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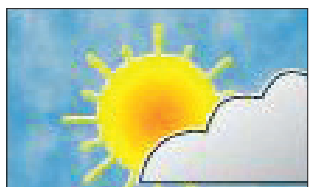
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BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY

APRIL 19, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 114 COPYRIGHT 2010 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Chamber candidates forum set for Tuesday

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
 Managing Editor
 Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is finalizing plans for its "Meet the Candidates" event Tuesday, which will give the public a chance to hear and meet those running for school board or city council seats. Candidates from Big Spring and Coahoma have been invited to speak. Not to be confused with a Big Spring mayoral debate scheduled for April

22, Tuesday's forum will allow candidates to introduce themselves to the public. Each candidate will be given five minutes to talk about anything they wish. There will be no questions from the audience, though the audience is invited to meet one-on-one with the candidates following the forum. The event will begin at 6 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Community Center with Chamber President David Justice

serving as moderator. First up will be Dr. Michael Stevens, Big Spring Independent School District special assistant to the superintendent. He will discuss the district's \$60 million bond proposal that will go before voters May 8. Also May 8 will be elections for Big Spring and Coahoma ISD school boards, and Big Spring and Coahoma mayor/city council seats. Candidates for those posts will follow Stevens'

presentation. ValVerde said the Chamber is hosting the forum to better inform the public. "The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce does not endorse candidates. We host this event for the community in hopes that more people will get out and vote," ValVerde said. Dora Roberts Community Center is located at 100 Whipkey Drive in Comanche Trail Park. To contact the Chamber, call 263-7641.

Summer program prepared

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer
 Summer couldn't possibly come fast enough for most area students, but for working parents, the nearly three-month vacation presents a childcare nightmare. Luckily, the Big Spring Salvation Army's Boys and Girls Club of America has a reliable, cost-effective answer, as the organization gets ready to offer its summer program for area children. "We have a lot of different activities planned this year," said Sonnet Hildebrand, director of the annual project. "Our program coordinator this year is Stephanie Painter, and we're really glad to have her. We have all sorts of activities planned, from arts and crafts to a splash day." The program will run from June 1 until Aug. 13, according to Hildebrand, Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. "For a lot of parents, daycare just isn't an option," said



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
 One of about 100 participants at the Sixth Annual Big Spring Powwow dances during the event Saturday. The two-day event closed Sunday afternoon.

HC Foundation speaker series features 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. today at the 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. 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 titled "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 available for purchase.

See **BRYCE**, Page 3

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www.bigspringherald.com

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St. Mary's presents honor band in concert

By LINDA HILL
 Special to the Herald
 St. Mary's Episcopal Church will host its annual Eastertide Offerings concert at 12:05 p.m. Thursday. Special guest artists will be the Big Spring High School Honor Band under the direction of Rocky Harris. This will be the band's 10th year as guests of St.

Mary's. The program will feature selections the band recently played for the 2010 University Interscholastic League Band Concert and Sightreading Contest where it took Sweepstakes by receiving superior ratings in every category. The pieces that will be performed during the concert are "The National Game" by Sousa; "La Fiesta Mexicana" by Reed

and "Summer Dances" by Balmages. The concert will be approximately 30 minutes in length, and there is no admission charge. A light lunch will be provided to attendees free of charge by St. Mary's Episcopal Church Women immediately following the concert. St. Mary's is located at 10th and Goliad in Big Spring.

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- JIMMY MCDOWELL, 57, of 800 E. 15th St., was arrested Sunday on a warrant for theft by check.
- JOE OLLIE JOHNSON JR., 61, of San Angelo, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense.
- JOHNNY SLAY ANCHONDO, 26, of 207 Washington Blvd., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARK TIMOTHY STANLEY, 48, of 608 W. 10th St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOHN M. NAU, 45, address unknown, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MICHAEL W. PETERSON, 36, of 2600 Barksdale, was arrested Sunday on a charge of hindering officers discharging official duties.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
 - In the 1400 block of E. Sixth Street.
 - In the 10000 block of Moss Lake Road.
 - In the 200 block of Circle.
- THEFT was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported:
 - In the 100 block of Circle.
 - In the 500 block of Birdwell Lane.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 57 inmates at the time of this report.

- CHRISTI DAWN SIEGEL, 30, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear.
- JORGE ANTONIO ESCAJEDA, 34, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension without fine resolution.
- MARIO ILDEFONSO SALAZAR, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of disorderly conduct – vulgar language, public intoxication, resisting arrest, search or transportation and harassment of a public servant.
- JIMMY FRANKLIN MASSINGILL, 43, was arrested Saturday on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated.
- SHELBY J. PARKER, 30, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a Lubbock County warrant for aggravated robbery.
- JEREMY M. NIX, 20, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- JIMMY WAYNE MCDOWELL, 57, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.
- JOE OLLIE JOHNSON JR., 61, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense.
- CHRIS RUIZ, 40, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on charges of expired driver's license and two counts of burglary of a building.
- MARK TIMOTHY STANLEY, 48, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOHN MICHAEL NAU, 45, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOHNNY ANCHONDO, 26, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MICHAEL PETERSON II, 36, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of hindering officers discharging official duties.

Take Note

• Aggie Muster will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, in the Lake Room at Dora Roberts Community Center. Cost is \$20. RSVP djgaskins@hotmail or 268-3493.

• Coahoma Choir Kids' spring concert will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the school cafeteria. Admission is free.

• Ackerly Lunch Bunch will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday at Crispy's Cafe in Big Spring. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. from the menu.

Clarence E. Brown Sr.

Clarence E. Brown Sr., 82, of Big Spring died Friday, April 16, 2010, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 22, 2010, at the Nalley-Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Holston Banks Jr., the Rev. Floyd Green Jr. and Elder Eddie Nelson officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.



He was born Dec. 24, 1927, in Austin, and married Patsy James. Clarence served in the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict and moved to Big Spring in 1957 from Abilene. He worked for the Firestone Tire and Rubber Store in Big Spring as a route man for 35 years before retiring.

Mr. Brown was a member of West Highway 80 Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy M. Brown of Big Spring; four daughters, Ardelia Jones and Patsy Brown, both of Big Spring, Ann Carson of San Antonio and Mary Palmore of Las Vegas, Nev.; two sons, Clarence Brown Jr. of Abilene and Jimmy R. Brown of Big Spring; one brother, Claude L. Brown of Abilene; 22 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Clarence was preceded in death by one son, Charles Brown; his parents, Arthur and Ardelia Brown; three brothers; and one sister.

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

Dorothy J. Letzkus

Dorothy J. Letzkus, 88, of Big Spring died Friday, April 16, 2010, in a Midland hospital. No services are planned. Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Abrams. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 8400 block of County Road 41. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of W. Highway 80. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Neill Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Runnels. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Lamesa Highway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 900 block of San Antonio. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4000 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the area of the Rodeo Bowl. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Ohio. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4900 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.

Obituaries

Lynda Ruth Ballenger Glass

Lynda Ruth Ballenger Glass went peacefully into the arms of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at home in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 17, 2010.



She was born to West Texas ranchers Bob Ballenger and Dolly Ruth Neal on Jan. 22, 1941, in San Angelo. Lynda spent her childhood on the family ranch in Glasscock County. During the drought of the 1950s the family moved to Midland where Lynda finished sixth grade and went on to graduate from Midland High in 1959, eighth in her class of 457 students.

At Midland High Lynda was a member of the National Honor Society, served as editor-in-chief of the yearbook and was a Lady of the Catoico Queen Court. A highlight of her life during this time was getting to go on the 1958 European Student Tour which was conducted by her high school English teacher Bonnie Cummins. While on this trip, Lynda was a contributor to the Midland Reporter Telegram, writing articles to chronicle her adventure.

In June of 1959 she was crowned queen of the Big Spring Rodeo. She entered Texas Christian University as an English major in the fall of 1959. She served as treasurer of Tri Delta sorority, was on the Dean's List and was a member of Student Congress. It was there at TCU that she was introduced to her future husband, Larry Glass, by his brother Lynn.

