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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**MONDAY**  
**MAY 10, 2010**



**VOLUME 105, NUMBER 132**      **COPYRIGHT 2010**      **50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY**

## Duncan, Olson win council election

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Challengers in both the race for the mayoral and District 5 seats on the Big Spring City Council came out ahead in Saturday night's election, as both Tommy Duncan and Craig Olson unseated incumbent opponents.

Duncan took the victory with 55.55 percent of the vote — accounting for 1,592 ballots — over incumbent mayor Russ McEwen, who garnered 37.3 percent of the vote with 1,069



Duncan

ballots in the contest. Challengers Shannon Thomason and Oscar Velasco didn't fare quite as well in the election, however. Thomason stole only 153 ballots — 5.34 percent — in the contest, while Velasco brought up the rear with only 52 ballots, accounting for 1.81 percent of the vote. The count also dashed any concerns

a runoff election would be necessary in the contest, as Duncan garnered more than 50 percent of the vote in the contest. Had he not met the 50 percent requirement, he and McEwen would have had to face off in a runoff election in June.

One of the driving issues in the mayoral and city council races was the replacement of the municipal swimming pool, and whether or not the city would move forward with a \$4.2 million aquatics center in place

of the existing facility, which was shut down last year due to failure to meet state and federal regulations.

Duncan said he will lobby the council to scale down the project in hopes of reducing its overall cost to the Big Spring taxpayers.

"I will be just one vote on the council," said Duncan. "My preference, as I've indicated all along is that we approach a swimming pool the citizens of Big

See **ELECTION**, Page 3

## BSISD voters give OK to bond

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

By a convincing margin, Big Spring Independent School District voters approved a massive facelift of the district's facilities in Saturday's election.

A \$60 million bond to build three new elementary campuses and finance renovations at other school buildings was approved by 60 percent of the voters Saturday. The final tally showed 1,788 people voting for the bond with 1,163 in opposition.

BSISD Superintendent Steven Saldivar thanked the voters for their thumbs-up to the bond proposal.

"We put a lot of work into this ... and put forth a plan that would meet the educational needs of this district," Saldivar said. "Of course, the facility needs were apparent, but this was all about what was best for the educational needs of our students and teachers."

Saldivar thanked his former special assistant, Dr. Michael Stevens, for his work in presenting the case for the bond. Stevens left the district in late April.

"Dr. Stevens helped out a bunch," Saldivar said. "And there are other people in the community who got involved, who saw the needs and went out and talked to people about this issue."

See **BOND**, Page 3



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

**Sonja Vaden of Lubbock grooms one of her yorkies in preparations for judging during the Big Spring Kennel Club's 40th annual show Saturday morning at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.**

## Dogs take center stage

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

It was canines as far as the eye could see in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum Saturday and Sunday, as the Big Spring Kennel Club presented its 40th annual show.

Dog owners, breeders and showmen from all over the Permian Basin and abroad gathered for the competition to see who would win top dog in a number of different breeds, drawing more than 300 different canines of all shapes and sizes.

Sonja Vaden of Lubbock was just one of many competitors that spent Saturday morning grooming and preparing her dogs — several Yorkshire terriers — for the show, which was held on the floor of the coliseum.

"I've taken part in the Big Spring show pretty much every year since I started, with the exception of last year," said Vaden. "Last year I showed for a lady that lives in Missouri, so I traveled there and showed the dog while I was there. That's the only year I've missed. I really like this show. In fact, my second two points were here in Big Spring. My first point was winning (with) the puppies, and when they got older I won the two points here. I've always been able to do pretty

See **SHOW**, Page 3



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

**Tom and Carol Saroch pose with former champion canine I Love A Rainy Night — or just Rainy, for short — during the 40th annual Big Spring Kennel Club show Saturday. Carol and Rainy were recently reunited after more than a year apart.**

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# Obituaries

## Jesus Hernandez

Jesus Hernandez, 68, of Big Spring died Sunday, May 9, 2010, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Ethel Pringle

Ethel Pringle, 85, of Big Spring died Monday, May 10, 2010, at Marcy House. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Boe Payne

Boe Payne, 28, of Big Spring died Sunday, May 9, 2010, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

# Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- BRETT ALAN DAILY, 22, of Dripping Springs, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.
- JUAN ALBERTO LOPEZ, 26, of 500 N.W. Ninth St., was arrested Sunday on charges of assault causing bodily injury – family violence, public intoxication and assault causing bodily injury against family/household member (two or more within 12 months).
- EARNEST LEROY MILLS, 27, of 901 W. Third St. Apt. 5, was arrested Sunday on a warrant for open container – possession of an alcoholic beverage in a motor vehicle and a charge of failure to appear.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 400 block of Circle.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 2500 block of Gunter Circle.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 800 block of S. Owens.
- THEFT was reported in the 1000 block of S. Birdwell Lane.

# Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 59 inmates at the time of this report.

- JAMES WILSON TUBBS, 31, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of no safety belt.
- LUIS ENRIQUE ZEPEDA, 36, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on Cameron County warrants for failure to appear – resisting officer and burglary of a habitation.
- ZACK MONROE TURMAN, 32, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated – open container.
- DAVID JUAREZ, 34, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of contempt of court – disobedience of a court order – child support.
- TYLER JAMES HERNANDEZ, 17, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- ISAAC GUADALUPE MOYA, 35, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on Howard County warrants for possession of drug paraphernalia, driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to identify – giving false information.
- AMY LOU SMITH, 23, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARY JANE CASTILLO, 42, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- CYNTHIA MENDEZ, 40, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense.
- MICHAEL LYNN KENT, 47, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of

