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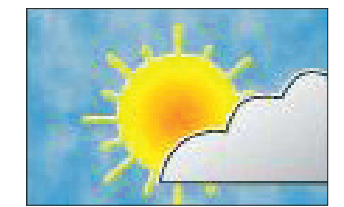
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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY
JANUARY 25, 2011



VOLUME 106, NUMBER 46 COPYRIGHT 2011 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY



File photo
Robert Borella, left, and his son, Wes, chat while waiting for their entry to be ready at the 2008 West Texas Centers benefit chili cook-off at the Eagles Lodge. This year's cook-off will be held Saturday.

OC, FPC to survive in state Senate budget plan *However, funding to Howard College would decrease*

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Four Texas community colleges facing closure will escape the axe under a preliminary Texas budget submitted by state senators Monday.

The four institutions, which include Odessa College, would have had their state funding eliminated under the House version of the budget, which was released last week. Under the Senate version, however, funding has been restored.

Aside from Odessa College, Brazosport College in Lake Jackson, Frank Phillips College in Borger and Ranger College would be closed under the House plan to slash \$145 million in state funding for Texas community and junior colleges.

State Sen. Kel Seliger, whose district includes both Odessa and Frank Phillips, applauded the Senate action.

"This is consistent with the value pro-

"We're certainly pleased that all 50 community colleges in Texas will be included in the funding pattern."

—Dr. Cheryl Sparks,
Howard College president

See **BUDGET**, Page 3A

Weather shaping up 'not chilly' for annual cook-off

Special to the Herald

Chili, not chilly.
The weather forecast for Saturday's West Texas Centers Children-In-Need chili cook-off calls for sunny skies and a high temperature in the low 70s — balmy for winter standards.

Organizers are hoping the good weather brings out the cooks and the "tasters" to this year's event, the ninth annual benefit, hosted by the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 3188.

What: West Texas Centers Children-In-Need chili cook-off.
Where: Eagles Aerie No. 3188 at 703 W. Third.
When: Saturday. Cooking begins at 8 a.m., judging at 11:30.

Landon Sturdivant, West Texas Centers chief operating officer. "It's also a great deal of fun and easy-going enough for people who have never tried it before. We try to make it a comfortable family friendly event for everyone."

It's also inexpensive. For cooks, the fee is \$10 per two-person team. For everyone else, entry is \$5, allowing them the opportunity to test all the chili available for judging.

See **COOK-OFF**, Page 3A

Veteran of Month

Hangar 25 Air Museum has named Curtis Flewellen (U.S. Army 1966-68) as its Veteran of the Month for January.

A reception in his honor will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the museum's Briefing Room. The public is invited.

Hangar 25 Air Museum is located at 1911 Apron Dr. For more information, call 264-1999.

Nationally known search teams leave, but hunt for Dunn goes on

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

COLORADO CITY — Investigators say the search for 13-year-old Hailey Dunn is still going strong despite the departure of two national volunteer programs from the effort during the weekend.

Officials from the Laura Recovery

Center for Missing Children and the Klaas Kids Foundation left Colorado City following the weekend, after spending several days organizing volunteer search parties.

Brad Dennis, director of search operations for the KlaasKids National Search Center for Missing Children, said his group had to

leave the search due to prior engagements in Florida.

"We knew going in that we only had a few days available on the schedule, and we weren't able to bring in our whole team," Dennis said. "Our goal is to put a plan in

See **SEARCH**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Luz Campos



Luz Campos, 92, of Big Spring died Sunday, Jan. 23, 2011, at her residence. Vigil services will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Merced Cemetery in Marfa.

She was born Dec. 20, 1918, in Marfa to Rosenda and Felipe Lujan. She married Ramon Campos and he preceded her in death Oct. 17, 1994.

She lived most of her life in Kearny, Ariz., but returned to Big Spring in 1998. She was a homemaker and a Catholic.

