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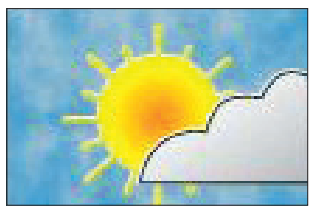


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BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY

APRIL 12, 2010



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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Council to give final OK to budget amendment

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

With a rather brief agenda heading into its Tuesday evening meeting, the Big Spring City Council is expected to give final approval to a budget amendment that will deal with a \$68,000 loss in tax revenues caused by a recent adjustment to certified taxable values.

According to City Finance Director Peggy Walker, the miscalculation —



Walker

which cost city coffers approximately \$68,400 — was made by an Abilene-based tax management company which incorrectly rendered a drilling rig valued at \$6.6 million in Howard County.

“A few months ago we had a \$9 million appraisal value that came off of our certified values. This is now a second correction to

those original appraised values,” said Walker. “There was a company that basically indicated they had a drilling rig that should be taxable within Howard County, therefore it was appraised and included in the certified values.

“Once the tax bill went out it was determined that it (the drilling rig) was not taxable to Howard County. Their home office is in Wichita Falls, which is where it should be taxable. The value on that rig was \$6.6 million

and that amount will be coming off of the certified values. Our original values were about \$558 million and they are now down to just below \$543 million.”

If approved, the budget amendment will mark the second time the city has had to adjust its 2009-2010 budget because of a problem with its certified values, as a similar situation involving Western Container and

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

HEALTH FAIR ACTIVITY



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Ginger Silva talks to friends while staffing the Scenic Mountain Medical Center Mammography and Bone Densitometry booth at the 28th Annual Howard County Fair, held Saturday in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

BSISD wants ‘bang for its buck’

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth in a series of articles pertaining to the upcoming Big Spring Independent School District bond election.

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

As part of a \$60 million bond project Big Spring Independent School District voters will consider in the May 8 election, the school district wants to build three new elementary campuses and extensively renovate a fourth.



But just what will voters be buying with that money? And, perhaps as importantly, what won't they be buying?

The vast majority of the Stevens \$60 million tab is targeted toward construction and/or renovation at the elementary campuses, said Dr. Michael Stevens, special assistant to the BSISD superintendent.

Three new campuses — to replace existing facilities at Washington, Goliad and Marcy — will be built at a cost of \$11.25 million each. In addition, more than \$7 million has been earmarked for renovation at Moss and another \$1 million to upgrade Kentwood.

The new building, which would be built adjacent to current campuses Washington, Marcy and Goliad, will all be approximately 70,000 square feet and feature 24 classrooms

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Howard College Foundation to host speaker Robert Bryce

Special to the Herald

Journalist and critically-acclaimed author Robert Bryce will be the guest speaker at the Howard College Foundation Speaker Series to be held at 7 p.m. Monday, April 19, at Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College campus.

Bryce, author of “Gusher of Lies: The Dangerous Delusions of Energy Independence,” works as the managing editor of Houston-based magazine Energy Tribune and is a contributing writer at the Texas Observer after 12 years of writing for the Austin Chronicle.



Bryce

The American magazine called “Gusher of Lies” “a strong and much-needed dose of reality.”

His first book, “Pipe Dreams: Greed, Ego and the Death of Enron,” received rave reviews and was named one of the best non-fiction books of 2002 by Publishers Weekly.

Bryce also turned out a second book in 2004 entitled “Cronies: Oil, the Bushes and the Rise of Texas, America’s Superstate.” Since 1989, he has been writing about the American energy business and has also made public appearances on a variety of outlets including the BBC, MSNBC and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

In addition, Bryce has been on CNN’s Inside Politics, PBS’ The Newshour with Jim Lehrer, NPR’s Fresh Air with Terry Gross and Talk of the Nation.

The event, hosted by the Howard College Foundation and sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank, will be free to the public. It is an opportunity for area residents to engage in discussion on energy topics that are pertinent to the Permian Basin and the surrounding areas.

A reception and book signing will follow the lecture and Bryce’s newest book will be

See **BRYCE**, Page 3

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Doctor of Audiology

Obituaries

Mattie Pearl Rosemond

Mattie Pearl Rosemond, 67, of Big Spring died Friday, April 9, 2010, at her residence. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, 2010, at West Highway 80 Church of Christ with Clayburn Jackson officiating. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.



She was born Jan. 27, 1943, to Addie Mae and Alex Blue in Wheelock. She had been a resident of Big Spring for 21 years, coming from Lubbock. She was a homemaker. She had been a custodian for Lubbock ISD. She was a member of West Highway 80 Church of Christ.

She is survived by her husband, Herman Rosemond Sr. of Big Spring; two sons, Frank Williams Jr. and his wife, Tara, of Fort Worth and Herman Rosemond Jr. of Big Spring; one daughter, Addie Jo Pride and her husband, Glynn, of Amarillo; one step-daughter, Erica Mitchum of Big Spring; one sister, Dana Jewel Trambel of Lubbock; and 11 grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one daughter, Veronica Williams.

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

John Wayne Murphy

John Wayne Murphy, 45, of Big Spring died Saturday, April 10, 2010, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Fern Adams

Fern Adams, 74, of Stanton died Sunday, April 11, 2010, at her residence. Her services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Lonnie Raney

Lonnie Raney, 79, of Big Spring died Saturday, April 10, 2010, in Aledo at his daughter's residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home,

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity Sunday (officials reported 56 prisoners in the county jail):

- GARY LEE SAMLE JR., 35, was arrested on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid.
- DAVID HEFFINGTON, 42, was arrested on a warrant for contempt of court/child support.
- TOMMY ANDREW GONZALES, 38, was arrested on warrants charging contempt of court/child support and violating promise to appear.
- EUNICE GONZALES, 30, was arrested on charges of speeding, unrestrained child passenger and driving while license invalid.
- KELLI ANN McADAMS 28, was transferred from BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated/open container and driving while license invalid/previous convictions.
- NICOLE FAITH TATTEN, 29, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MATHEW ELISEO DELAGARZA, 28, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana in a drug free zone.
- CHELSEA LYNN ANDERSON, 21, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- JOSUA BASURTO, 18, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana in a drug free zone.
- JESSE DELEON, 41, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- MICHAEL SHANE ALLEN, 35, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ANN MARIE THOMPSON, 40, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- JOE VALENCIA, 47, was arrested on warrants charging criminal mischief and driving while intoxicated.
- CARLOS NOEL APONTE, 22, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JUAN CORDOVA, 33, was arrested on a charge of assault on a family/household member.
- ABEL GUZMAN, 27, was arrested on a charge of theft.
- MOSES AGUIRRE, 37, was arrested on charges of driving while license invalid and possession of marijuana.
- JOHN BONNER, 53, was transferred from BSPD on charges of no valid registration, no driver's license and resisting arrest, search or transport.
- JUAN CARLOS GARZA-BENITEZ, 23, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- JOE CRUZ GUTIEERZ, 22, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- BRENDA VERA, 35, was arrested on a charge of issuance of a bad check.
- LAPAUL ERIC SCAGGS, 33, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of urinating in public.
- ORLANDO CASTELAN JR., 27, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ABEL MARTINEZ, 35, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.
- TRACY GONZALES, 24, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- MANDY SHAE WILSON, 28, was arrested on a warrant charging theft by check.
- DAVID NATHANIEL VELASCO, 25, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- RUSSELL TUCKER, 52, was transferred from BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- KRITIAN L. ALVAREZ, 37, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- JOHN BONNER SR., 52, 206 Becker Rd., was arrested on two traffic warrants and a charge of resisting arrest, search or transport.
- JOE CRUZ GUTIERREZ, 22, 1010 N.W. Second, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- RUSSELL BRYON TUCKER, 52, Alabama, was arrested on charges of public intoxication and possession/consumption of alcoholic beverages in the city park.
- DAVID NATHANIEL VELASCO, 25, Mansfield, was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended.
- TRACY LYNN GONZALES, 24, 2707 Hernandez, was arrested on a charge of DWLS.
- LAPAUL ERIC SCAGGS, 33, 510 Benton, was arrested on a charge of urinating in a public place.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS WARNING was reported in the 1300 block of Lincoln.
- EVADING ARREST USING A MOTOR VEHICLE was reported in the 1000 block of State.
- RETALIATION/HARASSMENT was reported in the 1300 block of Lincoln.
- DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID was reported in the 1300 block of E. FM 700.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 900 block of Scurry and 1900 block of Wasson Road.
- DEBIT/CREDIT CARD ABUSE was reported in the 400 block of Marcy.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1100 block of Mulberry and the 1600 block of W. Fourth.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 2900 block of Cherokee.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80.
- THEFT reported in the 10,000 block of Moss Lake Road.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 4/13	Wed 4/14	Thu 4/15	Fri 4/16	Sat 4/17
72/58	69/57	67/56	73/56	82/52
Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 8:17 PM