- assault – physical contact.
- RICKY AARON FIELDS, 25, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- FRANKIE JUAREZ, 41, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- MANUEL NICOLAS, 24, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of no driver's license.
- FRANKLIN KYLE CASEY, 48, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated – second offense and driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- ANTHONY CRUZ, 21, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for violation of a promise to appear and speeding.
- ERICA MARIE MONTOYA, 19, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a municipal capias warrant for possession of drug paraphernalia.
- SANDY HINOJOSA, 42, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of no liability insurance.
- LINSANGELICA RAMIREZ, 20, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of minor in possession of alcohol.
- JONATHAN JOEL GUTIERREZ, 18, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- JOHN ALBERT LOPEZ, 26, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of assault causing bodily injury, assault causing bodily injury of a family/household member twice within 12 months and public intoxication.
- RICKY CARDELL GREEN, 48, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of service.
- BRETT ALAN DAILY, 22, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container.
- EARNEST LEROY MILLS, 27, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for open container and failure to appear.
- ARMANDO JUAN SALCIDO, 30, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of criminal mischief, expired motor vehicle registration, failure to maintain financial responsibility, expired motor vehicle inspection certificate and driving while license invalid.
- FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ ADAME, 35, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated – second offense, evading arrest or detention and evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

# Fire/EMS

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

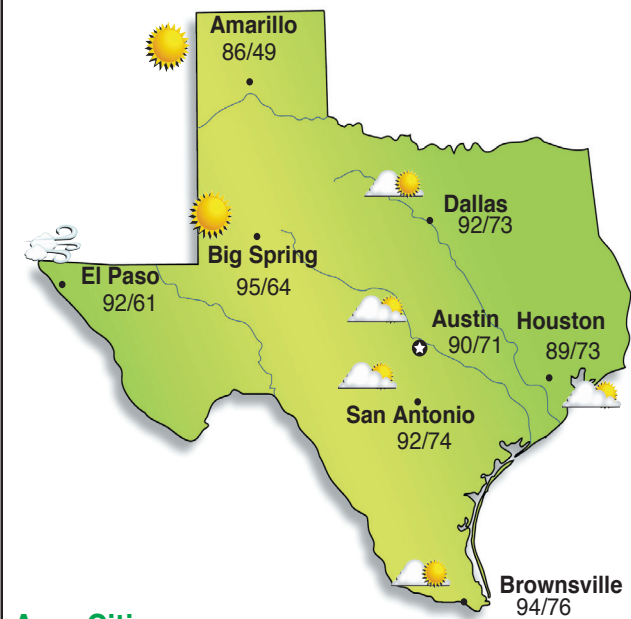
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Drexel. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Johnson. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Trades. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Jonesboro. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Hunter. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 800 block of W. Interstate 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Stadium. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 4200 block of W. Highway 80. 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 1500 block of Stadium. One person was transported to SMMC.

# Today's Weather

## Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 5/11	Wed 5/12	Thu 5/13	Fri 5/14	Sat 5/15
<b>95/64</b>	<b>90/60</b>	<b>63/55</b>	<b>68/57</b>	<b>79/59</b>
Mainly sunny. Hot. High around 95F. Winds SW at 15 to 25 mph.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the low 60s.	Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.	Showers. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 50s.	Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 50s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:51 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:34 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:50 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:35 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:50 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:35 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:49 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:36 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 6:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 8:37 PM

## Texas At A Glance



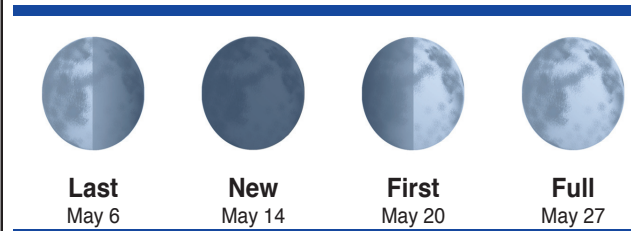
### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	95	70	sunny	Kingsville	94	75	pt sunny
Amarillo	86	49	sunny	Livingston	91	69	pt sunny
Austin	90	71	cloudy	Longview	91	70	pt sunny
Beaumont	89	72	pt sunny	Lubbock	95	58	sunny
Brownsville	94	76	pt sunny	Lufkin	93	70	pt sunny
Brownwood	95	69	pt sunny	Midland	98	68	sunny
Corpus Christi	89	76	pt sunny	Raymondville	95	75	pt sunny
Corsicana	90	71	pt sunny	Rosenberg	90	73	cloudy
Dallas	92	73	pt sunny	San Antonio	92	74	cloudy
Del Rio	97	74	pt sunny	San Marcos	91	72	cloudy
El Paso	92	61	windy	Sulphur Springs	92	72	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	100	63	sunny	Sweetwater	97	69	sunny
Gainesville	89	70	pt sunny	Tyler	92	69	pt sunny
Greenville	91	70	pt sunny	Weatherford	90	69	pt sunny
Houston	89	73	cloudy	Wichita Falls	91	70	mst sunny

### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	80	65	pt sunny	Minneapolis	46	39	rain
Boston	62	45	mst sunny	New York	59	50	cloudy
Chicago	63	44	rain	Phoenix	77	54	windy
Dallas	92	73	pt sunny	San Francisco	65	47	pt sunny
Denver	53	32	rain	Seattle	65	46	pt sunny
Houston	89	73	cloudy	St. Louis	78	60	t-storm
Los Angeles	69	52	pt sunny	Washington, DC	59	56	rain
Miami	86	75	windy				

### Moon Phases



### UV Index

Tue 5/11	Wed 5/12	Thu 5/13	Fri 5/14	Sat 5/15
<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	High	High

# 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.

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# Summer jobs program slated

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Area youth looking to earn money this summer — and invaluable work experience — will get their chance, as Workforce Solutions of Permian Basin will begin taking applications Saturday, for the 2010 Summer Employment Program.

According to Susan Lyons, a workforce development specialist with WSPB, the program is available to anyone between the ages of 16 and 24 years, and gives participants a chance to get work experience while earning money.

“The Youth Subsidized Summer Employment Program is operated under federal funds distributed to the Permian Basin Workforce Board,” said Lyons.

“These funds are utilized to assist the youth of our community to develop real-world work experience, give the youth the opportunity to link to academic and occupational learning, the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to our community and provide extra income for the household.”