She is survived by one son, Fred Campos and wife Bonnie of North Las Vegas, Nev.; two daughters, Mary Ann Cates and husband Michael of Queen Creek, Ariz., and Brigette Sandoval and husband David of Big Spring; two sisters, Juana Limon and husband Juan of Big Spring and Mary Woods of Baton Rouge, La.; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three sisters, Anita, Tina and Lupe; and three brothers, George, Tomas and Maximo.

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

Donald Gene 'Don' Nash



Donald Gene "Don" Nash, 60, of Big Spring died Sunday, Jan. 23, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Don Snipes officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Sept. 14, 1950, in Wichita Falls to Horace and Nancy Patricia Nash. He had worked as an RN at Malone & Hogan Hospital, Veterans Administration Medical Center and the Big Spring State Hospital. He served in the U.S. Navy as a medical corpsman. He also served in the Navy Reserve.

He was a member of Baptist Temple Church. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Rebecca Nash of Big Spring; two daughters, Rachel Lowry and husband Larry of Lewisville and Jessica Harman and husband Charles of Del Rio; one granddaughter; his mother, Nancy "Pat" Nash of Big Spring; one sister, Nancy Gilliam of Big Spring; numerous cousins, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law; nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Ruth Yell; and his father, Horace E. Nash. The family will be at 2302 Roemer.

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

Lonny Martin

Lonny Martin, 54, of Tarzan died Saturday, Jan. 22, 2011, in Martin County. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011, at the Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton. Private family services will be held. Family and friends are invited to lunch at noon Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2011, at Luichi's in Stanton.

He was born March 24, 1956, in Big Spring. Lonny lived in Tarzan all of his life and attended Grady and Stanton schools. He farmed for a number of years and then worked as an inspector for oil, gas and nuclear plants.

He was a member of Lenorah Baptist Church. Survivors include a daughter, Monica Martin of Midland; his parents, Floyd and Frances Martin of Stanton; two sisters, Belinda DeArman and husband Jeff of Plano and Charlotte Welch of Midland; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Larry Martin; and one nephew.

The family suggests memorials be made to a favorite charity.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Sharon Ann White

Sharon Ann White, 64, of Big Spring died Monday, Jan. 24, 2011, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Dr. Rudy Haddad

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Police blotter

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

- LINDA RENA TORRES, 28, of 1904 Morrison, was arrested Monday on charges of driving while intoxicated and driving while license invalid.
- ADRIAN PATRICK VALENCIA, 22, of 908 S. Nolan, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- BENITA KAY PADRON SALAZAR, 37, of 3312 Drexel, was arrested Monday on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and driving while license invalid.
- APRIL LYNN MARTINEZ, 27, of 1209 Harding, was arrested Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- TIFFANY CLAUDIA GIBSON, 21, of 1810 S. Monticello, was arrested Monday on warrants for theft and failure to appear.
- JONATHAN MATTHEW MATA, 25, of 1810 Owens, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 1000 block of Main Street.
In the 100 block of Lockhart.
In the 200 block of W. FM 700.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1200 block of Harding.

Sheriff

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

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.
- JANIE AGUILAR, 44, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- THOMAS EDWARD AKIN, 44, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a Rains County motion to revoke probation for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
- JACKEY DEWAINE MCGILL, 38, was arrested Monday by DPS on a Tarrant County warrant for burglary of a building.
- ROSA DEJESUS GUSMAN, 27, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for no driver's license and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- ARTHUR WELCH, 41, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- LINDA RENE TORRES, 28, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated and driving while license invalid.
- RICARDO CABRAL PEREZ, 30, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a fugitive warrant and an immigration detainer.
- ADRIAN PATRICK VALENCIA, 22, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- BENITA KAY PADRON SALAZAR, 37, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and driving while license invalid.
- ARMANDINO MURILLO, 38, was arrested Monday by DPS on a charge of no driver's license.
- SANTIAGO JIMINEZ MORALES, 50, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
- TIFFANY CLAUDIA GIBSON, 21, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for theft and failure to appear.
- SHAWNA DAWN OWEN, 39, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of theft with two or more previous convictions and failure to identify - giving false information.
- APRIL LYNN MARTINEZ, 27, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- JONATHAN MATA, 25, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a Midland County warrant for theft of service by check.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity (including activity from the weekend):