Texas At A Glance



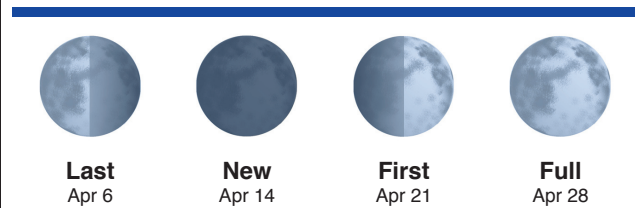
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	76	58	pt sunny	Kingsville	79	67	t-storm
Amarillo	73	54	t-storm	Livingston	81	56	mst sunny
Austin	77	60	t-storm	Longview	81	57	sunny
Beaumont	80	60	mst sunny	Lubbock	72	54	t-storm
Brownsville	79	67	t-storm	Lufkin	83	57	sunny
Brownwood	80	58	pt sunny	Midland	76	59	t-storm
Corpus Christi	77	68	t-storm	Raymondville	82	66	t-storm
Corsicana	80	57	mst sunny	Rosenberg	80	62	pt sunny
Dallas	81	59	mst sunny	San Antonio	77	64	t-storm
Del Rio	75	63	t-storm	San Marcos	78	61	t-storm
El Paso	83	55	sunny	Sulphur Springs	82	58	sunny
Fort Stockton	76	59	t-storm	Sweetwater	74	57	pt sunny
Gainesville	78	56	mst sunny	Tyler	82	56	sunny
Greenville	79	56	mst sunny	Weatherford	79	56	pt sunny
Houston	80	63	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	78	56	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	79	51	sunny	Minneapolis	73	54	t-storm
Boston	59	39	mst sunny	New York	58	45	rain
Chicago	72	49	pt sunny	Phoenix	73	51	pt sunny
Dallas	81	59	mst sunny	San Francisco	63	47	pt sunny
Denver	64	39	windy	Seattle	56	42	rain
Houston	80	63	pt sunny	St. Louis	85	59	pt sunny
Los Angeles	67	51	pt sunny	Washington, DC	60	49	rain
Miami	80	71	t-storm				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Tue 4/13	Wed 4/14	Thu 4/15	Fri 4/16	Sat 4/17
6	6	6	8	6
High	High	High	Very High	High

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

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Support Groups

- MONDAY**
- Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.
 - Diabetes Support Group meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. Medical lectures and information for Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetics and caregivers. Call 267-3806 for information.

Lottery

- The winning numbers drawn in the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:
12-19-33-40-47-52
Estimated jackpot: \$77 million
Next Lotto Texas game: Wednesday night.
-
- The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order:
1-5-7-2. Sum It Up: 15.
-
- The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night, in order:
9-9-0. Sum It Up: 18.
-
- The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order:
5-4-9-8. Sum It Up: 26.
-
- The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday afternoon, in order:
0-6-5. Sum It Up: 11.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity: No activity was reported because of computer problems.

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TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS

Vigil for Austin boy, 5, found dead in yard

AUSTIN (AP) — Dozens of people turned out in Austin for a candlelight vigil for a dead 5-year-old boy whose body was found dumped in a yard. Family and friends gathered Sunday night to remember Julian Salazar Solis. Autopsy results are pending. Investigators say the child was reported missing Saturday morning from an apartment complex. His body was discovered hours later.

Girl dies trampled by spooked horse

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police say an accident at a riding arena left a woman hurt and her 4-year-old daughter dead after both were thrown from a spooked horse. Houston police spokeswoman Jodi Silva on Monday identified the child who died as Samantha Silero (suh-LEER'-oh).

Silva says the mother was hospitalized Monday in stable condition. The woman's name was not immediately released.

Silva says the accident happened Sunday night as the woman and child were on the horse in the parking lot of a riding arena where a rodeo was taking place.

Silva says there was crowd noise, the horse panicked, reared and threw the mother and daughter to the ground. Silva says the girl suffered head trauma when the horse stepped on her.

Silva says animal control officers were notified to tend to the horse, which was not injured.

Boy, 5, dies in El Paso apartment fire

EL PASO (AP) — Investigators in El Paso are trying to determine what sparked an apartment fire that killed a 5-year-old boy and left his father and a sibling hurt.

Fire department spokesman Lt. Mario E. Hernandez says the father passed out from the smoke and was pulled out of the two-story building by firefighters.

The father was transported to University Medical Center in Lubbock. A spokesperson for the hospital did not immediately return a call Monday to The Associated Press with the father's condition.

His 9-year-old son was transported to an El Paso hospital. The boy's condition was not immediately available. A 6-year-old son escaped the flames.

Neighbor Betty Telles says she grabbed a garden hose to spray water on the unit in an attempt to fight the fire as the man tried to save his sons.

Texas prison escapees still on the lam

DILLEY (AP) — Two escapees from the Briscoe Unit were still on the run nearly a week after slipping through a cut fence.

Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokeswoman Michelle Lyons says the search continued Monday for Jose Bustos-Diaz and Octavio Ramos Lopez.

Visitors were barred over the weekend at the unit near Dilley, about 75 miles from the border with Mexico.

The two Mexican nationals turned up missing April 6 after apparently crawling through a ventilation fan in the prison's furniture factory, where both worked.

Lopez, who was convicted in Hidalgo County, was serving 20 years for aggravated kidnapping and 12 years for cocaine-related convictions. Bustos-Diaz was serving 35 years for murder in Harris County.

739 apply for 15 Galveston police jobs

GALVESTON (AP) — Galveston Police department says more than 700 people applied for just 15 officer positions, but that it was not immediately clear if the hurricane-damaged city has sufficient money to fund the new salaries.

Hurricane Ike caused widespread destruction when it slammed into Galveston Sept. 13, 2008, flooding about 75 percent of the island and driving property values down.

Police Chief Charles Wiley said the city was still trying to determine how much the lower property values would effect the tax collections that fund city agencies, including the police department.

Wiley said he did not yet know if the city could afford to fill all 15 police officer positions that drew 739 applicants.

The police department, the largest of city agencies, has 170 officers when fully staffed, he said.

"It wouldn't surprise me if we do have cuts," Wiley told the Galveston County Daily News. "I hope not. The city's still not as financially healthy as it should be or has been in years past."

Personnel costs make up 75 percent of the police department's budget, according to Wiley.

Starting annual pay for a police cadet with no experience is \$30,000, but increases to \$43,128 for experienced officers.

All applicants must take a civil service exam Saturday.

UM-Baltimore County wins chess' Final 4

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Three teams from Texas made the Final Four of College Chess in Brownsville but it was a school from Maryland that claimed the title.

The University of Maryland-Baltimore County on Sunday won the championship for the second year in a row.

A news release indicated the host University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College placed second.

A team from Texas Tech University came in third. UT-Dallas finished fourth.

Teen girls dead in suspicious house fire

BAYTOWN (AP) — A house fire in Baytown has turned into a homicide and arson investigation after two teenage girls were found dead in the burned home.

Autopsy results were pending Monday. Names of the victims were not immediately released.

Baytown police Lt. Eric Freed says there is evidence that the fire was intentionally set and the two deaths Sunday are being treated as homicides. He did not immediately release further details.

Firefighters discovered the bodies Sunday morning, after neighbors called for help when smoke was seen coming from the house.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

that average 710 square feet, two science labs, two computer labs, a music room, library, physical education gymnasium, "cafetorium" (a cafeteria that doubles as an auditorium for assemblies) and administrative area.

"The new schools won't necessarily look the same on the outside, but they'll basically have the same things inside," Stevens said. "They'll all contain the things you'd hope to find in a school."

One of those features Stevens touts is increased classroom

space. The 710-square-foot average of the new classrooms would be a major upgrade from the current average of between 500 and 600 square feet per classroom at current elementary campuses.

"They'll all be much larger than we currently have, plus they'll all have storage space," he said.

Another area officials want to see improved is the campus libraries.

"You go on one of our elementary campuses, you'll see they really don't have full-sized libraries," he said, noting that most campuses employ converted classrooms for libraries.