Lyons said applicants will need to provide a birth certificate, Social Security card, identification, a

current report card and proof of free or reduced lunches from school.

“A parent or legal guardian must accompany the applicant if they are under 18 years of age,” she said. “Due to availability of space, only parents or legal guardian should attend with the applicant, and applicants must meet income guidelines.”

Lyons said applications can be picked up from the WSPB Big Spring office, located on the second floor of the Big Spring Post Office building.

Applicants can also have a copy of the forms mailed to them by calling (432) 263-8373.

“When the paperwork has been

completely filled out, applicants will need to bring the application and other documentation to the Workforce Solutions Permian Basin Big Spring office Saturday,” she said. “If your last name begins with A-L, you will need to be at the office from 9:30 a.m. until noon. If your last name begins with M-Z, you will need to be there from 1:30 p.m. until 4 p.m.”

For more information, contact Lyons or Sylvia Miramontes at (432) 263-8373.

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

## ELECTION

Continued from Page 1

Spring can pay for and that we divert money that we’ve already borrowed for that water park to rebuilding the pool that we have and paying off bond debt with the remainder of the money.”

Duncan attributed his win Saturday night to the will of the citizens.

“I think the citizens of Big Spring came out in record numbers and are sending a clear signal to the council what direction they want to see us move in,” said Duncan. “I also want to make sure I recognize Mayor McEwen’s long service to this community and congratulate him for the things he accomplished.

I think the city of Big Spring owes him a great deal.”

McEwen said Saturday’s election was a tough contest to call long before the polls opened, but feels Duncan will do a good job as mayor.

“I knew there was some unrest out there among the citizens, but it’s so hard to read what’s going to happen in these elections,” said McEwen. “Was it the issue of the water park that did it? I really have no way of knowing. How do you gauge something like that?”

“If you look around the country at other elections, there has been a pretty strong anti-incumbent feeling out there. However, if you stay around in the mayor’s position long enough, you’re

pretty sure to make some people unhappy. I congratulate Tommy Duncan and wish him the best. More than anything, I want to see the city prosper.”

McEwen wasn’t the only incumbent to lose his seat during the election, as challenger Craig Olson narrowly beat out first-term councilman Troy Tompkins for the District 5 seat on the council. Olson took 50.32 percent of the vote with 393 ballots, while Tompkins garnered the remaining 49.68 percent with 388 ballots.

Olson, who was present at the Howard County Courthouse when the results were announced, refused to comment to the Big Spring Herald on his victory. Tompkins, contacted late Saturday, also declined comment

other than to say he hasn’t determined whether he will seek a recount.

Olson’s victory isn’t final, however, as his five-ballot lead could come under fire if Tompkins asks for a recount, according to County Election Administrator Sandra Bloom.

“Tompkins has until Wednesday at 2 p.m. to call for a recount of the ballots,” said Bloom. “If the election had come down to a tie, a recount would have been done automatically. However, because it wasn’t a tie, we can’t do a recount unless one of the candidates requests and agrees to cover the cost of the recount. At this time, we haven’t received a request.”

The Big Spring City Council is expected

to canvas the election results and swear in its new council members during its Tuesday meeting. The meeting is slated for 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street.

Bloom said the council’s scheduled canvas of the election would not interfere with a recount if one is called for.

Also part of Saturday night’s contest, voters in Coahoma gave the go-ahead for a new sales tax to establish a 4-B economic development corporation.

The proposition called for the adoption of a sales and use tax within the city limits at the rate of one-half on one percent to be used and applied to projects authorized by section 4B of the Development

Corporation Act of 1979. The tax can also be used for the maintenance and operation costs associated with such projects.

According to Coahoma Mayor Warren Wallace, the new tax could go a long way for the city in its efforts to improve the quality of life.

“This could be a very big step in the right direction for Coahoma,” said Wallace. “This is something we should have done 10 or 15 years ago. The money we get from the tax will allow us to make some improvements to the city and the surrounding area, so we’re very excited about it.”

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

## BOND

Continued from Page 1

Projects the bond will finance include:

- \$42 million to replace existing campuses at Washington, Goliad and Marcy, \$7 million to renovate Moss and \$1 million for infrastructure work at Kentwood. The district will then have four elementary campuses (Washington, Goliad, Marcy and Moss) housing students in grades kindergarten through 5, with Kentwood eventually being turned into a pre-kindergarten center.
- Existing campuses at

Washington and Marcy will be demolished, while the main building at Bauer Elementary, which was constructed almost 80 years ago, will be converted for use in staff training. Classroom wings at that campus will be torn down, officials said.

• \$2.5 million to add 11 classrooms at Big Spring Junior High to accommodate the district’s sixth graders, who will join seventh and eighth graders at the facility.

• \$12 million for renovation at Big Spring High School, including roof replacement, new science labs and installation of a fire suppression system.

• \$2.5 million for improvements to grounds, parking and driveways.

Over the course of the next four months, district officials will work on several preliminary details, including budgeting, finalizing schematics and seeking input from teachers and other professionals on details such as classroom sizes and features.

Sandra Waggoner, chief financial officer for the school district, said the bonds will not be formally sold until they are formally approved by the state attorney general’s office. She estimated the district will receive the bond

proceeds sometime in September.

Groundbreaking on the new campuses is expect to take place in April 2011, with construction time lasting between two and two-and-a-half years, Saldivar said.

BSISD also will welcome a new school trustee when the school board meets later this month. Chad Wash polled 57.5 percent of the votes to win the District 5 race. He will succeed current board president Mike Dawson, who is stepping down after five terms as a trustee.

Final totals from the race showed Wash with 464 votes, while Jeremy Blount and Michelle

Hamby received 188 and 155 votes, respectively.

District 6 Trustee Jeff Brorman and District 7 Trustee Phil Furqueron, who were both unopposed, easily won re-election to new terms.