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of Robin. 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 1500 block of

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 1/26	Thu 1/27	Fri 1/28	Sat 1/29	Sun 1/30
60/29 Sunshine along with some cloudy intervals. High around 60F.	67/33 Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 30s.	72/37 Sunshine. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	71/38 Sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	65/39 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 6:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 6:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 6:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 6:17 PM	Sunrise: 7:41 AM Sunset: 6:18 PM

- Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Highway 669 and CR 37. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of N.W. Seventh Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Circle. 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 1000 block of E. 16th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Circle Drive. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Chanute. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Stonehaven. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the area of HEB. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Coronado. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 500 block of Scott. 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 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. 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 1400 block of Mesa. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of E. 11th Place. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Ohio. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3800 block of Piper Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the area of N. Highway 87. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of E. 15th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2200 block of Morrison. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Clayton. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Harding. 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 300 block of Gregg Street. Service refused.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1300 block of Lorilla.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Wallace. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Fairchild. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Crestline. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 100 block of W. 21st Street. Fire was out on arrival.

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News briefs

Republican lawmakers take aim at UN, aiming to cut funding

WASHINGTON (AP) — Newly empowered Republican lawmakers are taking their first shots at the United Nations, depicting it as bloated and ineffective as they seek to cut government funding for it.

On Tuesday, a House of Representatives panel will air criticisms of the organization in a briefing that will prescribe congressional action.

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, who will preside over the briefing as chairwoman of the House Foreign Affairs committee, is seeking cuts and has introduced a bill intended to pressure the United Nations to change the way it operates and to make dues voluntary. She also is promising investigations into possible corruption and mismanagement.

“The fact that the U.S. continues to contribute billions of taxpayer dollars every year to an unaccountable, unreformed U.N. is no laughing matter,” Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., said in a statement Friday.

Congress at various times has withheld funding from the world organization, but last year, under Democratic leadership in both the House and the Senate, the United States paid its dues in full as well as some back dues.

Medvedev: management of bombed Moscow airport bear responsibility for security lapses

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said Tuesday that officials of the Moscow airport where a suicide bombing killed 35 people must bear responsibility for security failures there, but airport management contend Russian transport police were in charge.

The finger-pointing could further undermine confidence in Russia's security as Medvedev prepares for an appearance at the high-profile World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, to try to attract investors.

Two Britons, a German and a Bulgarian were among the those killed in the Monday afternoon explosion at Domodedovo Airport, according to the Emergencies Ministry. A further 110 people, including nine foreigners, were hospitalized with injuries, the ministry said.

No claims of responsibility for the blast have been issued, although Islamic militants in the southern Russian region of Chechnya have been blamed for previous attacks in Moscow, including a double suicide bombing on the capital's subway system in March 2010 that resulted in 40 deaths. If Monday's attack was by Chechen insurgents, it could indicate an ominous new strategy because unlike previous attacks it targeted an area where foreign citizens were likely to be victims.

After the blast, Medvedev postponed his departure for the Davos forum where he is to be the main speaker at the opening session on Wednesday. The Kremlin said he still plans to go, but his itinerary has not been finalized.

To divided Congress and anxious country, Obama to devote State of the Union to economic vision

WASHINGTON (AP) — Addressing a demand for economic answers, President Barack Obama will try to convince the American people and a divided Congress that he has a vision for speeding up job creation, promoting spending on the core of his agenda but promising to rein in a growing, staggering debt. His State of the Union address will

reflect reality: The economy trumps all.

To a nationwide television audience Tuesday night, Obama will home in on jobs, the issue of most importance to the public and to his hopes for a second term.

Specifically, he will focus on improving the education, innovation and infrastructure of the United States as the way to provide a sounder economic base. He will pair that with calls to reduce the government's debt — now topping \$14 trillion — and reform government. Those five areas will frame the speech, with sprinklings of fresh proposals.

Yet no matter how ambitious Obama's rhetorical reach, his speech at the halfway point of his term will be viewed in the context of his new political reality.

