 Walked heavily
 - 37 Dog docs
 - 39 Healthful resort
 - 40 "___ for the money..."
 - 42 Overly thin
 - 43 Advertising catchphrases
 - 45 Half a college year: Abbr.
 - 46 Spill the beans
 - 47 Notebook filler
 - 48 Sports stadium
 - 50 Spot of land in the ocean
 - 52 Sandal, for one
 - 54 Get taller
 - 55 One of the Great Lakes
 - 56 Amount of medicine
 - 59 Historical period
 - 60 Curvy letter
 - 61 Freshly painted

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15							16
17					18							19
		20						21		22		
					23		24		25			
26	27	28	29			30	31	32				
33						34				35	36	37
38					39					40		
41				42					43			
				44	45				46			
47	48						49	50				
51				52			53			54	55	56
57					58	59	60					61
62					63					64		
65					66					67		

SPORTS IN BRIEF

NFL recommends playoff OT change

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell likes the proposal to modify overtime in the playoffs. Can his support sway enough owners to approve it for next season?

The competition committee recommended to the 32 owners that a team losing the coin toss and then surrendering a field goal on the first possession should have a series of its own in OT. Such a rules change would need 24 votes for ratification.

Statistics examined by the committee showed that since 1994, teams winning the coin toss win the game 59.8 percent of the time. The team that loses the toss wins the game 38.5 percent in that 15-year span, or since kickoffs were moved back 5 yards to the 30.

NFL Commish to meet with QB Roethlisberger

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell plans to meet with Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger about the star's off-field problems.

Goodell already has spoken with team owners about Roethlisberger, who is accused of assaulting a 20-year-old college student in a Georgia nightclub on March 5. Roethlisberger's attorneys say the quarterback committed no crime. Roethlisberger has yet

to be interviewed by police in Milledgeville, Ga., and charges have not been filed.

Roethlisberger also is being sued by a woman who claims he raped her in 2008 at a Lake Tahoe hotel. He denies those allegations and has asked for counter-damages.

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

An Enormously Valuable Tool

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K Q 6 3
♥ 5 2
♦ A K Q 9 7 4
♣ 5

WEST
♠ A 4
♥ K Q 8 6 4 3
♦ 3
♣ K 7 6 2

EAST
♠ 7
♥ J 10 9 7
♦ J 10 6 2
♣ A 10 8 3

SOUTH
♠ J 10 9 8 5 2
♥ A
♦ 8 5
♣ Q J 9 4

The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ 2♦ 2♥ 2♠
3♥ 4♠ Pass Pass
5♥ Pass Pass 5♠

Opening lead — three of diamonds. It is certainly not difficult to beat five spades on this deal if you see all four hands. West leads his singleton diamond, and declarer plays a trump at trick two. West takes the ace, returns a club to his partner's ace and ruffs the diamond return to put the contract down one.

so easy to find. If West doesn't see his partner's hand, he's far more likely to try to put East on lead with a heart at trick three, because East raised hearts during the bidding. And if West did lead a heart instead of a club, it would prove fatal, since declarer would then lose only a spade and a club and so make the contract.

The question, therefore, is how can West know to lead a club at trick three rather than a heart? The answer is that to solve problems of this sort, the defenders must make use of a weapon generally referred to as a suit-preference signal.

When West leads his singleton diamond — which is very easy for East to recognize as a singleton — East can identify his entry card by the size of the diamond he plays on dummy's ace.

Since East's entry card is in clubs, the lower-ranking of the two remaining suits aside from diamonds and spades, he should play his lowest diamond, the deuce, on the ace. By the same token, if East had the ace of hearts, he would drop the jack of diamonds under the ace to ask for a heart return. High asks for high, low asks for low — that's all there is to it.

Tomorrow: The play's the thing.

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MAVS

Continued from Page 7

telling the guys I only had 12 minutes left. That's all I had left on my daytime minutes."

Paul helped New Orleans pull away in the fourth quarter as they ended a three-game skid, but Collison, his rookie backup, ran the offense when the Hornets had their 23-0 run from late in the second quarter until early in the third to take a lead they would not relinquish.

"It was great having CP out there even though he didn't play a lot," Thornton said. "Just having him out there being a floor leader was great. We fed off that."

"DC stepped up when CP was out, so it's fun playing with both of them," Thornton continued. "They will find you. They're true point guards and it helps when they get buckets, too."

Morris Peterson had a season-high 20 points for New Orleans and Collison scored 16 to go with eight assists,

the most by a Hornets reserve this season.