Michael Brooks and Brandon Atkins won election to the Coahoma Independent School District Board of Trustees, out-polling three other candidates for two at-large seats left vacant by out-going trustees James White and Sissy Franklin.

Brooks received 130 votes and Atkins tallied 97 ballots. Craig Ferguson, Ashley Niblett and Mike Blissard received

85, 68 and 33 votes, respectively.

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

## SHOW

Continued from Page 1

good here.”

Vaden said she got into dog training and showing thanks to a chance online meeting.

“I already had yorkies and I was in a Yahoo group with some ladies that showed dogs, and they were talking about it,” said Vaden. “So I just thought I’d be interested in looking into it. So I went to a dog show with a dog that really wasn’t a show dog, went around the ring one time and just fell in love with it. At that point I suppose I joined forever.”

Vaden said the Big Spring show is one of her — and her dogs’ —

favorites.

“I started showing in 2004. In fact, the Big Spring show was actually the first dog show I did,” said Vaden. “I really like it here. It’s a really good size because it’s not too big, but it’s not too small. It’s a great show to bring your dogs to the first time. Also, the people here are very friendly to one another. It’s very customer friendly, and there’s a great deal of hospitality shown. It’s really nice.”

Each day starts with the judging of individual breeds. After that, the dogs are judged by group — hound, terrier, sporting, herding, non-sporting, toy and working, according to Trellis Lucas, show chair and Big Spring Kennel Club president. One dog is se-

lected from each group, and those seven dogs then are judged to determine a Best in Show.

The afternoon wasn’t all about competition, however.

For Carol and Tom Saroch, also of Lubbock, the show was a much more emotional affair, as they were reunited with one of the puppies they helped to raise and turn into a champion canine.

“I got Rainy when she was a 9-week-old puppy. I showed her and she became a champion,” said Saroch. “We did some really nice winning together. Her actual name is Champion Nomad I Love A Rainy Night, after the Eddie Rabbit song, because the day I got her it was pouring rain. Because of cir-

cumstances in my life, I had to part with her and she’s just had a horrible, horrible life for the past year. She lived up in Idaho, where she was not treated well. The lady that had her wanted to put her in another home and couldn’t, so she threatened to euthanize her.

“At that point, our breeder told her no and to get her back to Texas. She arrived here Tuesday, and we’re here today to pick her up and take her back to Lubbock. So this is our reunion day and we’re very emotional about it,” said Saroch through teary eyes. “Rainy is 5 years old, and she’s just beautiful. We’re so happy to have her home. It’s like so many things in your life, you don’t

know what you have until you don’t have it anymore. But she’s never going to leave us again.”

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

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**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
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Ladie Fred Caffey, 86, died Thursday. Funeral Services were at 10 a.m. Monday at College Baptist Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.  
Jesus Hernandez, 68, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.  
Ethel Pringle, 85, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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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

### Wrap up DeLay's legal waltz soon

Thanks to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals ... we are inching closer to finally getting to a trial of charges stemming from what for all the world looked like a Republican shell game to illegally funnel corporate money to legislative candidates.

The case involved 2002 Texas legislative races that came just before the GOP's unusual and successful attempt to get the 2003 Legislature to redraw congressional districts (drawn in 2001) so they'd be more favorable to Republicans.

After the controversial midterm redistricting, we learned that some of the GOP success at the ballot box in 2002 was buoyed by corporate money that seemed to find its way through the Texans for a Republican Majority political committee to the Republican National Committee and then back to seven GOP candidates in state legislative races.

To be exact, the Texas committee served as the pipeline for \$190,000 in corporate money that made the round trip to the Washington-based RNC and then back to the Texas candidates. Also to be exact, Texas law bars corporate contributions to political candidates.

It all added up to an illegal money-laundering scheme used to route the corporate money to the GOP candidates, according to Travis County indictments of then-U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay and aides John Colyandro of Austin and Jim Ellis of Washington.

But in response to the defendants' efforts to get the indictments erased without a trial, the Austin-based 3rd Court of Appeals ruled the money-laundering charge could not stick because the \$190,000 flowed through checks, not cash.

The Texas money-laundering law in place at the time of the alleged offense did not cover transactions made by check, the intermediate appeals court ruled in a 2-1 decision along party lines with the GOP justices in the majority. This ruling ... goes down as a reminder of the differences between the oft-bizarre and logic-twisted world of legalese and the world in which real folks live. ...

The Court of Criminal Appeals did not rule specifically on the issue of whether the money laundering law in effect at the time covered transactions by check. But the panel — the state's highest court for criminal matters — did say it was possible to read that law to include checks. ...

It's not often that we agree with DeLay, who gave up his congressional leadership post as a result of the indictment and later quit the House in 2006 rather than face hometown voters while under indictment.

But here's something on which we are now in lockstep with DeLay. After Wednesday's ruling putting the case back on track for trial, he said in a statement, "I'm very excited after eight long years to finally go to trial and have the truth come out."

We're just as excited. Let's get this thing litigated. It's embarrassing to all that we might not have this 2003 redistricting-related matter resolved before the 2011 Texas Legislature tackles redistricting again.

THE AMERICAN-STATESMAN  
AUSTIN

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we pay attention, Lord, to Your word.  
Amen

# Home ... where the heart is

Was I surprised that I could be surrounded by everything foreign to me and yet feel strangely at home? Somehow this didn't surprise me so much, but it did add to the wonderment of my trip to Italy.

It is a rather humbling experience to be somewhere and be dependent on the sensitivity of those around you to help you find your way and make you feel comfortable in unfamiliar surroundings. When I returned to the United States, I became acutely aware — for the first time — of directional signs written in several other languages, placed to be of service to the many visitors our country welcomes from every continent of the world.

And since I lived in 12 different places during the first 17 years of my life, I am keenly aware of what it feels like to be the new kid on the block. During those years, I lived in houses, duplexes, mobile homes, hotels and a car. But I can attest that no matter where I lived, I felt "at home." Perhaps this also helps to explain why — for me — home has never been confined to a single location. And maybe this fact also helps to explain how I could feel so at home in a country I've never been to before.