Lynda and Larry were married Dec. 29, 1961, at the First Christian Church in Midland. They settled on the banks of Lacy Creek in the western part of Sterling County at the David and Willie Glass Ranch, and for the next 49 years, celebrated each other and their family. Lynda worked alongside Larry throughout her lifetime in the family's ranching operations. Lynda always provided plenty of food for the family and ranch hands and worked tirelessly putting up produce from the garden and pedaling that produce all over Sterling County.

Many Sunday afternoons were spent peeling peaches. She always loved horses and helped Larry in their registered quarter horse operation.

Lynda became active in the First Presbyterian Church of Sterling City and helped with all aspects of the church, including Presbyterian Women where she was served as Presbytery Moderator and was presented an Honorary Life Membership. She enjoyed teaching VBS and Sunday School and leading Bible studies. Lynda's most visible service was that of the church organist where she faithfully served in that position for almost 40 years. She loved the Community Bible Study which she attended in San Angelo for many years.

Lynda's most lasting spiritual legacy was her impartation of the scriptures and prayer to her family. Son Robert notes, "Some of my earliest memories are of her nightly Bible readings to us as a family. These always ended with prayer. Indeed, she taught us how to pray. Many times as a child, I rounded the hall corner going past my folk's room to see her sitting at her bed in meditation. I knew she was praying. Our families, as well as many others, serve the Lord because of her influence."

Lynda was preceded in death by her parents, Bob Ballenger and Dollye Ruth Neal, and infant son, William Ray Glass.

Lynda is survived by her husband, Larry; sons, Robert David Glass and his wife, Brooke, of Spur, and their children, Riley, Rachel and Ben, and Jefferson Lawrence Glass of Southlake and his children, Daniel, Emily, Andrew and Grayson.

Sge is also survived by her two sisters from the Dallas area, Barba Ballenger Keene and husband, David, and Francys Ann Ballenger; brother-in-law Lynn Glass and his wife, Helen, of Big Spring; sister-in-law Willene Glass Boger and her husband, Allen, of Argyle; as well as a host of nieces and nephews.

A special thanks goes to Bea Metcalfe for her loving care during Lynda's lengthy illness.

Visitation will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, April 19, 2010, at the First United Methodist Church in Sterling City. The funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 20, 2010, at the First United Methodist Church in Sterling City officiated by the Rev. Dick West of Sterling City and the Rev. Roger Sidener of San Angelo. Burial will immediately follow the service at Montvale Cemetery in Sterling City.

Pallbearers will be her nephews, Fred Squire of Midland, Wesley Glass of Sterling City, Shelby Staggs of Lubbock, Baylor Walker of Big Spring, Malcolm Boger of Dickens and Rhett Boger of Pflugerville.

Arrangements are made by Ross Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations be made to Concho Valley Home for Girls, West Texas Boys Ranch or Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services.

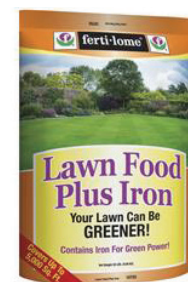
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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Couples perform the lemon dance, where the trick is to keep a lemon wedged between their foreheads, during the Sixth Annual Big Spring Powwow Saturday afternoon in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

TEXAS NEWS BRIEFS:

Day care staffing levels under review

AUSTIN (AP) — The ratio of adults to children in day care centers across Texas could be increasing.

A public hearing is planned Tuesday as the Department of Family and Protective Services reviews child care standards.

The agency's advisory council later this year is expected to recommend changes to Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner Tom Suehs.

The Austin American-Statesman reported Monday that Texas, with about 9,300 day care centers, currently allows one adult to oversee as many as nine 18-month-olds, and one adult for as many as 11 27-month-olds.

Sasha Rasco, assistant commissioner for child care licensing, says 75 percent of Texas day care centers already have ratios as low as those being proposed.

One plan would set limits on television or computer time, allowing a maximum two hours a day for children age 2 and older.

Dallas police respond to cab driver shot

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas police responded to reports of a taxi driver and two passengers shot following an argument at a nightclub, with the cabbie then dumped from the vehicle.

The shootings happened around 5 a.m. Monday. Police were looking for the suspected gunman, who allegedly opened fire from another car.

Conditions of the three victims were not immediately available.

Dallas police did not immediately return a call to The Associated Press to provide further details.

Prison system emphasis on guard fitness

AUSTIN (AP) — Guards in the Texas prison system will be tested to make sure they are fit enough to control inmates.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, with more than 26,000 corrections officers, is requiring employees to pass the fitness test annually.

Testing for academy applicants began in March. The Houston Chronicle reports, as of April 9, 691 people had completed the requirement. All but

three passed.

Tougher physical standards were pledged by TDCJ Executive Director Brad Livingston after the Nov. 30 escape of convicted rapist Arcade Joseph Comeaux (KOH'-moh) Jr.

Comeaux, in a wheelchair, disarmed two guards during a move from the Huntsville-area Estelle Unit. He was captured a week later in Houston.

Two inmates who fled from the Briscoe Unit in Dilley on April 6, Jose Bustos-Diaz and Octavio Ramos Lopez, remained at large Monday.

TYC guard goes to trial in Odessa

ODESSA (AP) — More than three years after allegations of rampant sexual abuse of teenage inmates upended the Texas Youth Commission, one of two former jail administrators accused in the case is set to stand trial.

Ray Brookins, a former assistant superintendent at TYC's West Texas State School in Pyote, was indicted in 2007 and will go before a jury Monday in an Odessa courtroom.

Sex abuse allegations against Brookins and former principal John Paul Hernandez were first investigated by the Texas Rangers in 2005.

A lengthy and detailed report from Texas Rangers investigators said Brookins and Hernandez summoned young male inmates from their dorms late at night to ball fields, darkened conference rooms, offices and ball fields for sex for at least two years.

Investigators described late night encounters involving oral sex, masturbation and pornographic videos. Some of the teen inmates, investigators, were also threatened with retaliation.

Investigators said other inmates were lured into sexual acts with offers of birthday cake or pledges of help getting into college.

Investigators believe at least 13 boys were sexually abused.

Southern freshman killed near campus

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police are looking for a gunman who killed an 18-year-old Texas Southern University student by firing 10 times into a crowd near campus.

Police say the gunfire erupted after a fight broke out at a party at about 1 a.m. Saturday. Freshman Joshua L. McMackle, of Front Royal, Va., was shot in the back and died at a hospital.

SUMMER

Continued from Page 1

Hildebrand. "The charge will be \$20 for the first two months, and \$10 for August. That's the whole summer for \$50, which is within the reach of most parents. And they have the option of paying the entire amount up front, or just paying on a month-to-month basis."

Hildebrand said lunches will be provided during the first month, and after that, the children will be expected to bring a sack lunch.

"The first month we'll be busing the kids to the school (Big Spring) high school for lunch," she said. "After that, the children will be responsible for bringing their own lunch, while we'll provide a snack for them."

The program is limited to 100 children, she added.

"We'll begin sign-ups May 1," said Hildebrand. "There are no financial restrictions to be met or anything like that. Once the program is full, there will be a waiting list in case any of the children drop out."

For more information on the program, contact Hildebrand at 264-0455.

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

BRYCE

Continued from Page 1

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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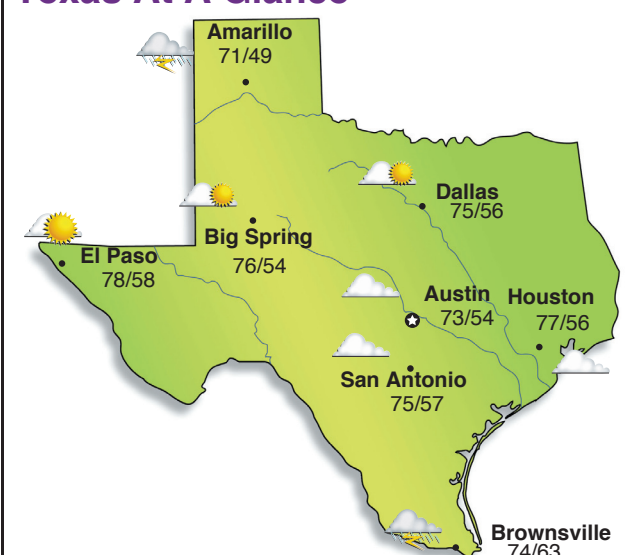
Linda Love Springtown, Tx.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 4/20	Wed 4/21	Thu 4/22	Fri 4/23	Sat 4/24
76/54 Cloudy skies early will become partly cloudy later in the day. High 76F.	85/61 Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	79/56 Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	73/52 Mostly sunny and windy. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.	79/50 Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:11 AM Sunset: 8:19 PM	Sunrise: 7:10 AM Sunset: 8:20 PM	Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: 8:20 PM	Sunrise: 7:08 AM Sunset: 8:21 PM	Sunrise: 7:07 AM Sunset: 8:22 PM