Jason Terry scored 24 for Dallas, which squandered a 16-point, first-quarter lead.

"We got up (16) points and then basically called it quits," said Shawn Marion, who scored 14 points. "We just took it on the chin. We stopped everything we were doing. We got relaxed and they got aggressive and started getting comfortable and making shots."

After shooting only 32 percent in the first quarter (7 of 22), the Hornets went 38 of 61 (62 percent) from the field during the rest of the game.

The Hornets led 60-45 when Thornton's 3 capped their pivotal surge just more than a minute into the third quarter. The closest Dallas got after that was when Terry hit a 3 to make it 73-66 with 3:06 to go in the period.

Peterson responded with a 3, and soon after, West hit a couple of jumpers and had a steal to set up Collison's fast-break dunk to put the Hornets up 82-70 heading into the

fourth quarter.

Darius Songaila opened the final period with a jumper from the top of the key and Paul scored his first points on a baseline fade with 11:05 remaining in the game. Paul later added three 3-pointers as the Hornets built a lead as large as 21.

Dallas shot 52 percent (42 of 81), but was hurt by porous defense and 20 turnovers, which the Hornets converted into 35 points. Dirk Nowitzki scored 16 points for the Mavericks, while Caron Butler scored 12.

Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said his players "clearly have a focus problem that we must look at and fix before the postseason."

Paul's return energized the crowd during pre-game introductions, but the Hornets struggled early.

Marion's steal and fast-break dunk capped an early 17-2 run that staked Dallas to a 19-5 lead. Dallas shot 67 percent (14 of 21) in the first quarter, including 4 of 5 from 3-point range, and

the first of Terry's two 3s in the quarter stretched the Mavericks' lead to 27-11. His second 3 made it 32-16.

The Hornets responded with a stunning second quarter.

An 11-2 run early in the period, capped by West's jump hook over Nowitzki, cut it to 36-30. Dallas built its lead back to 43-32 on Butler's jumper, then New Orleans took over, outscoring the Mavs 22-2 during the rest of the half.

The Hornets then opened the second half on an 8-0 run highlighted by Thornton's two 3-pointers.

NOTES: Posey was called for a flagrant foul on Beaubois in the final second of regulation as Beaubois tried to drive in for a meaningless layup. ... The Mavericks have not won in New Orleans since December 2006. ... The Hornets are 22-17 this season when Paul plays. ... Dallas and New Orleans split their season series 2-2. ... Dallas returns to action at home Tuesday against the Los Angeles Clippers.

BAYLOR

Continued from Page 7

lar roads. Both teams have been competitive the last few years," Baylor coach Scott Drew

said. "They've been knocking on the door, and we've been knocking on the door. Both of us have just entered together."

Baylor has its third consecutive 20-win sea-

son, has already set a school record for victories and has not lost any game by more than seven points.

The Bears made it to the NCAA tournament two years ago, but lost to Purdue in the opening round. (The Boilermakers are also in Houston and play top-seeded Duke in the other game Friday night).

Baylor overcame a late-season slump last year to make it to the Big 12 tournament championship game then had an extended farewell for seniors Curtis Jerrells, Kevin Rogers and Henry Dugat, making it to the NIT final before losing to Penn State in Madison Square Garden.

That trio's career began in 2005-06, when Baylor was limited to playing only a half-season. The Bears played only conference games as part of NCAA penalties for wrongdoing

under previous coach Dave Bliss that was uncovered following the shooting death of player Patrick Dennehy by teammate Carlton Dotson in the summer of 2003.

Jerrells, Rogers and Dugat played significant roles in the rebuilding of the program, including that NCAA appearance two years ago.

When they graduated, there was some uncertainty about how the Bears would fare — at least outside, based on how the Big 12 coaches picked.

"That goes to respect of what the guys who left the program last year did. We were picked low for a reason, and it was out of respect to them," Drew said. "With the returning players, give all the credit to them for having great chemistry, great upperclassman leadership."

While Dunn (19.4 points per game) and Carter (15.1 points, 6 rebounds) have excelled, the Bears got a boost from the addition of 6-foot-10, 240-pound Ekpe Udoh, who had to sit out last season after transferring from Michigan.

Udoh provided an inside presence that had been missing, setting a Big 12 record with 128 blocked shots while contributing 13.9 points and 9.7 rebounds a game.

"Last summer, just to be around each other and get the feel for each other playing pickup games, that's where it all started," Dunn said. "Everybody got on the same page and agreed on the same thing and had the same goal. That really got us going and got us where we are now."

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