New to the elementary campuses, if the bond

passes, would be physical education gyms. Currently, physical education classes are held outside, weather permitting.

At Moss, which was constructed in the mid-1960s, renovation plans call for a new wing on the east side of the campus that would house six classrooms, a new cafetorium, kitchen and P.E. gym.

In addition, the existing cafeteria will be converted into a library, the current library converted into two classrooms and ceiling tiles and flooring would be upgraded.

Kentwood, the district's smallest elementary campus in both size and enrollment, will receive upgrades to

the electrical, heating and ventilation and air conditioning systems. If the bond passes, officials foresee that campus becoming a pre-kindergarten center, with the other four campuses housing students in grades kindergarten through 5.

The district's oldest building — the main structure at Bauer Elementary — also will see extended life if the bond passes. Stevens said preliminary plans call for the building, which was built during the Great Depression, to be converted for use as a staff training center. The add-on wings at Bauer, along with existing campuses at Washington, Goliad, Marcy and the long-

vacant College Heights building, would be demolished.

Despite the new features, Stevens said taxpayers will get maximum bang for their buck.

"There's not going to be any wasted space," he said, using the atrium area at Big Spring Junior High School, which is decorative but serves no direct educational function, as an example of what officials want to avoid. "It will all be functional ... We are going to maximize our dollars in this project."

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

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

Coca-Cola that went before the council in January nixed \$9 million from the tax rolls.

The loss to the city — which was absorbed in a similar fashion to the current mistake — was \$91,000 in tax revenue, which the council voted to absorb in January.

The shortfall created by the loss will be absorbed

by the city, which, thanks to prudent fiscal planning, is in a position to take the loss without reducing services or increasing its own revenues, according to Walker.

"We have very good and effective fiscal policies in place. The city of Big Spring is fiscally sound," said Walker. "We've managed to build a good cushion in the general fund of about \$8 million over the years, so if you're

asking if we can absorb this loss, the answer is most certainly yes."

Also on Tuesday's agenda, the city is expected to consider:

- Final reading of a resolution endorsing legislative changes to the Sunset Review of the Texas Public Utility Commission and the Special Purpose Review of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas.
- Approval of an agreement with

Maximus for cost allocation consulting services.

• An update regarding Atmos Energy's third rate review mechanism filing from Walker.

The meeting will get under way at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at

263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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Nancy Tovar, 59, died Thursday. Graveside Services were at the Dallas/Ft. Worth National Cemetery at 11:30 a.m. Monday.
Mattie Rosemond, 67, died Friday. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at West Highway 80 Church of Christ with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.
Lonnie Raney, 79, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home

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BRYCE

Continued from Page 1

available for purchase.

Although a ticket is required for admittance, the lecture is free

of charge to the public. The event will begin at 7 p.m. in the Granville T. Hall Auditorium at Hall Center for the Arts with a reception following.

For more information, visit www.howardcollege.edu or to obtain

your free tickets, call 264-5161.

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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

OTHER VIEWS

Health care reform and bottom lines

Just days after health care reform was signed into law, big corporations started writing billions of dollars off their bottom lines.

AT&T warned last week that it would be forced to write down \$1 billion this quarter as a direct result of the law. Caterpillar said it would take a \$100 million hit from what it called a "tax hike."

John Deere (\$150 million), 3M Corp. (up to \$90 million), Prudential Insurance (\$100 million) and dozens of others said they would be affected. A group of 300 corporations has begun lobbying to change the law.

The actions of these corporations seem to confirm what health care reform opponents had warned about for months — as Republican congressional leaders reminded anyone who would listen.

The Wall Street Journal trumpeted the news in an editorial that decried "this wholesale destruction of wealth and capital."

How can a law that hasn't taken effect hit corporate bottom lines so hard? It hasn't.

The only change since health care reform became law is a bit of accounting fiction involving a remarkably sweet double bonus that big corporations would like to continue exploiting.

For decades, many large companies provided health care coverage to their retirees. It often was designed to supplement Medicare, covering things that Medicare didn't, such as prescription medication.

The number of companies providing benefits to retirees had been shrinking for years. Then came 2003, when a Republican-controlled Congress began debating a Medicare prescription drug benefit.

Sponsors had a difficult time attracting enough votes, especially from fiscal conservatives who worried that the new benefit would be too expensive.

Driving those worries was the realistic concern that corporations would drop coverage for their retirees, forcing those retirees into Medicare and sending the price of drug benefits soaring.

So Republican congressional leaders cut a special deal that gave corporations a double bonus if they continued providing coverage.

As Princeton University health care economist Uwe Reinhardt explains, the cost of that coverage counts as a business expense, which means it can be deducted from earnings for tax purposes.

Future costs of retiree health care benefits are carried on the books as a liability.

Under that special deal, corporations got a direct taxpayer subsidy. For every \$1 spent on retiree drug coverage, the corporation receives 28 cents from the federal government.

But corporations could continue to deduct the full \$1 as a business expense, even though they really paid only 72 cents.

Best of all, they could reduce the liability they carried on their books for drug coverage in future years, since 28 percent presumably would be paid by taxpayers.

Like health care reform, the Medicare drug benefit bill was back loaded; most of it didn't go into effect for years.

One part that did take effect immediately was the taxpayer subsidy. As a result, the "book" value of companies like AT&T, Caterpillar, John Deere and Prudential Insurance jumped by billions of dollars overnight. It rose before most Medicare patients got help with drug expenses.

The increase in value wasn't real. Rather, it represented a redistribution of wealth from taxpayers to corporate bottom lines.

Under health care reform, corporations still will get their 28 percent subsidy for providing retiree drug benefits. But instead of deducting \$1 for every 72 cents they spend, they'll be able to deduct only 72 cents.

So that's the big "tax hike" those Caterpillar executives were moaning about — they have to balance their books based on real numbers, not accounting gimmicks and special deals.

Just like the rest of us.

THE POST-DISPATCH
ST. LOUIS

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

With You, Lord, we have made a huge accomplishment.

Amen

It's not the size, it's the stupidity

As much as liberals would wish it otherwise, Joe Stack, the fellow who flew his plane into an IRS building in Austin, was no right-wing nutcase.

And despite the fervent prayers of right-wing ranters, neither was he a leftist space cadet.

He was instead a full-service, equal-opportunity misanthrope. He hated everything. Banks, governments, Catholics, corporations, accountants, politicians and the IRS — especially the IRS — were all targets of his vitriol in the five-page suicide "note" he left behind.

He wrote the missive, set fire to his home, then got in his plane and flew it into a building that housed the IRS in Austin, killing at least one person, injuring others and reducing the building to a lot of broken glass.

A last posting on his website ended with the message:

"The communist creed: From each according to his ability, to each according to his need.

"The capitalist creed: From each according to his gullibility, to each according to his greed."

Does that sound right-wing to you? I don't think so.

And liberals don't go around blowing up buildings. They stage ineffectual protests that inspire the police to beat them

senseless.

Forget the left/right argument. Stack was missing a few arrows from his quiver, like Tim McVeigh, the Oklahoma City bomber; Ted Kaczynski, the Unabomber; and that professor who, after being denied tenure (at the University of Alabama at Huntsville) shot up a faculty meeting, killing three colleagues.

Stack's daughter, by the way, has since said she is proud of her father, thus demonstrating that the nut does not fall far from the tree.

That said, Stack did have a legitimate beef with the government and it goes to the heart of the right-wing argument against "Big Government."

Stack wrote about having his career as a software engineer stifled by a tax that, according to The New York Times, made it all but impossible for information technology professionals to work independently. It was intended as an offset to a tax break given to IBM.

When it failed to work as advertised, its chief sponsor in the Senate, New York's Daniel Moynihan, tried to get it rolled back — to no avail. Over the next decade, as many as 70 senators tried to get it repealed — without success. The argument was: "If we did it for them, we'd have to do it for everybody."

There's a lesson there: There are few things more powerful than a bad idea that gets made into legislation. It's almost impossible to get rid of.



DONALD KAUL



Read the transcript and freak

Until I read the transcript of President Barack Obama's rambling, incoherent

2,600-word answer to a simple question from "Doris" at an appearance in Charlotte, N.C., about how we can afford Obamacare when we are already overtaxed, I dismissed as absurd the notion that he's a Manchurian candidate — a plant. I still do, but after reading his response, I seriously almost have to question his competence.