Texas At A Glance



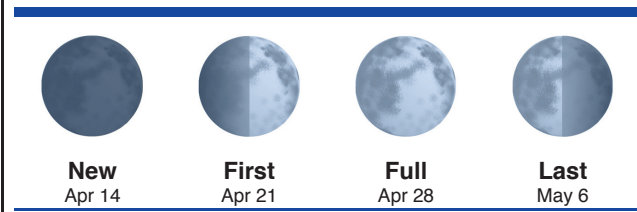
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	74	55	pt sunny	Kingsville	75	61	rain
Amarillo	71	49	t-storm	Livingston	77	50	cloudy
Austin	73	54	cloudy	Longview	75	51	pt sunny
Beaumont	77	54	cloudy	Lubbock	74	51	cloudy
Brownsville	74	63	t-storm	Lufkin	78	52	cloudy
Brownwood	75	53	pt sunny	Midland	77	57	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	72	62	rain	Raymondville	77	61	t-storm
Corsicana	74	54	pt sunny	Rosenberg	77	55	cloudy
Dallas	75	56	pt sunny	San Antonio	75	57	cloudy
Del Rio	75	58	rain	San Marcos	74	54	cloudy
El Paso	78	58	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	75	53	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	77	57	pt sunny	Sweetwater	75	53	pt sunny
Gainesville	72	53	pt sunny	Tyler	76	52	pt sunny
Greenville	74	51	pt sunny	Weatherford	73	52	pt sunny
Houston	77	56	cloudy	Wichita Falls	73	52	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	85	47	rain	Minneapolis	74	47	pt sunny
Boston	65	44	mst sunny	New York	68	52	sunny
Chicago	63	46	pt sunny	Phoenix	83	61	mst sunny
Dallas	75	56	pt sunny	San Francisco	55	45	rain
Denver	70	46	pt sunny	Seattle	54	46	rain
Houston	77	56	cloudy	St. Louis	73	53	mst sunny
Los Angeles	61	49	rain	Washington, DC	70	52	pt sunny
Miami	81	68	pt sunny				

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Ronnie Palmer, 66, died Friday. A memorial service was held Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

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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.

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OTHER VIEWS

EPA is tough on Texas and deservedly so

The new-look Environmental Protection Agency has sent a clear message to Texas: This isn't going to be easy.

For years, our state has skirted the edges of the Clean Air Act, cutting corners here and there while creating a few loopholes that gave businesses the benefit of the doubt. But when a new administration took the helm last year, the EPA quickly targeted Texas — and rightly so.

The additional scrutiny has revealed a decided lack of transparency in the state's approach to permitting pollution, as well as efforts to paper over major changes to industrial plants and erroneously categorize them as minor.

EPA officials signaled last fall that some of the state's air-pollution programs didn't pass federal muster. So, the agency's recent rejection of a program that issues pollution permits to small and midsize businesses was not exactly a surprise. Rather, the move likely portends more problems for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and any number of industrial polluters.

A more consequential decision is anticipated this summer when the EPA is expected to strike down a program for large industrial plants, probably forcing them to apply for new permits.

The smaller facilities affected by last week's rejection won't be forced to seek new permits. Instead, the EPA will review companies individually and forge agreements.

In retrospect, state regulators have done these businesses no favors by handing out pollution permits without asking tough questions or subjecting them to sufficient public examination. Industrial plants now will face much more serious inquiries from the EPA. For some, the future could be uncertain as companies contemplate the prospect of being forced to seek new permits.

No doubt these businesses are frustrated to find that the rules have changed in the middle of the game. But it is the TCEQ — not the federal government — that failed them.

The Clean Air Act has long served as the underpinning for pollution rules. State regulators unwisely allowed thousands of companies to avoid the thorough reviews required by the law. Now, both businesses and the TCEQ must answer to the EPA.

By digging in their heels and refusing to get serious about regulating pollution, regulators and state leaders have opened the door to federal intervention and prompted what is likely to be a painful process.

The EPA has been unequivocal in its assessment: Texas isn't doing enough to limit pollution and clear the air.

Elected officials and TCEQ commissioners still have the option of actually making a good-faith effort to strengthen the state's pollution rules and to comply with the Clean Air Act. They could demonstrate a willingness to work with the EPA and show an interest in protecting public health.

The Environmental Protection Agency isn't going to make this easy for Texas. But it doesn't have to be this hard.

THE MORNING NEWS
DALLAS

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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we not end the race, Lord, without You by our side.

Amen

Abbott must drop lawsuit, put focus on affordable insurance

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott is asking a federal court to declare national health care reform unconstitutional. I respect Abbott, having served with him as a state judge, so I carefully read his legal papers, only to discover he is terribly wrong.

Under reform, Congress expanded Medicaid to cover more poor people and created federally subsidized state exchanges where everyone else can buy private health insurance. With some exceptions, everyone must obtain health insurance or pay a tax.

Abbott objects to the "individual mandate" that we all obtain health insurance.

Under reform, however, insurance companies cannot deny coverage to those with pre-existing conditions, making the individual mandate essential. Otherwise, people could wait until they got sick to buy coverage, leaving insurance companies operating with only a pool of sick people.

With a mandate, everyone is in the pool which keeps premiums affordable.

The Constitution's Commerce Clause gives Congress authority "to regulate Commerce...among the several states."

The Supreme Court reads this provision broadly. As long as an activity has a substantial effect on interstate commerce, Con-

gress can regulate it.

Choosing not to purchase health insurance is an activity with a big, interstate effect on the price and availability of health care in our interdependent federal-state health care system.

The Constitution also gives Congress the power "to lay and collect taxes...to provide for the...general Welfare of the United States."

The Supreme Court also reads this provision broadly. It includes the authority to tax for a regulatory purpose, such as taxing polluters who chose not to install pollution controls or residents who chose not to purchase health insurance.

Under the Constitution's Supremacy Clause, federal law trumps state law.

To counter, Abbott plays the 10th Amendment: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." But the 10th Amendment does not limit federal power; it merely says who has the power.

Abbott has previously endorsed an individual mandate; he personally got a state law enacted requiring parents who pay child support to buy health insurance for their kids. Parents who can't afford a policy or aren't eligible for a public program must buy a policy designed by the Attorney General from an insurance company chosen by the Attorney General or face going to jail on the motion of the Attorney General.

While Abbott's program isn't

up and running, its individual mandate plays the same role as the federal mandate, creating a larger insurance pool. Nothing in federal law required this new program; Abbott sought it because he thought it was a good idea.

Unfortunately, unlike insurance purchased from the new federally subsidized exchanges, the Abbott plan isn't subsidized which means it will be too costly or cover too little. In any event, it only covers kids who get child support. We all need health insurance.

Abbott is simply not acting in our best interest. More than one in four Texans lack health care insurance and the growing costs add to that number daily.

Under reform, about a million Texans gain health insurance through Medicaid, and for every dollar the state spends, it gets nine federal dollars.

And for every person who gains coverage through Medicaid, about two others gain coverage by purchasing affordable private insurance through the federally subsidized state exchange, bringing even more federal dollars to Texas.

State officials have terribly exaggerated the cost to the state, which pays only a modest share that is far outweighed by the benefits.

Abbott ought to drop his federal case and support affordable, quality health insurance for all Texans through national health care reform.

F. Scott McCown is executive director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities.



F. SCOTT
McCOWN



The kindness of a stranger

I was power walking up Broadway in New York City last Tuesday, when something went terribly wrong. The world started spinning. I literally couldn't see straight.

It was a hot day. I'd been on a plane for six hours. Nothing to eat. Five cups of coffee. Not much sleep the night before. In my life, what else is new? This had never been enough to knock the globe off its axis.

You know what people say about New York: the jungle. I went into a convenience store and found two dollars in my purse for a drink. No one asked me why I kept covering one eye and then the other, trying to get something into focus.