Still, I used to think of "home" as connected to a person. When I think about my childhood, I could say home was wherever my mother was. And since mar-

rying my husband a little more than 29 years ago, I've believed home would be wherever he was.

But my husband wasn't with me on my trip to Italy, yet I felt completely and comfortably at home. This feeling has awakened my curiosity.

Home has been defined in many ways. Some say home is a safe environment — a place where you have no worries or problems, where you feel peace, where you love to be, where you feel comfortable and content. Or some say home is with a certain person or in a place you love most. But is home dependent upon person or place? My experience is telling me it isn't.

It has been written, "Home is where the heart is." Interestingly enough, trying to understand exactly where my heart is or what my heart is longing for, could describe the reason why I went to Italy. This searching of my heart was not something new. It began a few years ago when my only child left for college. But it has continued, and prior to my trip to Italy, my search had become more urgent.

Much has been written for those searching their heart. Some informative quotes include: "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7) "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21) But one of the most compelling ideas I've come across is one by Mary Baker Eddy: "We should examine ourselves, and learn what is the affection and purpose of the heart, for in this way only can we learn what we honestly are."

For the first half of my life, who I was seemed simple — I

was a daughter, a college student, a wife, and then a mother. For a while now, I've wondered if this is enough for my life — feeling like it wasn't. And even more recently, I've questioned if I've been defining myself correctly.

Perhaps who I am has nothing to do with what I've done or how others see me, but everything to do with my own heart — my perception and understanding of who I am and the purpose for my life.

Because my trip to Italy felt very God-directed in my heart, I couldn't help but feel His divine presence while I was in Italy. I was in a constant state of examining my heart and listening for what God would tell me next. And God had much to say about who I was and His purpose for my life. I took to heart every inspiration that came. And I am still pondering the meaning of it all.

But I have concluded that home is where God is. And guess what? There is no place where God is not!

And this is the reason why I felt at home when I was in Italy — separated from the people and places most beloved and familiar to me.

And this is why you, too, can feel God's presence any time, any place and any where! For where our heart is, God is — loving us, encouraging us, comforting us, and guiding us.

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



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• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**  
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Big Spring  
Phone: (432) 264-0722

## Damaging Arizona's credibility

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer has signed a statewide law forcing local police officers to question and potentially detain anyone they "reasonably suspect" to be an undocumented immigrant. If you believe our local law enforcement agencies, which will be required to implement the mandates of this law, it will lead to mistrust between police and the people they have sworn to protect.

This new immigration law violates due process, civil rights and federal sovereignty over immigration policy. While I believe the courts will quickly overturn it, I'm concerned that the damage to my home state's credibility has already been done.

Arizona has long been the epicenter of our national immigration debate. Unfortunately, that debate has been driven by extremists like Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, who is under a federal investigation for civil rights abuses. Arpaio, like Brewer, seems to believe that every immigrant is equally capable of being a violent drug dealer to be dealt with harshly. Although this belief has no basis in fact, it has been the foundation of a fear-based campaign against immigrants and people of Hispanic descent for years.

Indeed, opportunistic political voices have worked hard to make a connection between crime and immigration where none exists. Forget the rhetoric for a mo-

ment and consider the facts. In 2008, the Immigration Policy Center found that on the national level, U.S.-born men aged 18 to 39 are five times more likely to be incarcerated than immigrants. While the number of undocumented immigrants in the country doubled between 1994 and 2005, violent crime declined by nearly 35 percent and property crimes by 26 percent over the same period.

Unfortunately, this information doesn't change the way people think about immigration. It's become a gut reaction issue. If you think immigrants are criminals, then a law targeting anyone "reasonably suspected" of being an immigrant sounds like a good idea. Even though prominent officials at all levels — from President Barack Obama to border county sheriffs — have called the law unjust and counterproductive, there will always be a constituency for this kind of punitive measure.

Turning immigrants into scapegoats for every social and economic setback is not what America should be about. The new Arizona law has introduced the unspoken word "race" into the debate. By promoting racial profiling as a legal tool, it has effectively unmasked a very real motivation for some people to oppose meaningful immigration reform.

I believe we need comprehensive, nationwide immigration reform. While we continue to debate what that should look like, I believe the laws of this country should be enforced and respected. Those laws include the principle that the federal government, not state or local authorities, sets immigration policy. States can no more supersede

federal immigration law than enter into their own treaties with foreign governments. By inventing a new way for local officials to treat American citizens as potential criminals, Arizona has violated that principle. The state has said, in effect, that if you're walking down the street and forgot your wallet at home, you could be hauled downtown because you look like an undocumented immigrant. That's not how the rule of law works in this country.

On a practical level, local law enforcement agencies do not have the manpower or financial capacity to serve triple duty as street cops, Border Patrol agents and Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers.

Conservatives who worry about government overreach and unfunded mandates should be up in arms about this law. Their silence is disappointing. This is not a left-right issue. It's a question of basic constitutional process.

Voters shouldn't be blind to the troubling aspects of this law: It sets a legal precedent that anyone "reasonably suspected" of a crime is subject to questioning and search without a warrant, and it suggests that other states should feel free to invent their own immigration laws. This isn't a road we want to travel any further down than we already have.

This law should be overturned without delay, and Congress should take up comprehensive reform the same day.

U.S. Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva represents Arizona's Seventh Congressional District and co-chairs the Congressional Progressive Caucus.



REP. RAUL GRIJALVA

## Coahoma storms past Longhorns

Herald staff report

ABILENE — Thanks to a freshman who didn't pitch like a rookie and an upperclassman who played exactly like veterans, the Coahoma Bulldogs are advancing in the Texas Class 2A baseball playoffs.

Kaleb McAdams, a freshman who played most of the season on the junior varsity, came up big in a high-stakes situation to help lead the Bulldogs to an 11-3 victory over Early to conclude the teams' best-of-three playoff series Saturday afternoon at the McMurry University field.