I didn't watch the video, but the unscripted answer — no disrespect intended — sounds as if it was delivered by a drunk on an ideological mission. His answer was a veritable clinic in narcissistic circumlocution, a mishmash of barely related talking points about his health care plan — not about taxes, as Doris had requested.

Where are all these liberal elitists, including those masquerading as conservative intellectuals, who told us they voted for him largely based on his intellectual acuity? Pride means never having to say you're sorry. But you should be.

It's obvious how disorganized his thinking is when you read his answer. I encourage you to follow this link and see for yourself: http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2010/04/02/obama_remarks_on_jobs_in_charlotte_105031.html.

But his answer didn't just lack meaningful structure. It wasn't a case of his making a lot of sense on various points but just failing to tie them together. Some of the answers themselves were embarrassingly silly — the height of unsophisticated thinking.

Some were reckless, especially from the president of the United States.

We've seen this before from him — way too often. I'm not talking about his "57 states" gaffe or something similar that could be written off as a slip of the tongue. You know, mere "Bushisms," for which the leftist media savaged President George W. Bush. No, these were much worse.

I'm talking about statements like, "If there's a blue pill and a red pill and the blue pill is half the price of the red pill and works just as well, why not pay half-price for the thing that's going to make you well?"

The whole Marxist concept of central planning is a historically failed idea. But can you imagine if this guy were doing the planning? Oh, that's right; he is.

But the red pill/blue pill statement was at least not directly slanderous toward the medical profession.

But how about his suggestion that if a kid comes to a doctor with a sore throat, "the doctor may look at the reimbursement system and say to himself, 'You know what? I make a lot more money if I take this kid's tonsils out'?"

Or how about his equally malicious statement that a doctor might choose to amputate a diabetic's foot to make "\$30,000, \$40,000, \$50,000" instead of working with the patient to help him lose weight and otherwise control his disease?

That Obama was off by a multiple of 30, 40 or 50 in his estimate is not the most objectionable part of his statement. His implication that your family care practitioner is corrupt enough to routinely engage in such evil acts as unnecessary tonsillectomies and foot amputations reveals a sinister cynicism.

There was a story that ran on the same day as the Stack bombing mission that illustrates the intransigency of the government from a slightly different angle.

Qing Hong Wu, who'd come to this country from China when he was 5, ran with the wrong crowd when he was 15 and got into serious trouble. He was arrested and convicted of a series of muggings in Manhattan.

Because he was a bright kid and showed some remorse, the judge made a deal with him — serve three years in a reformatory, come out clean and the judge would help him craft a new, useful life.

Qing kept his end of the bargain. He served his time, then worked and studied until today, at age 29, he is vice-president of Internet technology at a national company.

Or was, until immigration authorities showed up and arrested him as a criminal alien (his parents were undocumented immigrants) subject to mandatory deportation to China, which he hadn't seen since he was 5.

His friend the judge stepped in to vouch for him, as did his employer and dozens of others. After he spent four months in prison awaiting deportation, embattled New York Gov. David Paterson finally granted his pardon.

Sometimes the problem isn't the size of government, it's the stupidity.

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

ADDRESSES

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• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
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Is he projecting again? His answer is "troublesome," to borrow a term, not to mention divorced from reality. Again, the president of the United States used his position to defame an entire profession. And don't tell me he was talking about the exceptional case. He was implying it is a frequent occurrence; otherwise it would have been irrelevant to his point that we need a different system. But do you know doctors like the ones Obama was describing? I didn't think so.

Now, back to his 2,600-word soliloquy, in which he continued in this pattern. At one point, he said something a high schooler would be embarrassed to have uttered in public. In explaining some of his health care reforms — which had nothing to do with Doris' question about over-taxation, by the way — he said, "We're going to start encouraging paying doctors not based on how many tests they take, but based on the quality of the outcome — does somebody end up healthy." Who's the "we"? I thought the government wasn't going to control care. Right.

But it gets better. He said: "If you go to the doctor you get one test. Then (you are) referred to a specialist, you get another test. Then maybe you go to a third person, the surgeon, you get a third test — it's all the same test but you're paying three times. So ... we'll pay you for the first test and then e-mail the test to everybody. Right? Or have all three doctors in the room when the test is being taken."

I kid you not. This was not "Saturday Night Live." This was our president — our new socialized medicine czar. Read the transcript and freak.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney.

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Menefield, girls relay teams highlight meet

Herald Staff Report

MIDLAND — The Big Spring Lady Steers ran to a fourth-place finish at the Midland Tall City Relays this weekend and the Steers took seventh.

Mike Menefield was the long jumper and the triple jump at the event. He was the only athlete to clear 23 feet in long jump and won the triple jump by two feet with a 48-5 distance.

On the girls side, Desiree Anderson won the triple jump with a 36-10 1/2 distance, beating teammate Bridgette Tuitt, who recorded a 35-6 1/2. Anderson took second in the long jump as she cleared 18 feet and Tuitt took third on her last jump, a 17-5. Lubbock Coronado's Komissa Egon won the event with an 18-6 1/4.

The girls 400 and 800 relay team of Tuitt, Anderson, April Turner and Chanel Cuvelio set school records in Midland, running a 49.00 and 1:43.29 that were both good for second place.

"We finally got them all on the track to run, and it's nice to finally get our four fastest together," girls coach Nick Roberson said.

Cerbi Ritchey took second in the discus throw, hurling 112-9. The boys 400 relay team took second in the meet as well.

Robert Barraza took second in the 400-meter with a time of 52.42.

Lubbock Coronado won both the boys and girls team titles.

See **RESULTS**, Page 6



HERALD FILE PHOTO/Joe Zigtema

Shown at the Steer Relays, Bridgette Tuitt took fourth in the high jump this weekend in Midland.



HERALD PHOTO/Tony Claxton

The Hawks' Chase Durham fields a ball at first base Saturday during game one of a doubleheader at Jack Barber Field. Howard turned seven double plays this weekend in a sweep of Western Texas.

Bulldogettes get non-district victory

Herald Staff Report

COAHOMA — The Coahoma Bulldogettes picked up a weekend win on the weekend as they edged Midland Christian 3-0 at home Saturday.

Katie Dunn picked up her third win in as many games as she weaved around eight hits in a shutout performance. Dunn struck out seven and walked one.

Jordan Martin hit a solo home run, a double and scored twice in the No. 2 spot for

the Bulldogettes, and Joanna Gonzales knocked in a run on a RBI single. Laurel Nix singled and scored as well.

Katie Dunn is now 8-3 on the season and 3-0 in the absence of starter Heather Newton.

Coahoma is 21-7 on the year and 5-1 in District 7-2A play. The Bulldogettes will play Ballinger at home Tuesday.

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Galindo and Ream. Dunn and Castilaw. W- Dunn (8-3). L- Ream.			

Feldman gets 1st win over Mariners at home

Associated Press

ARLINGTON — Scott Feldman is feeling right at home on top of the Texas Rangers' rotation.

Feldman pitched seven solid innings and Michael Younghomered, helping the Rangers beat the Seattle Mariners 9-2 on Sunday.

Vladimir Guerrero finished with three hits for Texas, boosting his average to .500, and Joaquin Arias had his second straight three-hit game. Elvis Andrus keyed a four-run second with an RBI triple as the Rangers took two of three from the Mariners to split a six-game home-stand.

Feldman (1-0) allowed two runs and seven hits in his second start of the

season. He has pitched seven innings in each of his outings.

The Rangers traded last year's No. 1 starter, Kevin Millwood, to Baltimore in the off-season. Feldman, a 17-game winner in 2009, earned the opening-day start with a fine showing this spring.

"I hope when I take the ball that my teammates are confident in me," said Feldman, who threw 117 pitches. "For the most part I try to work quick and get 'em back in the dugout so they can do some hitting."

Ron Washington thought about replacing Feldman after six innings, but the right-hander walked away as

See **RANGERS** Page 6

Howard wins 53rd straight in WJCAC

BY JOE ZIGTEMA Sports Editor

To center fielder Joe Leftridge, it's been just another 53 games.

But to the rest of the junior college baseball-watching world, it's hard to ignore the current 53-game win streak the No. 4 Howard Hawks have going against WJCAC opponents.

The Hawks extended that streak with a four-game sweep of Western Texas this weekend, improving to 31-5 on the season and 16-0 in conference play. The Hawks took the series by scores of 6-1, 7-1, 9-4 and 8-3.

True, most of the leg work was done during last year's dream-team

season, but this year's version of the Hawks has nonetheless kept the streak alive.