I took the drink outside and managed to get it open and take a sip, but the world kept spinning. I sat on the stoop in front. To the extent that I could think, I was terrified.

And then a woman came up to me. I don't know what she looked like, how old she was, what color her skin was. I only remember her voice coming through the fog, asking me if I

was OK. I wasn't. Do you need help, she asked. I do.

As I sat on that stoop, literally collapsing, I heard her call an ambulance. I heard a voice full of calm and compassion. I heard her describe the corner, say no, she didn't know what was wrong, that she had just come across a woman at the corner and would stay with her until the ambulance came, would make sure I didn't hit my head or hurt myself.

And she did. I think she sat down next to me. I know she spoke kindly to me through the fog and the terror.

I was carrying a purse full of credit cards and money.

I was still carrying it when I got to the hospital. I was wearing an expensive watch and a fancy (looking) ring. I was still wearing them when I got to the hospital.

She could have slipped off the watch or the ring, or looked in my purse for my ID and found hundreds of dollars and a stack of credit cards. I would not have known or cared.

Instead, she sat with me and protected me until the ambulance arrived. You might say she saved me. That's what I think.

There's not much chance of her reading this. But it's the

only way I have to say what is in my heart.

In my life, I have been badly hurt by strangers. I have learned to live with my fear, but never to conquer it. I am not an optimist by nature. In my life, things have not always turned out for the best.

For many years, I thought that if only I worked hard enough, did enough people enough favors, piled up the IOUs and the private numbers, I could somehow protect my loved ones. Of course, it isn't so. There is no amulet, no Rolodex big enough, no place safe enough.

I wasn't worried about myself when I went out for my power walk; I was thinking of the friend I was going to visit, who had been through a difficult time with her health, and who would, an hour later, be by my side in the emergency room.

I worry too much, and sometimes I worry about all the wrong things. I don't trust, I verify.

But sometimes, there is nothing else. Sometimes, our fate is in the hands of a perfect stranger, who we never get to thank. This is the best I can do. Thank you. And God bless you.

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Streak ends at 53 as Hawks split with NMJC

Herald Staff Report

HOBBS, N.M. — It took exactly 728 days for New Mexico Junior College to accomplish what no other WJAC school could do on the baseball diamond. Beat the Howard Hawks.

Two days short of two years from whence it began, the Howard Hawks' record streak of 53 straight regular season conference wins ended in a 4-1 defeat at the hands of the Thunderbirds on Saturday at Ray Birmingham

Thunderbird Field.

"We played well that first game," Howard coach Britt Smith said. "They put together three runs in one inning, and we lined out all over the park. They made some great plays on some balls in the gap, and we just got beat."

Howard (33-7, 18-2) would earn a split in the series as the teams traded wins on Saturday and Sunday. The Hawks won games two and three by scores of 7-1 and 6-2 before falling in the finale 5-2.

The Hawks got good pitching performances in games two and three from Josh Eznack and Tyler King, each earning respective wins. Eznack allowed three hits and one run in a complete-game effort to close day one of the series, and King won game three in extra innings, giving up three hits and two runs as the Hawks scored four in the eighth to take the win.

New Mexico scored in the first inning of games three and four. The Hawks were

able to come back against Thunderbird pitcher and Andrews native Levi Saenz in game three, but they couldn't dig out of the early hole in the series finale.

"We get everybody's best shot early in the game," Smith said. "And if you don't come out and match their intensity early, they think they can play with you."

Howard's usually hot bats were relatively quiet in the series. The Hawks notched double digit hits just once in the four-game set.

"The wind was blowing in, and we'd gone four or five days in a row without practice and not having facilities to work indoors," Smith said. "The weather does hurt us, but that's how it is."

Howard is in the midst of a stretch against its toughest conference opponents as a series with Midland looms this week, followed by Clarendon at the end of April. The Hawks hit the field Friday in Midland for two before coming back to Jack Barber Field on Saturday.

Nowitzki hot as Mavs win

Associated Press

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki was having his way with the San Antonio Spurs, making nearly every shot he took.

Then the Spurs finally tightened up their defense. So Nowitzki turned into a distributor, passing to teammates in the areas vacated by the extra man running at him.

Nowitzki could do no wrong Sunday night, carrying the Dallas Mavericks to a 100-94 win over the rival Spurs in Game 1 of their first-round series.

"He was unbelievable," San Antonio's Tim Duncan said.

Nowitzki made 12 of 14 shots, including all five he took in the second half, was 12 of 12 on free throws and finished with 36 points.

Although Nowitzki was credited with only one assist, he set plenty of baskets in motion by passing to someone who then passed to someone else for an easy bucket.

Perhaps the best way to sum up Nowitzki's dominance is that Spurs coach Gregg Popovich went to a "Hack-a-Damp" strategy just to get the ball away from him. Right after a 7-0, all-Nowitzki run that, as it turned out, put Dallas ahead for good midway through the third quarter, San Antonio fouled Erick Dampier on three straight possessions. He made 4 of 6 free throw attempts. So Popovich had to scrap that, too.

"We hoped he would miss free throws rather than Dirk killing us the way he was," Popovich said.

The Spurs slowed Nowitzki in the first round last year by swarming him with two and sometimes three defenders. He was expecting it again this series and practically begged them to bring it on with the

See **MAVS**, Page 6

ROPE AND RIDE



HERALD PHOTO/Tony Claxton

Jason Shaffer prepares to rope a calf Saturday at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl in the Howard College Rodeo. The Hawks wrapped up a soggy three-day event Saturday. Results were unavailable at press time.

Coahoma track 3rd at district

Herald Staff Report

TUSCOLA — The Coahoma Bulldog track team put on an impressive showing at the district 7-2A track meet Friday, powering to a third-place finish at Jim Ned High School.

Wall ran away with both the boys and girls titles at the meet. Coahoma did not have athletes to compete in every event, but the Bulldogs made their participation count.

Lupe Abrego placed in four events, including a win in the 200 with a 23.29 time. Abrego anchored the 800- and 1,600-meter relay teams, took second in the triple jump with a 39-9 1/2 mark and third in the long jump at 19-4 1/2.

Ray Gutierrez swept the hurdle events, taking the 110 with a 15.08 time and the 300 at 42.43.

Justin Coker took second in the pole vault, clearing 11 feet. Ballinger's Aaron Dixon won the event with a 12-foot vault.

The 1,600-meter relay team ran away with first place, as M.J. Castillo, Hunter Williams, Tanner Ruiz and Abrego ran a 3:34.15. The 800-meter team of Gutierrez, Castillo, Ruiz and Abrego took second with a 1:32.51 time.

Sean Boren took fourth in the 3,200-meter run with a time of 11:46.08.

On the girls side, Jennifer Pittman highlighted the Bulldogettes' performance by sweeping the throwing events, winning the discus with a 101-9 mark and the shotput with a distance of 32-5 1/2.

Kylie Gee took fourth in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 17.6. K'Leigh Fowler took fourth in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 5:56.73.

The top three from each event move on to regionals at Odessa.

Teixeira, Pettitte power Yankees to Ranger sweep in Big Apple

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mariano Rivera threw strike three to close out yet another win, then moved on to play a mind game. He tried to recall a time when things were so serene in Yankeealand.

"My memory can't go that far," he grinned.

Hitting, pitching, fielding — the World Series champions posted a complete game Sunday. Mark Teixeira hit his first home run of the season and Ramiro Pena delivered a key single while filling in for an ailing Derek Jeter, leading Andy Pettitte and the New York Yankees over the Texas Rangers 5-2 for a sweep.

The Yankees won their fourth in a row and improved to 9-3, all against top teams, before taking off for the West Coast.

"Everything's going your way right now," manager Joe Girardi said.

Pettitte (2-0) pitched four-hit ball for eight innings. The Yankees took advantage of a wild Rich Harden (0-1) to hand Texas its fourth straight loss.

A notoriously slow starter, Teixeira hit a most-overdue homer. He shared the AL lead last year at 39 with Tampa Bay's Carlos Pena.

Teixeira led off the third with a high-arching drive into the second deck in right field. He was hitting only .100 (4 for 40) this season when he connected.

"My teammates have been carrying me up to this point," Teixeira said.