McAdams pitched four innings and struck out five while scattering six hits to pick up the win.

"He showed composure past his age," Coahoma Head Coach Shane Fuller said. "After we won the first game of the series, I thought this was a good time to put him out there and see what he had and not put him in a do-or-die situation. It was important to give him some experience. You never really know what you'll get when you put a freshman on

See COAHOMA, Page 10



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Melanie Ramos belts a home run during the Hawks' game with Clarendon College at the Region V softball tournament in Odessa Saturday. The Hawks suffered two losses at the tournament — 12-2 against Midland and 9-8 vs. Clarendon — to end their season with a 30-26 record.

## Bulldogettes move on with 7-2 playoff win

Herald Staff Report

SAN ANGELO — Another year, another bi-district playoff title for the Coahoma Bulldogettes.

The Bulldogettes started the Texas Class 2A softball playoffs much as they have the past several years, this time sweeping the Clyde Lady Bulldogs in a best-of-three area playoff series at the San Angelo Central softball field this past weekend.

The series clincher was a 7-2 victory Saturday.

Senior Heather Newton picked up the win for the Bulldogettes, striking out 11 and walking two while scattering six hits.

She received plenty of offensive support from her teammates, who torched Clyde starter Reagan Darnell for 15 hits Saturday. Coahoma took the small-ball approach at the plate, as Kylie Gee had the team's only extra base hit, a triple.

Newton helped her own cause with three hits, while four other players — Gee, Joanna Gonzales, Jennifer Castillaw and Lauren Ruiz — had four hits apiece.

"We hit the ball well. That's probably the highlight of the series for us," Coahoma Head Coach Tracy Tadlock said. "Heather threw pretty well — she didn't have her best stuff this weekend,

but she worked through it.

"We played pretty good defense, also, which helped," Tadlock added, noting that Castillaw, the team's catcher, pitched runners off first base twice.

The Bulldogettes advance to the regional semifinal round of the playoffs to face Coleman in a best-of-three series this week at the San Angelo Central field. The first game will be held at 5 p.m. Thursday, with Game 2 scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday. A third game, if necessary, will start at approximately 4 p.m.

Clyde	200	000	0	—	2	6	5
Coahoma	022	030	x	—	7	15	1



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Coahoma's Heather Newton struck out 11 and had three hits at the plate to help lead the Bulldogettes to a 7-2 victory over Clyde Saturday.

## Area playoff schedule

### Wednesday

Forsand baseball vs. Borden County, 6 p.m., Greenwood.

### Thursday

Coahoma baseball vs. Holiday, site and time TBD.

Coahoma softball vs. Coleman, 5 p.m., San Angelo Central High School field (Knickerbocker and Johnson).

### Saturday

Coahoma baseball vs. Holiday, site and time TBD.

Coahoma softball vs. Coleman, 2 p.m., San Angelo Central High School field (second game, if necessary, will begin 30 minutes after first game concludes).

## Sweep complete: Suns oust Spurs

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Phoenix Suns swept away seven years of bad playoff memories brought by the San Antonio Spurs.

Steve Nash scored 20 points and played with a right eye that was swollen shut as Phoenix swept San Antonio from the Western Conference semifinals with a 107-101 win Sunday night. Amare Stoudemire led the way with 29 points to help the Suns get past the Spurs in the playoffs for the first time in five tries.

"That was ugly," Suns forward Channing Frye said walking off the court.

Kind of like Nash's black-and-blue, stitched-up eye.

But it didn't bother Nash, who scored 10 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter to help smother a rally by the Spurs. Nash was accidentally struck by one of Tim Duncan's elbows in the third

quarter and briefly went to the locker room. He came back with an ice pack on his eye when he finally returned to the court.

It was reminiscent of the 2007 West semifinals, when Nash had his nose sliced open when he and Tony Parker collided head-to-head in Game 1. The gash in Nash's nose bled profusely, and the Suns went on to lose the series.

Not this time.

The Suns are keeping one of the more remarkable stories of the playoffs going. Three months after trading Stoudemire and calling it a season, the Suns are returning to the West finals for the first time since 2006.

General manager Steve Kerr has said it would've taken an offer "really good for us to break up the team," and good thing it never came along.

Phoenix sealed its third trip to the West finals since 2005, and gets another crack at returning to the NBA finals for the first time since 1993.

The Suns will either play the Los Angeles Lakers or the Utah Jazz in the West finals. The Lakers lead that series 3-0, and no team in NBA playoff history has ever come back from that deficit to win.

Add these Spurs to that list.

Parker scored 22 points to lead the Spurs, who were swept out of the playoffs for the first time since 2001. George Hill had 17 points, and was fouled while hitting a 3-pointer with 26.5 seconds left that gave the Spurs a flicker of hope.

It was an abrupt ending for the Spurs, who will have a summer to chew on some uncomfortable questions facing the winningest franchise of the last 13 years.

## Sports in brief

### CTLGA weekly report

The CTLGA did not have a Playday last Monday. A total of 26 golfers competed in Thursday evening's couples play.

Chick and Carol Madry and Max and Betty Ray Coffee won first, shooting a 7-under par.

Second place was won by Sherrill and Betty Lou Farmer, Linda Dewaters and Debra Lusk with a 5-under par.

Donnie Long won closest to the pin on the third hole.

Sherrill Farmer won closest to the pin on hole No. 6.

### Lady Steers boosters to meet Tuesday

There will be a meeting for the Big Spring Lady Steer Booster Club at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the high school athletic training center. Election of officers for the upcoming year will be on the agenda.

For more information, contact the ATC at 264-3662.

### CHS sports banquet set for Tuesday

The Coahoma Athletic Booster Club will host the

annual Coahoma High School Athletic Banquet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the school cafeteria.

The event will recognize outstanding achievements by student athletes for the 2009-2010 school year.

All sports are included as the coaches take this opportunity to publicly recognize their student athletes for their hard work and successes throughout their respective seasons.