"To me, 53 straight conference wins is better than winning 57 games in a row last year," head coach Britt Smith said. "That's sweet. Thirteen straight conference series, I don't care what conference you're in, and this is a darn good conference."

Defense was a big part of the Hawks' Saturday wins, turning seven double plays on the weekend.

"That's our main focus right now," Leftridge said. "Without it, we wouldn't be anything, no matter who we are, and we take pride in that."

Howard will need to play its best ball in the next three weeks as it takes on second-place New Mexico JC next week, followed by tough series against Clarendon and Midland.

"We're halfway home in conference, but we still have three of our hardest series ahead of us so we're going to have to go to work," Smith said. "Very easily, those could be the three others that go to the playoffs with us."

The Hawks held as the second-best hitting team in the nation through the weekend, carrying a .390 team batting average.

Joe Leftridge has 31 steals through 36 games

on the season, and teammate Kevin Sah is behind him with 27, though his pace has slowed since the season's early going. The duo scored twice in the first frame this weekend.

"It gets the pressure off the hitter trying to do too much with the ball," Leftridge said of the Hawks' running game. "Just put it in play, and we'll get it done."

Howard 6, WTC 1

Howard scored four runs in the second inning as Blake Barnes led the Hawks to the series-opening win, allowing one unearned

See **HAWKS**, Page 6

Lefty claims third green jacket on memorable Augusta Sunday

Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — As Phil Mickelson strolled up to the 18th green, his third green jacket locked up, he wondered if his wife would be waiting for him.

She'd been there the first two times he won the Masters, but he would've understood if she decided to skip this victory celebration.

Yet there she was, waiting with

an embrace they'll remember for a lifetime.

"I normally don't shed tears over wins," Mickelson said, his eyes watering. "When Amy and I hugged off 18, that was a very emotional moment for us. I'll cherish every moment of this week."

Eleven months ago, Amy Mickelson was diagnosed with breast cancer. While the prognosis is good, she's worn down physically. It's tough to

get out among the crowds at a place such as Augusta National.

"She didn't feel well and she doesn't have energy," her husband said. "To have her here and share this moment and share the joy of winning on 18, and to share this with my kids, is something that we'll look back on the rest of our lives."

So, a tournament that started with the focus on a guy who committed serial adultery, ended with a vic-

tory celebration that was much more family friendly.

This has been a trying year for Mickelson, who not only dealt with his wife's illness, but his mother's, too. She also is battling breast cancer. Not surprising that he's been distracted from the game he plays for a living.

Lefty arrived at Augusta National

See **MASTERS**, Page 6

Sports in brief

Seven former Bulldogettes up for UIL All-Century team

The UIL is forming a softball all-century team on its Web site.

On the softball ballot are former Coahoma players Tara Sterling, pitcher; Shana Earnest, first base; Tori Elmore, third base; Brandi Hart and Cassie Tindol, outfield; and Kortney Kemper and Ruby Garcia, designated hitters. Vote until April 27.

The ballot is at: <http://uil100.org/vote-softball.php>

Hawk softball splits day 2 with W. Texas

The Hawks softball team split Saturday's double-headers in Snyder as they took three of four from the Lady Westerners on the weekend.

After sweeping Friday's games at Foundation Field 9-4 and 13-5, the Hawks lost game three by a score of 5-3 Saturday. However, the Hawks would win the final game 3-1 as they remain in fourth in the WJCAC standings.

Correction

In a track brief printed Sunday, Coahoma's Justin Coker and Hunter Williams were incorrectly listed as junior and senior. Coker is a sophomore and Williams is a junior.

Tuesday sports

Big Spring baseball travels to Plainview at 7 p.m.; Lady Steers host Cooper at 6 p.m. Coahoma hosts Ballinger at 6:30 p.m. Forsan softball hosts Menard at 5 p.m., baseball plays at Winters.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 5

the manager approached him in the dugout, and Washington let him have one more inning.

"He used all his pitches," Washington said. "They tried to work him. He bent, but he didn't break. He's establishing himself."

Chone Figgins and Franklin Gutierrez had two hits apiece for the Mariners, who wrapped up a 2-5 trip and will face in Oakland in their home opener on Monday.

"I think getting back home will be good," Mariners manager Don Wakamatsu said. "Some of these guys haven't seen our ballpark yet, that's how early it is."

HAWKS

Continued from Page 5

run on four hits in seven innings to go with 11 strikeouts.

Tanner Toal knocked in two runs with a 2-RBI single and Nathan Burns notched two of the Hawks' six hits against Western Texas starter Doug Shields.

Shields went four innings and allowed four runs, all unearned.

Leftridge, designated hitter Landon Steinhagen, first baseman Chase Durham and second baseman Marcellous Biggins all knocked in runs for Howard.

Howard 7, WTC 1

It took the Hawks four innings to bust the game open against Westerner starter Kyle Forsyth in game two, but the Hawks cruised behind right-hander Josh Ezernack as he tossed an eight-hit, one-run complete game for his sixth win of the sea-

son. Young connected in the first and the Rangers went ahead 5-1 in the second against Ian Snell. Guerrero and Chris Davis had RBI singles and Nelson Cruz drove in David Murphy with a sacrifice fly.

Snell (0-1) lasted only three innings, allowing five runs, four earned.

"It was a terrible start and I wish I could take it back," Snell said. "It was a little bit of everything. I hold this solely on my shoulders. The ball didn't feel right coming out. Velocity was down, I don't know what's going on."

Figgins hit an RBI double in the fifth to trim Texas' lead to 5-2, but Murphy and Young had sacrifice flies in the bottom half.

MASTERS

Continued from Page 5

without a top five finish all year. But he's always felt as comfortable at this course as any other, winning his first major here in 2004, then another two years later. When his family arrived — Amy, their three kids and his mother — Mickelson knew this might be the week he started playing like himself again.

He opened with a 5-under 67. He closed with two more 67s on the weekend. Mickelson played with that same bravado and confidence that has always been his trademark — and often his undoing.

He certainly could've gone either way at the

par-5 13th hole, where he followed a clutch birdie putt in Amen Corner that gave him the outright lead by pushing his drive into the trees along the right side of the fairway.

Most golfers would have played it safe, punched out into the fairway to give themselves at least a shot at birdie and no worse than par.

Not Mickelson. He saw an opening between the trees and decided to go for the green — 207 yards away — with a 6-iron.

"I had a good lie in the pine needles," Mickelson explained. "I was going to have to go through that gap if I laid up or went for the green. I was going to have to hit a decent

shot. The gap was a little bit wider — well, it wasn't huge, but it was big enough for a ball to fit through."

How right he was. Mickelson ripped away with all his might, watched the ball clear the trees and soar through the air, plopping down 4 whole feet from the flag.

"I just felt like at that time," he said, "I needed to trust my swing and hit a shot. It came off perfect."

Even though Mickelson missed the short putt and settled for birdie instead of eagle, that was the hole where he let it be known this tournament was his. He finished with a 16-under 272, three strokes ahead of Lee Westwood and four

ahead of hard-charging Anthony Kim, who shot 31 on the back side for a closing 65.

"It's one of those shots only Phil could pull off," said Westwood, who started the final round with a one-stroke lead but wound up with another close-but-no-cigar finish in a major. "I think most people would have chipped that one out. But that's what great players do: They pull off great shots at the right time."

Mickelson was steady the rest of the way — another birdie at the par-5 15th, pars at the tricky 16th and 17th holes. That way, he could play it safe for once, going with the 3-wood at No. 18 to assure himself the tournament.

son.

Leftridge singled, took second and came home on a Kevin Sah RBI single in the first, but it took the Hawks three more innings to chase Farsworth as they scored four in the fourth.

Biggins notched two hits in the game and knocked in two runs for the Hawks, and Durham knocked in two with an RBI double. Catcher Rick Stover doubled twice in the game as the Hawks scored two more in the seventh to put it away 7-1.

"We expected to win four, especially after making it through their place (Friday)," Smith said on Saturday. "That's a tough place to play and a tough place to win."

Howard 9, WTC 4

As the series switched to Jack Barber Field on Saturday, the Hawks showed up an inning late as the Westerners jumped out to a four-run lead in the opening

round out the scoring. Calhoun went 3-for-4 on the day with two doubles, a single and an RBI.

Howard scored two more in the fifth and one in the sixth as the Hawks won going away.

"They were the last team to beat us in conference in the same situation," Smith said. "I told the guys (Friday), it's the same deal, we beat them twice over there and then came here and got beat."