Teixeira's glove work never seems to suffer despite his slumps — the first baseman leaped to snag Josh Hamilton's liner and made a diving, backhanded stop on Matt Treanor's grounder. The Yankees have played 10 straight games without an error, their best stretch ever in April, the Elias Sports Bureau said.

It was 2-all with two outs and the bases loaded later in the third when Pena looped a soft, two-run single for his first hit of the season. He started because Jeter was ill with a cold. Jeter left Saturday's game early, giving Pena his first at-bat this year.

The 24-year-old backup came

through, just like the guy he followed as a kid.

"When I was 15, 16, I used to watch" Jeter, Pena said. "When I watched him on TV, the tough situations, he got the big hit."

The Yankees are off Monday, and Girardi said Jeter should be OK to play Tuesday at Oakland.

Jorge Posada lined a solo home run in the Yankees seventh.

Pettitte made the lead stand up, retiring 12 straight batters in the middle innings. Rivera closed for his fifth save in five tries.

Harden never found his rhythm, walking six and hitting two batters in 3 2-3 innings.

See **RANGERS**, 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>

Coahoma softball to play C-City today

In a game rescheduled from Saturday due to rain, the Coahoma Bulldogettes will be on the softball diamond today at 6:30 p.m. against Colorado City on the road.

Coahoma's baseball game against the Wolves was moved to Wednesday at 4 p.m.

Both teams also play Wall at home at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Howard softball reschedules games

The Howard Hawks will be back on the softball diamond Wednesday to make up games postponed this weekend.

The Hawks will travel to Borger to play Frank Phillips Wednesday at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. They will remain on the road next Monday when they take on Clarendon on the road as well.

Howard is off this weekend.

Astros beat Cubs with Feliz's sacrifice fly in extras

CHICAGO (AP) — Pedro Feliz and the Houston Astros finally figured out the Chicago Cubs' pitching.

Feliz hit a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the 10th inning after Geoff Blum tied it with an RBI double in the ninth, and the Houston Astros rallied to beat the Cubs 3-2 on Sunday.

"I guess we saved our best at-bats for late in the game," Jason Michaels said. "These guys have a great bullpen, they have a great team. We were able to grind it out and hold them."

Tim Brydak (1-0) pitched a scoreless ninth to earn the victory as Houston won its first series since taking two out of three from Pittsburgh Sept. 11-13, 2009.

Michaels led off the 10th inning with a pinch-hit double off Cubs reliever Sean Marshall (0-1). Michaels moved to third on Michael Bourn's sacrifice. After an intentional walk to

Jeff Keppinger, Feliz flied out to left-center to score Michaels. Michaels easily beat center fielder Marlon Byrd's throw.

Houston closer Matt Lindstrom pitched a scoreless 10th inning for his second save in back-to-back days.

After an 0-8 start, the Astros have won three of four and Michaels and his teammates are trying to block out the recent skid.

"In this game you have to have a short term memory. You have to," Michaels said. "The beauty about it is you play everyday. You string some losses together and six seems like an eternity. You have to have a short term memory. Go out and get them the next day. Anything can happen."

The Astros have scored only 14 runs in their last four games and are batting .215 on the season. Cubs closer Carlos Marmol

couldn't hold a 2-0 lead after an impressive outing by Ryan Dempster. Dempster recorded 13 consecutive outs beginning with Feliz's fielder's choice that ended the third. The Astros did not get a hit until a leadoff infield single by Tommy Manzella in eighth.

That hit came back to haunt Dempster. Bourn followed with a walk, ending Dempster's outing. With runners on first and second and two outs, Keppinger greeted Marmol with an RBI single, but Marmol quickly ended the inning with a called third strike to Feliz.

"I could've done a better job of pitching there in the eighth, the two-out walk and put a runner in scoring position kind of put him (Marmol) in a tough situation," Dempster said. "It's going to happen, it's going to happen again this year, hopefully not a lot just because I know how it feels, I

know how he feels right now, but the nice part is he's going to get the ball again and hopefully go right back out there and bounce back and get a 'W.'"

In the ninth inning, Hunter Pence singled off Marmol and stole second after Cubs catcher Koyie Hill couldn't get the ball out of hit mitt. Blum followed with an RBI double down the right field line to tie it at 2.

It was Marmol's first blown save in four opportunities.

"What are you going to do? They got some two-out hitting for the first run then the sacrifice fly and then Blum's double," Cubs manager Lou Piniella said. "They didn't get many chances, but the chances they got, they took advantage of them and won the game."

Dempster breezed through the Houston order in his third start of the season. He struck out the side in the fifth

inning and finished with eight strikeouts. He allowed one run, four hits and walked two in 7 2-3 innings.

Byrd had a two-run single in the Cubs' 2-1 win over Astros on Saturday.

Jeff Baker had a lead-off walk in the third inning and Geovany Soto followed with a single. Dempster sacrificed the runners into scoring position. With two outs, Byrd singled to left, scoring Baker and Soto to give the Cubs a 2-0 lead.

Astros starter Wandy Rodriguez allowed two runs and six hits in seven innings. He struck out three and walked one.

With the offense struggling against left-handers, Piniella said he will move Ryan Theriot to eighth spot in the order and move Byrd to the leadoff spot when the Cubs face left-handed starters.

"Last couple of games we have not done much

offensively," Piniella said. "I'm going to change the lineup around a little bit and spur this offense on a little bit."

NOTES: Astros 1B Lance Berkman, who hasn't played a game this season after undergoing arthroscopic surgery on his left knee on March 13, went 0 for 2 with a sacrifice fly Saturday in his first rehab game for Triple-A Round Rock. Berkman is expected to get four at-bats Sunday, according to Astros manager Brad Mills. ... Cubs LHP Ted Lilly (shoulder surgery) is scheduled to make his second rehab start on Monday for Class A Peoria and if all goes well he is expected to make his first start of the season for the Cubs at Milwaukee on Saturday. ... Despite a gametime temperature of 44 degrees, the announced crowd was 39,506.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Indians 7, Chicago 4
CWS 000 030 001 -- 4 10 1
CLE 340 000 00x -- 7 8 0

Yankees 5, Rangers 2
TEX 002 000 000 -- 2 4 0
NYY 103 000 10x -- 5 7 0

Angels 3, Blue Jays 1
LAA 000 001 002 -- 3 7 0
TOR 000 000 001 -- 1 4 1

Orioles 8, A's 3
BAL 003 120 002 -- 8 11 0
OAK 000 101 100 -- 3 10 2

Brewers 11, Nats 7
MIL (10)00 000 010 -- 11
WAS 010 040 200 -- 7 16 0

Astros 3, Cubs 2
HOU 000 000 0111 -- 3 8 1
CHC 002 000 000 0 -- 2 7 0

Rays 7, Red Sox 1
TB 022 003 000 -- 7 7 0
BOS 000 000 001 -- 1 5 1

Tigers 4, Mariners 2
DET 003 000 010 -- 4 9 0
SEA 010 010 000 -- 2 7 1

Pirates 5, Reds 3
CIN 000 010 101 -- 3 5 1
PIT 000 500 00x -- 5 5 1

Padres 5, D'Backs 3
ARI 100 001 001 -- 3 10 1
SD 000 000 50x -- 5 7 0

Royals 10, Twins 5
KC 006 100 003 -- 10 16 2
MIN 201 000 200 -- 5 8 0

Braves 4, Rockies 3
COL 010 000 110 -- 3 5 0
ATL 101 000 002 -- 4 8 1

Marlins 2, Phillies 0
FLA 010 000 001 -- 2 8 1
PHI 000 000 000 -- 0 4 0

Cardinals 5, Mets 3
NYM 030 000 000 -- 3 4 0
STL 000 030 02x -- 5 10 1

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ K Q 10 6
♥ 8 6 4
♦ Q 7 5
♣ A 10 6

WEST
♠ 5 4 3 2
♥ Q 5
♦ K 10 2
♣ K 9 4 2

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

SOUTH
♠ A 9
♥ A K 3
♦ A 9 4
♣ Q J 7 5 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
3 ♦ Pass 3 ♣ Pass
4 ♣ Pass 5 ♣ Pass
6 ♣

Opening lead — two of spades.
The 1987 world women's team championship was won by the United States after a nip-and-tuck struggle with France in the final. This deal was instrumental in the American victory.