Parents and fans are welcome to attend but will need to purchase a ticket at the door on the night of the event. Tickets will be available at a flat rate of \$8 for adults and children.

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Abandoned Motor Vehicles at the described locations and the times listed below.  
Yr. 1998  
Make Pontiac  
Model GrandAm  
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Tag# 603XRP  
Yr. 1982  
Make Vogue

Model RV  
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Tag# P81GK2  
This vehicle is located at 124 S. Myrl St. Any questions, please contact the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office 432-354-2361.  
The successful bidder upon payment of the money to The Glasscock County Sheriff's Office is entitled to take possession of the vehicle and apply for a title free and clear of all liens and claims to ownership.  
Keith Burnett  
Sheriff  
Glasscock County  
#6523 May 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Aries moon is usually a stellar lunar placement on Monday; however, the waning nature of this Aries moon tempers the energy. The Taurus sun encourages baby steps throughout the day. As much as we would like our own personal paradise to develop overnight, everything happens in stages. Go slow and keep your eye on the goal.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You'll finally receive what you've been waiting for. Give thanks right away. Tonight, you'll be running at top energy and may find it more difficult than usual to calm down. Take the extra time and measures necessary to get relaxed.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Once you come up

with a plan, stick with it until you are absolutely certain that there is a better way. And to be absolutely certain, you'll need at least three other people to concur.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You never know what will make an impact. Today, it's something you wouldn't have guessed. You just say and do what, for you, is easily said and done. And someone else finds it impossible to forget.  
**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Work together. When your team is strong, you are strong. And when you are strong, your team is strong. Believe in your group, even when difficulties arise.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). The influence of those who have guided you throughout your life will be felt. In a moment of swift action, you will apply the advice of someone very wise — perhaps your mother.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If you can't find

anyone just like you, it will be a good sign. Such a person doesn't exist, so maybe you should stop looking. And once you embrace your unique set of talents, you'll find unity through diversity.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You will be attuned to beauty, noticing things like the physical sensation of color or the resonance of sounds that are too low or high for you to hear with your human ears.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A little bit of research will save you from being hoodwinked, taken or inconvenienced. Take the time to investigate and ask questions, even if you think you're being impertinent.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Conflict doesn't have to be stressful. You'll calmly face your opponent, knowing that you have a few tricks up your sleeve. You'll have the self-control of a well-trained sensei.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You can do more than you think you can, but you have to push yourself. One way is to get someone else to push you — someone you respect. You may have to pay this person to coach you, but it will be worth it.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are wise not to get too entrenched in your own beliefs and views. What does the person on the opposite side see? The answer to that question will help you build your case or abandon it — whichever seems healthiest.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll put yourself wholeheartedly into all you do. You have an edge. There is something exciting about your choices — an air of unpredictability that keeps people intrigued and glad to know you.  
**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (May 10). Your personal life bustles through the next 10 weeks, and it

seems that everyone is interested in you. You'll make a wise choice and align yourself with a winning situation. You'll enjoy perfecting your abilities in July and will be paid to do what you do so well. Domestic improvements bring you luck in September. Aquarius and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 32, 39, 51 and 20.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "Holiday, I've read that you are a songwriter. I like to write songs, too, but I have trouble writing with other people. Every time I try that, it doesn't work out. When the other person doesn't like my ideas, this causes a disagreement, and sometimes I can't get over it — we end up not being friends anymore. It seems like most songs are written by more than one person, right? How am I supposed to sell my songs if I can't work with anyone? I'm a Leo."  
Sometimes songwriting is a collaborative art, and sometimes it's not. There are plenty of writers who write alone, including the Songwriters Hall of Famer Diane Warren, who once had seven simultaneous hits on the Billboard singles chart with different artists. I'm a Leo, too, so I understand how important it is for us lions to have the attention and respect of our colleagues. The best way to achieve this may be for you to go it alone for about 300 songs. (Yes, 300!) Once you have crossed this threshold in your work, you will know what you are willing to compromise on and what you are not. Then working with others won't be so difficult.  
If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://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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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker  
Famous Hand

South dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ J 10 9 3 2  
♥ A Q 4  
♦ K 8 3 2  
♣ A  
**WEST**  
♠ J 7 5  
♥ Q 10 9 5 4  
♦ Q 10 9 6 5  
**EAST**  
♠ 5 4  
♥ K 10 9 8 6  
♦ 7  
♣ K J 4 3 2  
**SOUTH**  
♠ A K Q 8 7 6  
♥ 3 2  
♦ A J 6  
♣ 8 7  
The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♠ 2NT 4♣ 5♣  
5♦ Pass 5♥ Pass  
5♠ Pass 6♣  
Opening lead — ten of clubs.

that. Declarer lost only a heart and so scored 980 points.  
At the other table, with a German pair seated North-South, the bidding went as shown. West's two-notrump overall was "unusual," showing length in both minors. It elicited a five-club bid from his partner sandwiched between cuebids by North and South. This steered West to the safe club lead, and it now appeared declarer would have to lose a heart and a diamond for down one.  
South, Uli Wenning, did not fancy his chances. West was certain to have the queen of diamonds, and East was a strong favorite to hold the king of hearts. But Wenning saw a glimmer of hope and proceeded accordingly.  
After taking the club ace, he led a spade to the ace, ruffed a club, led another trump to the king and cashed the ace of diamonds. He then played a heart toward dummy.  
Without giving the matter much thought, West followed with the five, and this gave Wenning the opening he needed. Instead of playing the queen, he called for the four, and an unhappy East suddenly found himself saddled with the lead!  
Since East had no more diamonds or trumps, he either had to return a heart into the A-Q or yield a ruff-and-discard by leading a club. Either way, declarer's diamond loser was certain to disappear, allowing the Germans to salvage a tie on the deal.