"It was good to see them not panic, we just continued to play, we took good at-bats and didn't get frustrated because we hit some balls hard before we came back and got the lead."

Howard 8, WTC 3

The Hawks put the fourth and final game away early as they jumped out to a 6-0 advantage in the first three innings of the nine inning contest.

Leftridge again started

the Hawks off strong as he singled, took second on a wild pitch and stole third. He was knocked in on a Nathan Burns groundout.

Chase Durham started the rally in the second with a leadoff single, followed by a Victor Guerra walk. A Stover sacrifice fly put the two in scoring position for Biggins, who knocked in Durman with a sacrifice fly to right field. Leftridge knocked in Stover with an RBI sin-

gle.

A Durham 2-RBI single and an error gave the Hawks a 3-spot in the third, which was all starter Carter Hahn would need.

Hahn tossed 4 2/3 innings, giving up one earned run on five hits. Reid Scoggins earned the win in relief, tossing 3 1/3 frames of one-hit, shutout baseball. Carlton Patton worked the ninth to preserve the win.

RESULTS

Continued from Page 5

Results

Boys

Team standings — 1. Lubbock Coronado, 91; 2. Lee, 84; 3t. Midland High, 80; 3t. Lubbock High 80; 5. San Angelo Central, 78; 6. Amarillo High, 72; 7. Big Spring, 48; 8. Odessa Permian, 42; 9. Lubbock Monterey, 23; 10t. Midland Trinity, 10; 11. Pecos, 10.

Discus — 1. Heath Skelton, Amarillo High, 173-4; 2. Daniel Dia, Amarillo High, 170-8; 3. Dutton Watson, Midland High, 160-6;

Long jump — 1. Michael Menefield, Big Spring, 23-3.25; 2. Travis Dunn, Lubbock Coronado, 22-8.5; 3. Nathan Slaughter, Lubbock High, 22-1.5;

Pole vault — 1. Chase Wolfe, Amarillo High, 15-6; 2. Chase Jones, Midland High, 13-6; 3. Justin Young, Odessa Permian, 13-0;

High jump — 1. Travis Dunn, Lubbock Coronado, 6-4; 2. J.J. Austin, Lubbock Coronado, 6-4; 3. Jamaal Sanders, Midland High, 6-2;

Triple jump — 1. Michael Menefield, Big Spring, 48-5; 2. Travis Dunn, Lubbock Coronado, 46-4.5; 3. Corey McPherson, Lee, 43-5;

Shot put — 1. Daniel Dia, Amarillo High, 51-9.75; 2. Heath Skelton, Amarillo High, 49-4.25; 3. Robert Herrera, Pecos, 48-7.25;

3200 — 1. Isaac Placencia, Lubbock High, 10:20.48; 2. Connor Brock, Midland Trinity, 10:37.39; 3. Christian Farris, Lee, 10:54.09;

400 relay — 1. Lubbock High, 42:19; 2. Big Spring, 42:52; 3. Lubbock Coronado, 43:03;

800 — 1. Kevin Barr, San Angelo Central, 2:07.27; 2. David Hernandez, Odessa Permian, 2:03.00; 3. Johnny Scott Vasquez, Lubbock High, 2:03.03;

110 hurdles — 1. Casey McPherson, Lee, 15:32; 2. Tevan Loud, Odessa Permian, 16:07; 3. Adrian Horton, Lee, 16:09;

100 — 1. Tyler Middleton,

Midland High, 10:91; 2. Dominic Howard, Lee, 11:29; 3. Colton Palmer, Lubbock Coronado, 11:48; 5. Monte Anderson, Big Spring, 11:72;

800 relay — 1. San Angelo Central, 1:28.86; 2. Midland High, 1:29.45; 3. Lee, 1:29.46; 5. Big Spring, 1:30.15;

400 — 1. Donnie Bryant, Lubbock High, 50:11; 2. Adrian Guzman, Lubbock Monterey, 51:20; 3. Robert Barraza, Big Spring, 52:42;

300 hurdles — 1. Adrian Horton, Lee, 39:78; 2. Blake Bynum, Midland High, 40:77; 3. Corey McPherson, Lee, 41:94;

200 — 1. Daniel Perez, San Angelo Central, 22:27; 2. Hunter Strout, San Angelo Central, 23:00; 3. Vince McDaniel, Lubbock Coronado, 23:03;

1600 — 1. Donovan Torres, Lubbock Coronado, 4:28.06; 2. Isaac Placencia, Lubbock High, 4:37.78; 3. Kevin Barr, San Angelo Central, 4:39.77;

1600 relay — 1. Lubbock High, 3:19.70; 2. San Angelo Central, 3:21.62; 3. Lee, 3:24.58;

Girls

Team standings: 1. Lubbock Coronado, 187; 2. San Angelo Central, 89; 3. Odessa Permian, 81; 4. Big Spring, 75; 5. Lubbock Monterey, 71; 6. Lubbock High, 40; 7. Midland High, 33; 8. Lee, 27; 9. Pecos, 14.

High jump — 1. Ashlyn Stewart, Lubbock Coronado, 5-4; 2. Leesa Jones, Lubbock Monterey, 5-2;

3. (tie) Zoe Washington, Lubbock Coronado, and Cheyenne Swoopes, Odessa Permian, 5-0;

Shot put — 1. Chelsea Hudson, Midland High, 43-0; 2. Alyssa Egon, Lubbock Coronado, 42-3.75; 3. Kebebe Darpolar, Pecos, 40-11;

Triple jump — 1. Desiree Anderson, Big Spring, 36-10.5; 2. Bridgette Tuitt, Big Spring, 35-6.5; 3. Pamela Uchebo, Lubbock High, 34-11;

Long jump — 1. Komissa Egon, Lubbock Coronado, 18-6.25; 2. Desiree Anderson, Big Spring, 18-0.75; 3. Bridgette Tuitt, Big Spring, 17-5; 4. Sarah Randall, San Angelo Central, 17-3.75;

Discus — 1. Adedunke Balogun, Odessa Permian, 125-4; 2. Cerbi Ritchey, Big Spring, 112-9; 3. Alyssa Egon, Lubbock Coronado, 111-0;

Pole vault — 1. Dinha Callejas, San Angelo Central, 10-6; 2. Kelsy Hullahien, San Angelo Central, 10-0; 3. Brittany Patterson, San Angelo Central, 10-0;

3200 — 1. Maddie Kauffman, Lubbock Coronado, 12:11.59; 2. Kristal Carrasco, Pecos, 12:27.32; 3. Lindsey Lewallen, Lubbock Monterey, 12:35.46;

400 relay — 1. Lubbock Coronado, 48:04; 2. Big Spring, 49:00; 3. Lubbock High, 49:26;

800 — 1. Jamia Graham, Odessa Permian, 2:19.42; 2. McKenzie Archer, Lubbock Coronado, 2:20.40; 3. Bianca Cortez, Odessa Permian,

2:26.37; 6.JC Williams, Big Spring, 2:34.80.

100 hurdles — 1. Rachel Rice, Midland High, 16:20; 2. Ashlyn Stewart, Lubbock Coronado, 17:23; 3. Tanya Sherman, Lee, 17:42;

100 — 1. Sharniece King, Lubbock Coronado, 12:23; 2. Shaunice Guyton, Lubbock Coronado, 12:51; 3. Dautry Williams, Lee, 13:04;

800 relay — 1. Lubbock Coronado, 1:43.21; 2. Big Spring, 1:43.29; 3. San Angelo Central, 1:46.41;

400 — 1. Jamia Graham, Odessa Permian, 59:07; 2. Sarah Randall, San Angelo Central, 59:77; 3. Chelsea Howard, San Angelo Central, 1:00.87;

300 hurdles — 1. Sh'Kendra Hightower, Lubbock Monterey, 45:23; 2. Alexis Hodges, Odessa Permian, 49:63; 3. Tailor Dominguez, Odessa Permian, 49:98; 5. Andi Deleon, Big Spring, 51:23.

200 — 1. Sharniece King, Lubbock Coronado, 25:56; 2. Jasmine Walker, Lubbock Coronado, 26:12; 3. Shay O'Neal, Lee, 26:65;

1600 — 1. Erika Parra, Lubbock Monterey, 5:34.04; 2. McKenzie Archer, Lubbock Coronado, 5:38.04; 3. Daniella Romo, Lubbock High, 5:38.27.