The bidding shown occurred at the table where Judi Radin and Kathie Wei were North-South for the U.S. The opening one-club bid indi-

cated 16 points or more, and the one-trump response promised eight to 13 points. Four rounds of bidding later, Mrs. Wei found herself in a tenuous six-club contract that appeared headed for down one. However, this assessment proved a bit premature.

West's opening spade lead went to the jack and ace, and Mrs. Wei's hopes brightened considerably when a club to the ten held the trick. But when she returned to her hand with the ace of hearts and finessed the queen of clubs, East showed out, saddling declarer with a sure club loser. Since she also seemed certain to lose either a heart or a diamond, the slam appeared doomed.

There was still a chance, however, and Mrs. Wei pursued it unerringly. She cashed the ace of clubs and the K-Q-10 of spades, discarding a heart and a diamond on the last two spades as West followed suit. Next came the king of hearts, after which she exited with a club to West's king.

As Mrs. Wei hoped, West had nothing but diamonds left and so was forced to lead a diamond from the king, handing declarer her 12th trick with dummy's queen. Making the slam yielded a sizable pickup for the Americans, as the French pair at the other table rested quietly in three notrump, making five.

Tomorrow: A to Zia.
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MAVS

Continued from Page 5

way he attacked whoever was covering him.

He drove on Antonio McDyess and shot over Matt Bonner. There was a heave over McDyess and Richard Jefferson that was flung at the basket in hopes of getting a foul called; there was no whistle, but there was a basket. Nowitzki made a conventional jumper over Jefferson in the fourth quarter as if his defender wasn't even there. One time when Keith Bogans found himself matched up with Nowitzki, all he could do was foul him.

"Sometimes," Nowitzki said, "you have one of those nights where the basket is big."

RANGERS

Continued from Page 5

"Today was just one of those days," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "We gave them too many baserunners. You keep giving that team over there enough baserunners, somebody will get you. It was Pena who got us."

Elvis Andrus hit an RBI double and scored on a single by Michael

Caron Butler scored 22 points and Brendan Haywood added 10 in their playoff debuts for Dallas. Both were part of a major trade in February that turned a good Mavericks team into a much better one. They rolled into the playoffs having won eight of 10 and five straight.

Jason Kidd added 13 points, 11 assists and eight rebounds for the Mavericks, and Dampier had five points, 12 rebounds and lots of bruises from bumping against Tim Duncan.

"I thought we did a great job of executing our offense and getting the ball where we needed to," Butler said. "We shared the ball and did a lot of good things."

San Antonio got plenty from its stars Duncan, Manu Ginobili and Tony Parker — but that was

about it. While Duncan had 27 points and eight rebounds, Ginobili scored 26 and Parker had 18 points and four assists, the rest of the club made only 10 of 26 shots.

McDyess was the only other player to crack double digits, scoring 10.

George Hill started at point guard, despite having aggravated an ankle injury Wednesday, and was scoreless with two turnovers in 18 minutes. He played just 2:31 in the second half. Jefferson had four points in 32 minutes and Bogans was scoreless in 16 minutes.

The poor distribution of points was only part of the Spurs' problem.

"We didn't play focused enough," Duncan said. "We just weren't there all night."

They were out-rebounded by eight and gave up

13 offensive boards. They had 17 turnovers, leading to 20 Dallas points. They also took just 14 free throws; Nowitzki and Dampier each took 12.

"We lost by six points and made all those mistakes," Ginobili said. "That's the good side of the story, that we really can improve."

The Spurs took a short flight home to sleep in their own beds and get to work on a new game plan at their headquarters. They have some time to figure things out as Game 2 isn't until Wednesday night in Dallas.

"We don't care what they throw at us," Mavericks guard Jason Terry said. "For us, it's all about our mental and physical approach to the game. Mentally when we're right, we're hard to beat."

Young to put Texas ahead 2-1 in the third.

Harden hit Brett Gardner and Teixeira with pitches in the first inning. Making his 130th start in the majors, it was the first time Harden had plunked two hitters in a game.

The speedy Gardner kept pestering Texas. He had three infield hits Saturday, and his bunt on Harden's first pitch Sunday barely trickled

foul. On the next pitch, Harden hit him in the right shin. Gardner stole second and eventually scored on a sacrifice fly by Robinson Cano.

NOTES: Teixeira went 76 at-bats before his first home run in 2007. He finished with 30 HRs. ... Harden's six walks were one shy of a career worst. ... Gardner swiped two bases, but was caught stealing after being

fooled by pitcher Darren Oliver's pickoff. ... Alex Rodriguez appeared to be trapped off second base when he made an early break with reliever Dustin Nippert still holding the ball. But Rodriguez made a nifty hook slide to beat Nippert's throw to third. ... While Jeter didn't play, a fan wearing a Jeter jersey made a nice catch on a foul pop by Posada. ... The Yankees posted their first home sweep against Texas of at least three games since August 2005.

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

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The sun wraps up its stay in zesty Aries and shines its first few rays into the earthy realm of Taurus. The phrase associated with the sign of the bull is "I have," and the next few weeks will be a time of taking stock in our valuables, especially the riches and beauty provided for us by the natural elements of our big blue planet.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Turning in good work is a matter of both art and craft. There's a formula to be aware of. Find out what it is, or refresh your memory of it. If you can follow the formula and rise above it at the same time, you've won.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be whimsically brought together with those who share a common background or interest. This is the kind of occurrence that seems as though it could only be manufactured by fate.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It would take a small army of people to do everything on your list today. Are you setting yourself up for discouragement by making too many plans and demands? Figure out how to get more time and help.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Aspire to achieve great focus and concentration. Do this not because it proves what a powerful person you are, but because staying involved in your projects and endeavors is better than spinning out into worlds of worry.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are savvy, that's for sure — though considering the opinions of another person will make you even more so. Even if you think you have your plans nailed, ask around for different ideas.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're not just a person doing business. You are the business. What are people getting when they hire or invite you, align with your ideas, or buy your goods? Know what

you're selling. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You will get a mysterious package in the mail — an unexpected lunch invitation or a surprise visitor. There's a tinge of excitement as you experience what you couldn't have anticipated.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Humor eases the way, and it helps if you tailor the charm to those who will be receiving it. Appropriateness of tone and content is key. When in doubt, say less and smile a lot.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be the one to initiate the cool ideas. Of course, they are only cool in theory — you won't know for sure unless you test them out. Follow through, and bring a camera. This will be a day for the scrapbooks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Assess a plan that will help the most people with the least effort and complication. With your calm voice and strong sense of purpose, you'll be able to move everyone at home toward a common goal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're wary of one who asks too many questions and rightfully so. Why the sudden interest? Is this person planning to move onto your turf? Be guarded but not paranoid.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your intuition is keen — you're famous for that. Still, you love it when the endings don't turn out the way you think they will. Today you'll be delighted by the weird places your plans and projects finally wind up.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 19). You will complete an important cycle over the next 10 weeks and then begin anew with a fresh outlook. June brings a windfall. Developments in your personal life will infuse your work with meaning and passion. June features home renovations. In September, family additions keep everyone on their toes. Cancer and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 39, 1, 33 and 28.

ASTROLOGICAL

QUESTIONS: "I'm a newlywed, and I am starting to figure out that my husband's family is quite a bit more formal than mine. They dress up for dinner and wear lots of jewelry. They dress up to see their friends, even if they are just meeting for coffee at a bookstore. My father-in-law wears Italian suits to all family get-togethers, and my mother-in-law and sisters-in-law dress meticulously and somehow always look like they have just come from the

beauty salon. I am not like them. I don't have the money to dress like them, and I'm just a very casual person. I'm starting to feel like I don't fit in, and my husband seems at times to be embarrassed by my looks around his family. However, when it's just us, everything is fine. He's a Libra, and I'm a Gemini. Everything I've read says we should get along perfectly."

You are two air signs whose meeting of the mind and spirit will help you overcome any-

thing that family time could possibly bring up for your relationship. Libra cares a great deal about smooth family relations, and if dressing better will help you accomplish that, it is a small price to pay.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: She's being called the reigning queen of rom-com, and it's easy to see why bubbly Aries Kate Hudson fills the station so well. The fresh-faced ingenue has a Hollywood pedigree, a stellar work ethic and a high-energy natal

chart. The spontaneous enthusiasm of her sun, Mercury and Mars in Aries is teamed with the soulful compassion and ethereal beauty of Venus in Pisces.