In this deal from the 1987 European team championship, declarer took full advantage of the opposing bidding and a subtle slip by a defender to bring home a seemingly unmakeable slam. The deal occurred in the match between Germany and Turkey, and both North-South pairs succeeded in reaching the reasonable slam in spades.  
When the Turks held the North-South cards, there was no opposing bidding. Faced with a blind lead, West hit on a diamond, and that was

Tomorrow: Justice is sometimes blind.  
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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](http://www.sudoku.com)

8		9	4		1
2		5		6	4
	3				8
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# Murphy leads Rangers past Royals

ARLINGTON (AP) — David Murphy's swinging the bat like he deserves a regular spot in the Texas Rangers lineup.

Murphy had three hits and drove in two runs, Max Ramirez contributed the go-ahead RBI with a fifth-inning double, and the Rangers completed a four-game sweep with a 6-4 victory over the Kansas City Royals on Sunday.

"He did what he does, which is swing the bat and drive in some big runs," Washington said. "I've said all along that we're going to need Murph." Murphy went 8 for 17 with four doubles during the series with the Royals while fill-

ing in for right fielder Nelson Cruz, who's on the 15-day disabled list with a strained left hamstring.

Cruz is expected to be activated this week, and he carried the Rangers early with seven homers that still lead the team.

But Murphy's recent hot streak has raised his average from .151 to .229, and manager Ron Washington won't park Murphy on the bench once Cruz returns.

Prior to the series, Murphy told himself to relax, that he was trying too hard.

"When I speed up my at-bats, my mechanics get out of whack a little bit and I don't

see the ball as well," Murphy said. "That was my goal going into the series, and I feel like I did it successfully. We'll see what happens when (Cruz) gets back."

Doug Mathis (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for the victory as the Rangers won for the 10th time in 13 games. Neftali Feliz got three outs for his third save in the series and ninth in 10 chances overall.

The Royals went scoreless over the final five innings against four Texas relief pitchers.

Mike Aviles homered and had three hits for Kansas City, which completed a 3-8

trip.

"It was bad. It was real bad," Royals manager Trey Hillman said of his team's road woes. "If you had told me we would be 10 games under .500 at this time, I never would have believed it."

Kansas City's Mitch Maier had a two-run double in the second to open the scoring.

Texas answered with a four-run third against starter Luke Hochevar on Josh Hamilton's RBI ground-out, Vladimir Guerrero's sacrifice fly and Murphy's two-run double.

Hamilton went to second on Guerrero's fly ball, and after the game Hillman said Hamilton never tagged up. But

none of Royals players on the field tried to appeal the play, and Hamilton remained at second.

Hamilton and Ian Kinsler later scored on Murphy's double.

"I had no clue," Kansas City first baseman Billy Butler said. "I didn't see it. Obviously I'm embarrassed about it now. I was watching the play in front of me. I didn't pick up on it. That's my priority. That's on me."

Hochevar, weak from an illness over the last couple of days, was gone after 2 2-3 innings and 71 pitches. He allowed four runs and three hits.

# Oakland's Braden pitches perfect game against Tampa

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Dallas Braden definitely owns the mound now.

Braden pitched the 19th perfect game in major league history on Sunday, shutting down the majors' hottest team and leading the Oakland Athletics to a 4-0 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays.

Braden threw his arms in the air after Gabe Kapler grounded out to

shortstop for the final out, his simmering feud with Yankees star Alex Rodriguez merely a footnote to the first perfect game for Oakland in 42 years.

The closest the Rays got to a hit was Jason Bartlett's liner to third leading off the game. Evan Longoria tried to bunt leading off the fifth, drawing boos from the small crowd.

"Pretty cool," Braden

said. "I don't know what to think about it just yet. There's definitely a select group. I'd like to have a career more than today."

Before this gem, Braden was best known for his enraged reaction to Rodriguez walking across the mound on April 22. Still angry after the game, he told the slugger "to go do laps in the bullpen" if he wanted to traipse across a

mound.

The squabble was still simmering last week. On Friday in Boston, Rodriguez said he didn't want to extend Braden's "extra 15 minutes of fame."

A-Rod struck a far more conciliatory tone Sunday.

"I've learned in my career that it's always better to be remembered for some of the good things you do on the field, and

good for him," Rodriguez said before facing Boston.

That said, Braden's grandmother may have gotten the last word:

"Let's forget it, uh huh — and stick it, A-Rod," said a chuckling Peggy Lindsey, who was in the stands watching.

This was the majors' first perfect game since Mark Buehrle did it for the White Sox against the Rays on July 23, and

the second no-hitter this season after Colorado's Ubaldo Jimenez accomplished it in Atlanta on April 17.

"I'm a bad omen. That's the third perfect game and fourth no-hitter I've been on the wrong side of," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "When Kenny Rogers threw his I was the bullpen coach. If you want to see another one, just follow me around."

## COAHOMA

Continued from Page 5

the mound, but he did a good job for us."

Senior Ray Gutierrez came on in relief and threw three shutout innings to earn the save for the Bulldogs, who improved to 17-8 with the victory.

Other upperclassmen who came up big for

the 'Dogs were Chance Hart, who was 3-for-3 at the plate with a double and three-run home run in the fifth, which gave Coahoma the lead for good. Lane Douglass added a three-run double and Lupe Abrego contributed a two-run single.

The team's overall effort pleased its coach.

"I thought we played a lot stronger than we did in the first game of the

series (a 15-8 Coahoma victory)," Fuller said. "I thought they settled down and played the way they're capable of playing."

The Bulldogs now get a chance to exact a bit of revenge for their defeat in last year's playoffs when they take on Holiday in a best-of-three series tentatively scheduled to begin Thursday at a time and site to be determined.

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## Steers ousted from playoffs

LUBBOCK — They held a baseball game, and a football contest broke out.

The Big Spring Steers had one of their biggest offensive explosions of the year in their bi-district playoff game

against Canyon High School Saturday. Unfortunately, the Steers' production was dwarfed by the Eagles as Canyon took a 21-10 victory to sweep the teams' series at the Lubbock High School diamond.

The Steers, who finished fourth in District 4-4A this year, ended their season with a 9-20 record, but return most of their players next season.

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ANSWERS

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