1600 relay — 1. Lubbock Coronado, 3:59.16; 2. San Angelo Central, 4:03.92; 3. Lubbock Monterey, 4:13.29;

su | do | ku

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 9 3
♥ 9 7 6 4
♦ A 3
♣ A K J 7

WEST
♠ 8 7 6 5
♥ 10
♦ Q J 10 4
♣ 10 8 6 3

EAST
♠ 10 4 2
♥ Q J 5
♦ K 8 7 6 5
♣ 9 2

The bidding:
South West North East

1♥ Pass 3♣ Pass
3♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
4NT Pass 5♥ Pass
6♥

Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

Bobby Goldman, one of the world's great players and a member of the Dallas Aces that challenged and then overcame the vaunted Italian Blue Team in the early '70s, died more than a decade ago at the age of 60. He had just been elected to the Bridge Hall of Fame.

Goldman was a moving force in keeping alive many of the Aces' numerous bridge enterprises long after the team had disbanded. He was also a leading theorist and promulgator of new conventions that have since passed into common usage.

The day after Goldman's death, my cousin, Bob Becker, a top-flight player in his own right, called to give

me a hand Goldman had played at Philadelphia's Cavendish Club when he was just 19 years old. As the deal shows, even at that tender age Goldman had a full grasp of the subtleties of the game.

Goldman was South, and West led the queen of diamonds to dummy's ace. Goldman then cashed the A-K of trumps, learning that he had a trump loser when West discarded a diamond.

His only chance for the slam was to get rid of his diamond loser on dummy's fourth club. Most players would no doubt have played the Q-K-A of clubs, hoping East had started with three or more clubs. This would have failed as the cards lie. But Goldman saw a way to improve on his chances by giving East a chance to make a mistake.

So he cashed the A-K of clubs and led a club toward his hand as if he were trying to ruff out the queen. From East's perspective, South might have had ♠AQJx ♥AKxxx ♦xx ♣xx, in which case Goldman would be correct in attempting to feld the club queen before trying to get rid of dummy's remaining diamond on his fourth spade.

Ultimately, East discarded a spade, whereupon Goldman produced the queen, led a spade to the king and threw his diamond on the club jack. If East had ruffed the third club, the slam would have gone down.

"After that," said my cousin, "we all knew Bobby was headed for stardom."

Tomorrow: The serendipity factor.

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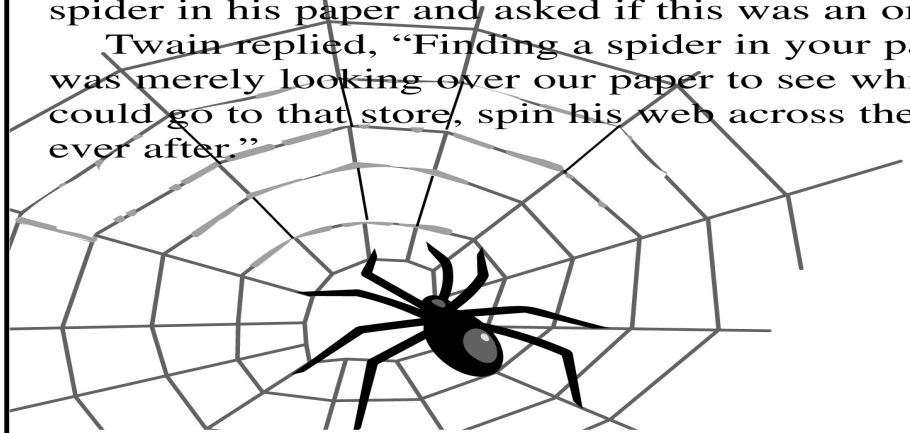
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9	3	8	4	7	2	1	6	5
6	2	5	1	3	9	8	7	4
8	5	3	7	4	1	9	2	6
1	6	2	5	9	3	7	4	8
4	7	9	8	2	6	5	1	3
2	9	1	3	6	5	4	8	7
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

As the moon slips out of imaginative Pisces, she goes void of course. Like the moments when a dream takes a turn from the realm of realism and becomes too bizarre to follow anymore, strange details may pop out for inexplicable reasons. But just because it doesn't make sense doesn't mean it won't make sense later.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There are days when you can get away with less attention to detail — just showing up is enough. Today is not like that. Bring your best to the events of the day. Show up and be impeccable.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll do a stellar job, and the fruits of your labor will be something you can stand up for. Colleagues want to be a part of your work team in order to learn what you know.

GEMINI (May 21-June

21). Your faith is like a muscle. It will be strengthened through exercise. Today's tests are perfectly made to prevent your faith from growing weak. There will be no shortage of unknowable things to believe in.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know what the truth is, even though you may want very sincerely for it to be something other than that. Face facts — better yet, embrace them. Your personal power and influence will double.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A huge project may technically be over, but there are still many loose ends to wrap up. In some ways, you are not ready to move on. Be gentle with yourself. It's perfectly acceptable to linger in this space for a while.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You will be extraordinarily lucky, and it will all stem from your compassionate thoughts and deeds. One gesture of good will from you is all it takes to start a cycle of abundance rolling.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Match the intensity

and tone of your partner. Work when the other person is working, and play when the other person is playing. Relationship harmony paves the way for good fortune.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It takes tremendous brainpower to make the most of your opportunities. So if you see an open loop, you should close it — it's a brain drain. Tie things up. Finish what you start.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll get a chance to show your persevering spirit. The win always happens in the end. That's why it's important to be stellar when it's crunch time. Muscle through to the close.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Take honesty seriously even in trivial instances. This will build your confidence. It will send a message to yourself and the rest of the world that you can be trusted to act in an integral way in the large matters, as well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Work fast so that you can love slow-

ly. Your loved ones do not only want to feel the warmth of your attention. They want to lavish in it, too — to feel that your love is never-ending.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Because you are so easy to be nice to, you'll be the recipient of many kind gestures and surprise bonuses. It's all on the up and up. There is nothing to be skeptical about. Your job is to graciously receive.

T O D A Y ' S BIRTHDAY (April 12). You are a force for good. Those who misunderstood or even mistreated you in the past will realize the error of their ways. June's happy mood attracts fantastic energy to your love life. A stellar investment opportunity comes in July. Everything changes in September. Work picks up then, too. Pisces and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 1, 31, 20 and 15.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "My friend started calling me the One-Upper. When she first did it, I laughed, but inside I

was really offended. Now I've let her get away with this name, and it's starting to stick. I think it's cruel. I've been told before that my personality is a little strong. But should I really have to tone down the things I want to talk about just because they might make other people feel insecure? I'm thinking about dropping my friend. Maybe she's just too jealous of me to be a true friend. What should I do? I'm a Gemini, and she's a Libra."

As two air signs, there are many points of connection between you and your friend. Your conversations are lively and intelligent, offering real insight and fun. It would be a shame to throw this away because of one incident. While you shouldn't feel you have to downplay your fabulous life, it is important that you give your Libra the moment when it's her turn to shine. Born as an astrological twin, you are naturally competitive, while it's in Libra's nature not to compete, but to balance and support. Ask your friend to drop the nick-

name, and in the future, try to share the conversational glory more equitably.

C E L E B R I T Y PROFILES: This actress played an actual celestial star in the fantasy picture "Stardust" — not much of a stretch for brightly shining Aries Claire Danes. Danes' natal chart boasts career planet Mars in Aries, as well. This former teen star is moving gracefully through her third decade — now a newlywed whose work in the HBO movie "Temple Grandin" is garnering rave reviews and Emmy buzz.

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To announce activities or events, mail or bring by the office a typed news release or fact sheet to Editor John Moseley as far in advance as possible. The release should include the who, what, why, when, and where of the event, and the name and telephone number of a contact person. If you have a timely news item, call John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

HOW TO

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If you are unable to locate an article, call 263-7331, or come by the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry, and we will try to assist you. Remember, we can only provide information that appeared in the Big Spring Herald.

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Back issues of the Big Spring Herald are kept on file for one year and may be purchased during regular business hours. However, some back issues sell out quickly and we cannot guarantee that any given issue will be available. You may also check with the Howard County Library reference department at 264-2262.

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To submit engagement, wedding, or birth announcements come by our office at 710 Scurry and pick up a form. You may also download a form from our website at www.bigspringherald.com. If you have questions regarding the guidelines for these announcements, discuss them with Editor John Moseley at 263-7331, ext. 230.