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.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My husband of many years has become emotionally distant.

We used to spend a lot of time together, but he recently took a new job in another town and has an apartment there. We see each other once or twice a week for a few hours. I have a full-time job that I can't leave.

My husband doesn't seem to care that we aren't together much. He is OK with my having a social life without him, but I'd rather not, and as a result, I don't go out much.

I tell my husband everything that is going on in my life, but he never shares. I usually don't find out about the things he's done until after the fact and almost always through a third party.

I know he is faithful, and most of the time, the things he does are pretty tame, although I resent that he keeps them "secret."

For example, instead of going to work last week, he flew across the country to buy a vintage motorcycle.

I knew he was interested, but had no idea he wasn't at work until the credit card company called to confirm an out-of-state purchase.

I didn't hear from him for three days. This is not the first time he has done something like this.

I try to be tolerant, but this motorcycle trip upset me. He insists I'm the one with the problem. He says he will "quietly continue to love me until death do us part," but when I get angry, he claims it justifies his staying away.

How am I supposed to handle this? He refuses to go for counseling. I don't want to give up on my marriage, but I feel totally abandoned. — *Desperate*



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear **Desperate:** Your husband's new job has confused him into thinking he's single and not responsible to you when it comes to discussing financial decisions or sharing his travel plans.

And it's likely to get worse. If you want to save the marriage, you will have to be the one to make the greater effort.

Can you spend weekends in his town? Can you meet halfway for dinner more often? Also, find active things to do so you are less focused on his absence, and please get some counseling for yourself.

Dear Annie: In my aerobics class, there is a woman who wears a headset and often stops in the middle of a routine to read her notes.

This makes the rest of us constantly work around her to avoid an accident.

Some of the members have already brought their concerns to the instructor, who won't say anything, so it continues to be a problem.

How can we be assured that we can exercise without being injured during the sessions? Aren't we entitled to a safe environment? — *Concerned About Safety*

Dear Concerned: The instructor should speak up and ask the woman not to be a hindrance in class.

However, since that isn't happening, it would help if a group of you complains to management.

You also can ask the woman directly. Before or after class, tap her on the shoulder and explain that her sudden stops are creating all sorts of havoc and you would appreciate it if she would exercise away from everyone else so she doesn't get hurt.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Wits' End," who has a bipolar child and a hard-hearted husband.

I have a bipolar child

and know the difficulty a marriage faces under these circumstances.

If her husband has been counseled about bipolar illness and still isn't on board, the marriage is effectively over.

"Wits' End" needs to recognize this and focus on the person with the greatest lifelong need — her daughter. — *Massachusetts*

Dear Massachusetts: We agree that the husband is not helping, but the daughter is an adult and, bipolar or not, will be on her own one day. Mom should not have to sacrifice her marriage if there is a way to save it.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, long-time editors of the *Annie's Mailbox* 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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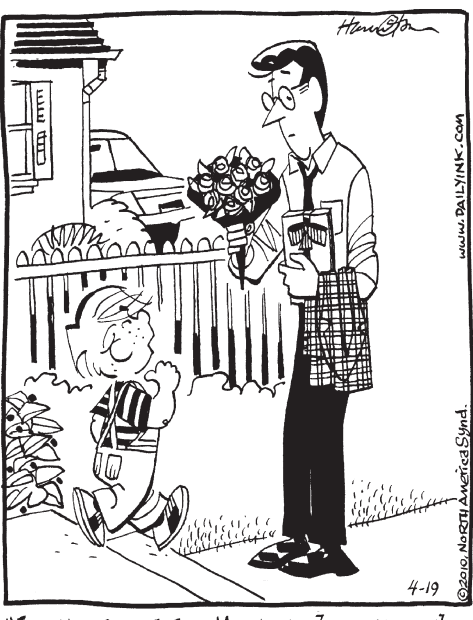
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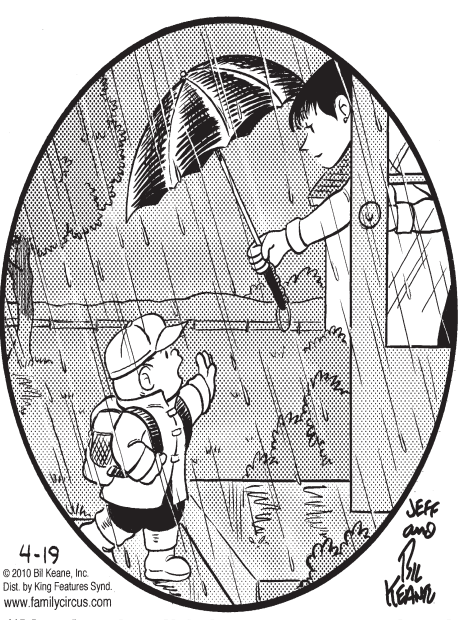
Table with 20 columns (WFAA, KMLD, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and 12 rows (4:30 PM to 12:30 AM) listing various TV programs and channels.

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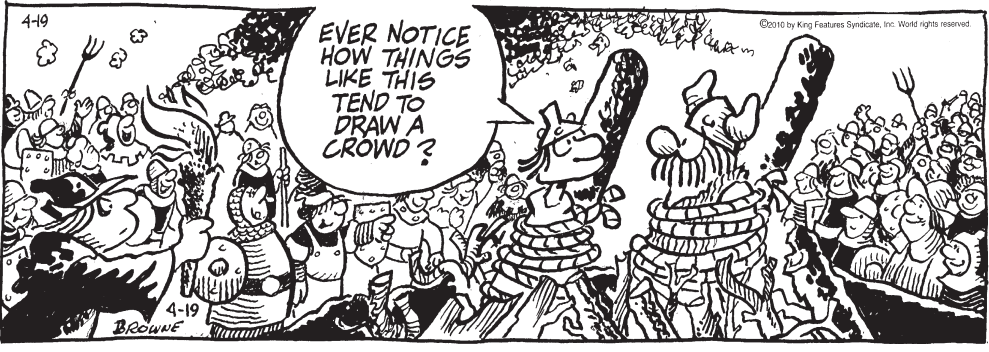
"If those are for Mom, you're wastin' your time."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"No thanks. I'd like to get to school soaking wet like all the other guys."

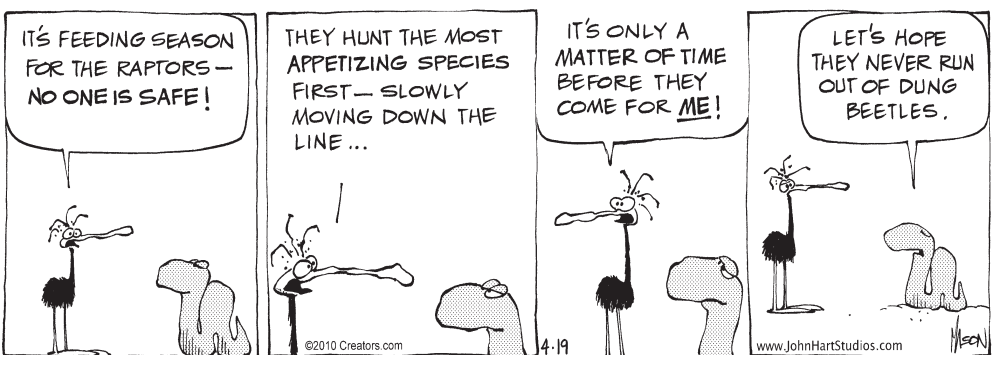
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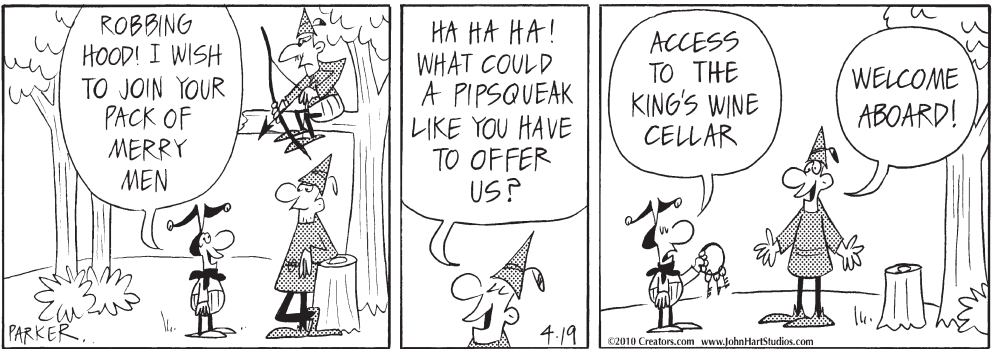
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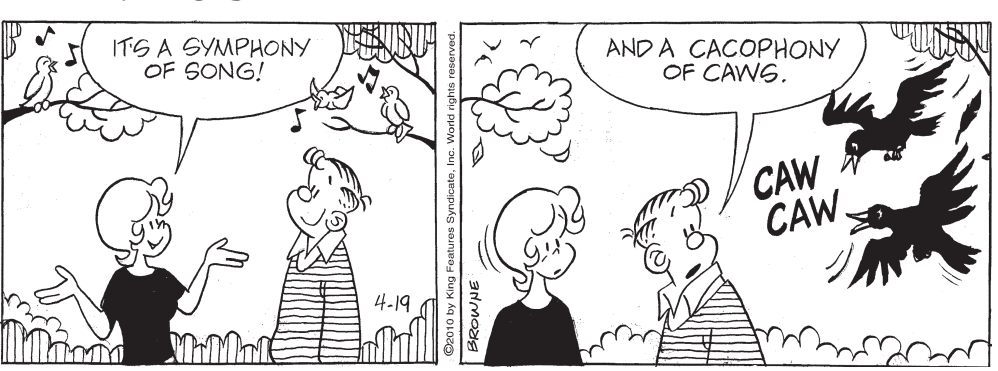
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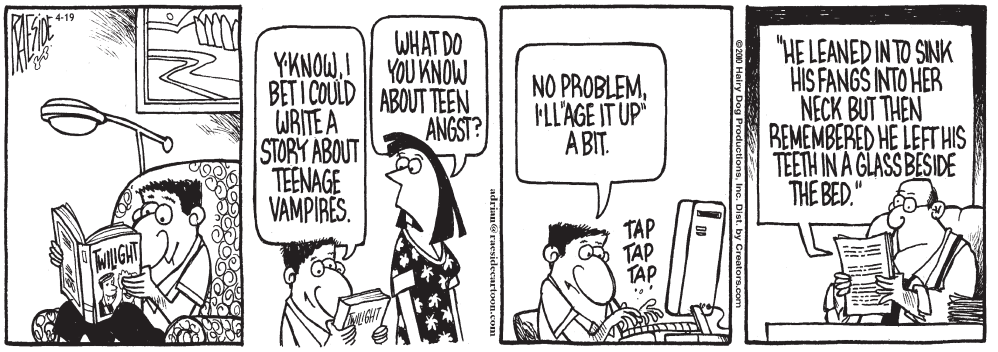
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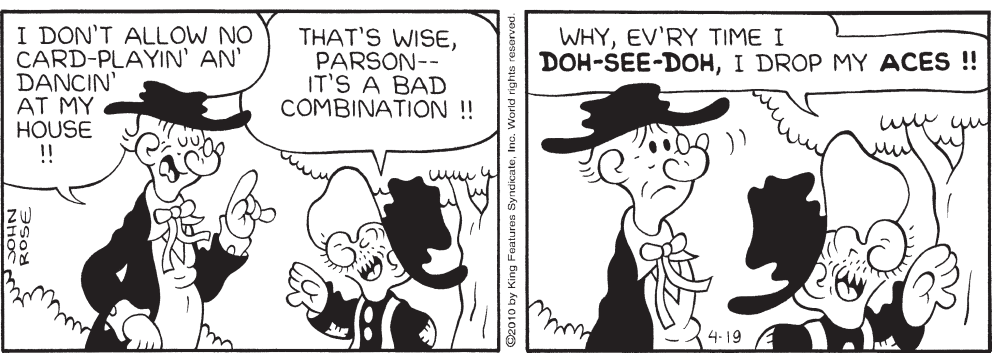
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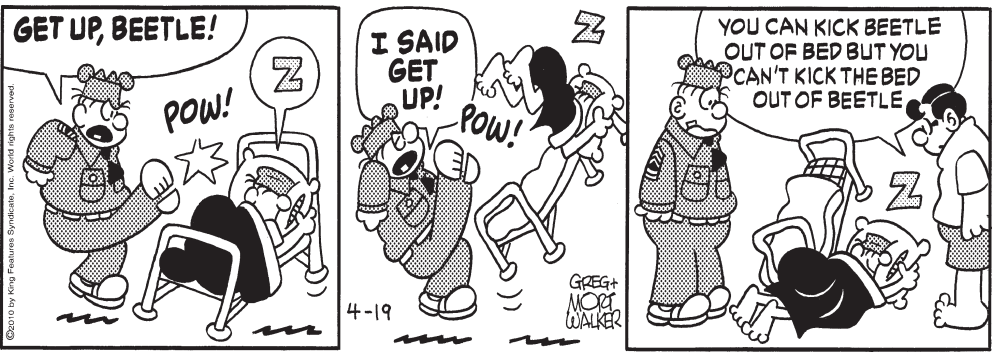
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, April 19, the 109th day of 2010. There are 256 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On April 19, 1775, the American Revolutionary War began with the battles of Lexington and Concord.

battle against Nazi forces. In 1951, General Douglas MacArthur, relieved of his Far East command by President Harry S. Truman, bid farewell in an address to Congress in which he quoted a line from a ballad: "Old soldiers never die; they just fade away."

Today's Birthdays: Actor Hugh O'Brian is 85. Actress Elinor Donahue is 73. Rock musician Alan Price (The Animals) is 68. Actor Tim Curry is 64. Pop singer Mark "Flo" Volman (The Turtles; Flo and Eddie) is 63.

Answer to previous puzzle: A crossword grid with words like PROVERB, USELESS, RECITER, MALARKY, AGESAGO, BYLINER, LALA, ICKES, DELI, ILO, TSHIRTS, STA, NITTI, UNS, ALTON, EASYMARK, FREON, LIKEASHOT, SCENA, JUANGRIS, GEORG, NOB, GUEST, IQS, SPOUSES, VIR, BUTT, ALSOP, JEDI, IONESCO, NONIRON, LIENESS, ICEBERG, LARDERS, CHEESES.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Get up 5 Speaker's platform 9 Foundation 13 Buffalo's lake 14 At the right time 16 Wicked stuff 17 Redheads 19 Feels unwell 20 Dined 21 Hammer part 22 Item on a birthday cake 24 Letter-writing friends 26 Baby powder 27 Kay follower 28 Assumed 32 Features of camels 35 Dog's treat 36 No later than 37 Take ___ (doze) 38 Used epoxy 39 Short message 40 Enjoy 41 Sales staff, for short 42 Playful aquatic mammal 43 Walkway above a road 45 Color 46 Caterer's coffeepots 47 Make a bundle 51 Camera support 54 Not for boys only 55 Gun-rights org. 56 Gravelly voice 57 Kid's weapon 60 Eye rudely

- 61 Totally confused 62 Jam-pack 63 Fawn or stag 64 Have some gum 65 Male cats DOWN 1 Summarize 2 Really steamed 3 Ambulance sound 4 Suffix for auction 5 "This I gotta hear!" 6 Poker-pot starters 7 Clickable image 8 Have dinner 9 Statistician, slangily 10 Enthusiastic 11 Window ledge 12 "If all ___ fails..." 15 Got away 18 Iridescent gems 23 Yodeler's mountain 25 Energy booster 26 Melodies 28 First courses 29 Catch sight of 30 Suffix for kitchen 31 One who takes action 32 Angel's topper 33 Inst. of higher learning 34 Create 35 Give a benediction to 38 Dad's dad 42 Go one better 44 Old hand 45 Donkey's comment 47 Pay a visit to 48 Lead-in 49 Coffee additive 50 Injures 51 Walked heavily 52 Violent anger 53 Cruise stop 54 Money 58 And so on: Abbr. 59 Halloween mo.

Crossword grid with numbers 1-65 indicating starting positions for words.