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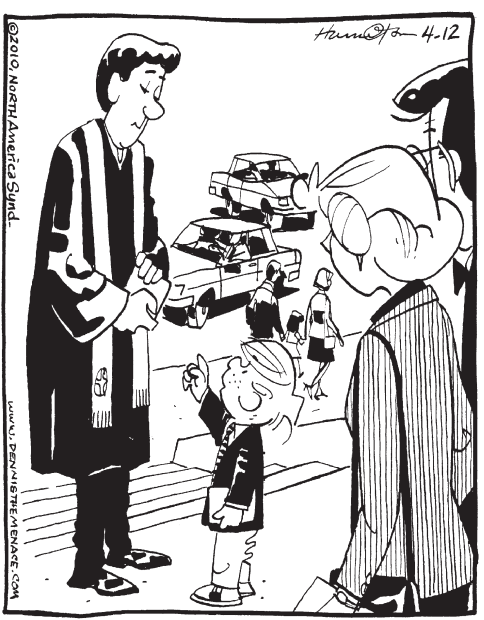
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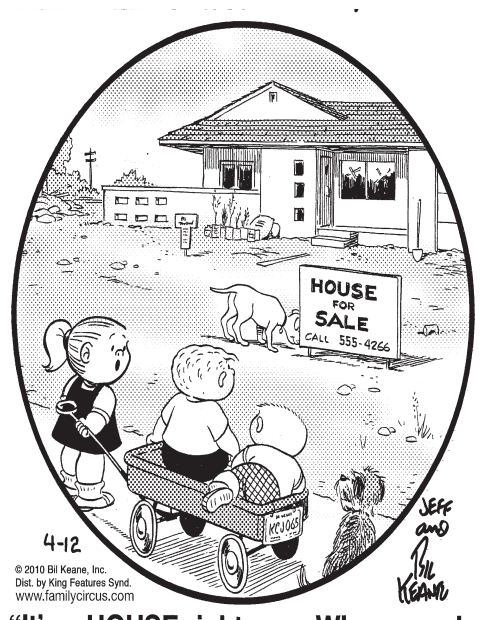
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DENNIS THE MENACE



MR. WILSON SHOULD A BEEN A PREACHER LIKE YOU. HE'S ALWAYS GIVIN' ME A SERMON ABOUT SOMETHIN'.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

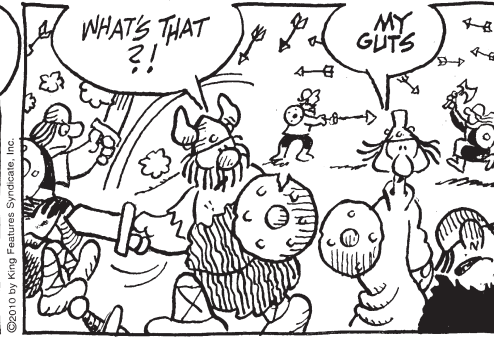


It's a HOUSE right now. When people move in it'll be a HOME.

HAGAR



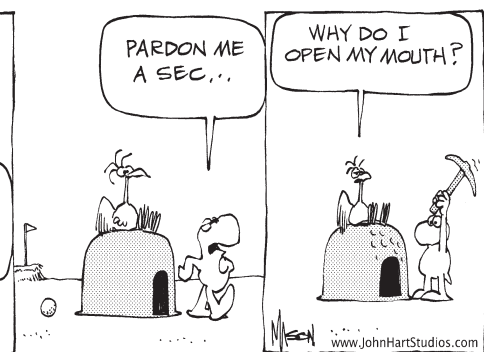
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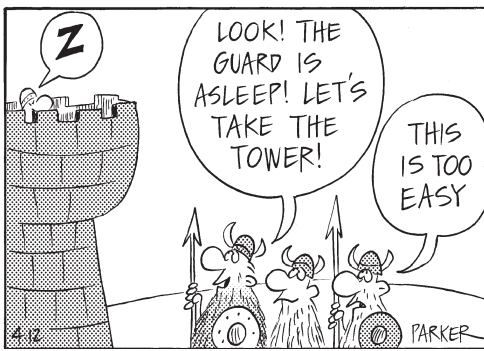
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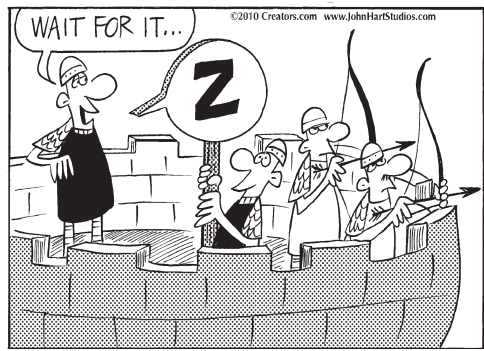
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HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



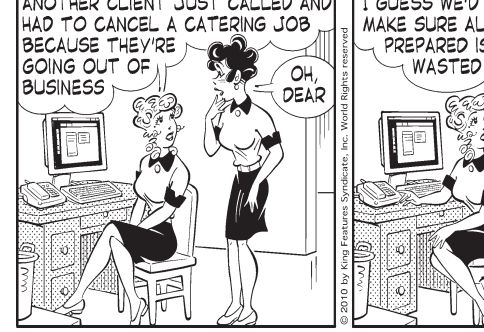
BEEBLE BAILEY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Monday, April 12, the 102nd day of 2010. There are 263 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On April 12, 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Warm Springs, Ga., at age 63; he was succeeded by Vice President Harry S. Truman.

BLONDIE



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Grid for crossword puzzle answer: SPRAINS FINEART COULDN'T BE BETTER HUBLETT TELESCOPE HUTLEY HALAS NAM SEEN TOTEM REPOS SRS LIMED WAFER PAGAN MAYORS VOICES RIGORS ROLLER DONEN ALDER ARMOR BAS CASS PLEAT PITY ETA SLOAN WALTZ WILLIAMCKINLEY ALTERNATE ENDING YES DEAR RAGGEDY

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS: 1 Molecule part, 5 Sauce made with basil, 10 Refine, as a manuscript, 14 Identical, 15 Sci-fi being, 16 Manuscript enclosure: Abbr., 17 Woodcutters' tools, 18 Chose, as a restaurant table, 19 Elm, for example, 20 Bowling-alley machinery, 22 Hotel-room fees, 23 Rabbit relatives, 24 Greek pocket bread, 25 Pet songbird, 28 20 Questions category, 31 Racetrack shape, 32 Pitchfork part, 34 Metallic rock, 35 Go yachting, 36 Feel uncertain about, 37 Took to court, 38 Up to, for short, 39 Fender depressions, 40 Create with yarn, 41 Elapse, 43 Refused, 45 Camp shelter, 46 Shy away from, 48 With regret, 50 Chewing-gum flavor, 54 Story line.

GET THE POINT

- by Gail Grabowski, Edited by Stanley Newman. 6 Make happy, 7 Locations, 8 Rip, 9 Toronto's province: Abbr., 10 Posh property, 11 Fly every which way, 12 Makes sense to me, 13 Driving-range props, 21 Corn portion, 22 Press, as a doorbell, 24 Half a quart, 25 Prices, 26 Be of use to, 27 Settle something at last, 28 Unruly crowds, 29 You ___ for a big surprise!, 30 Caused, 32 Small horse, 33 Boring routine, 36 Money owed, 37 Slam-on-brakes evidence, 39 Declare untrue, 42 River-mouth formations, 43 Lathered, 44 Tire filler, 46 In pieces, 47 Part of a poem, 48 Rotating cooking rod, 49 Lip-balm additive, 50 Shy away from, 51 Golf-bag club, 52 Good-natured, 53 Grab hold of, 55 Fitness center.

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

- DOWN: 1 Pronto, in memos, 2 Metered vehicle, 3 Sign of the future, 4 Military-base cafeteria, 5 Danish or cruller, 6 Make happy, 7 Locations, 8 Rip, 9 Toronto's province: Abbr., 10 Posh property, 11 Fly every which way, 12 Makes sense to me, 13 Driving-range props, 21 Corn portion, 22 Press, as a doorbell, 24 Half a quart, 25 Prices, 26 Be of use to, 27 Settle something at last, 28 Unruly crowds, 29 You ___ for a big surprise!, 30 Caused, 32 Small horse, 33 Boring routine, 36 Money owed, 37 Slam-on-brakes evidence, 39 Declare untrue, 42 River-mouth formations, 43 Lathered, 44 Tire filler, 46 In pieces, 47 Part of a poem, 48 Rotating cooking rod, 49 Lip-balm additive, 50 Shy away from, 51 Golf-bag club, 52 Good-natured, 53 Grab hold of, 55 Fitness center.

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Grid for crossword puzzle with numbers 1-62.