The midterm elections gave Republicans control of the House and a stronger minority vote in the Senate, meaning he hasn't the option of pushing through changes over GOP objections. The contrast between the two parties' visions remains stark, and where to slash spending, and by how much, will drive much of the debate for the rest of 2011.

Malaysia, South Korea plan to prosecute 12 Somali pirates

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysia and South Korea announced plans Tuesday to prosecute 12 captured Somali pirates in what maritime officials praised as a move that might deter the hijacking of ships off East Africa.

Somali pirates apprehended by authorities are often not brought to justice, but merely released after being disarmed. The international community has often depended on countries like Kenya and the Seychelles in the past to prosecute pirates, who took a record 1,016 hostages for ransom last year.

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1A

vided to the people of Texas and their future by the community college system,” Seliger said in a statement released Monday. “I started working on this issue the moment I heard of the cuts proposed in the House budget last week. I appreciate

(this) recognition of the invaluable role that these community colleges play in educating our workforce.”

Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks also applauded the action.

“We're certainly pleased that all 50 community colleges in Texas will be included in the funding pattern,” Sparks said today. “And

we will continue to work with state officials through the entire legislative process.”

The Senate version of the budget also included a bit of good news — or at least less bad news — for Howard in the area of employee benefits. State funds for those benefits, which would have been slashed by more than 80 percent under the House budget, will be funded

at 50 percent of current levels under the Senate version, Sparks said.

However, core state financial assistance would decrease even more under the Senate budget, although exact figures have not been determined, she added.

Under the House version, Howard and SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf would see state funding

slashed by \$2.7 million, and Sparks said that figure would increase in the Senate's package.

“Because of funding being restored for those four community colleges, Howard College will see a decrease in funds,” she said. “Right now, it looks like we would receive about \$300,000 less than under the House budget.”

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

COOK-OFF

Continued from Page 1A

Judges will critique entries on taste, appearance and aroma, selecting the top 10 for awards presentation, Sturdivant said. Each of the top 10 cooks will receive a plaque recognizing their culinary ex-

pertise. In addition, one award will be presented for Best of Show.

Proceeds benefit the Children in Need fund, which provides money to children who may have a special one-time need, West Texas Centers CEO Shelley Smith said.

“The Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie No. 3188 Chili Cook-off is our main source of fund-

ing for the Children-In-Need fund,” Smith said. “Before they started the chili cook-off nine years ago, we had run out of options. They have been a true blessing.”

The Eagles raised \$10,500 for West Texas Centers Children-In-Need benefit fund last year, Sturdivant said, “This is a very special fund-raising event for needy children, as 100 percent

of the funds raised go directly to helping children with special needs.”

Cooking begins at 8 a.m. with judging scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Tickets will be available at the door.

For more information, contact Sturdivant at (432) 264-3247 or landon.sturdivant@wtcmhmr.org

SEARCH

Continued from Page 1A

place that allows locals to sustain the search efforts in a way that is advantageous to law enforcement.

“We never give up. I told the family and law enforcement that if our services were needed, we were more than willing to come back and bring even more resources for the search.”

Dunn was reported missing by her mother, Billie Dunn, to Colorado City Police officials Dec. 28. According to Billie Dunn's live-in boyfriend, Shawn Adkins, Hailey Dunn told him Dec. 27 she was going to visit her father, who lived nearby, and then spend the night with

a friend. Adkins is believed to be the last person to see the girl alive.

Adkins has since been named a “person of interest” by investigators. Adkins, 25, told the Associated Press he would “never ever do anything to harm Hailey.” Adkins said he prays daily for Hailey's return.

Searches have been conducted in the city and outlying counties — including the community of Dunn, Howard County, Scurry County, Abilene and other nearby locations — by volunteers and law enforcement.

Pete Kampfer, city

manager and media liaison for the search, said the departure of the organizations does not signal the end of the search for young Hailey Dunn, who has been missing more than four weeks.

“We follow every viable, sensible, credible lead we get,” Kampfer said. “We have billboards all over, even in neighboring states, so

we get calls from people all over the place.”

Anyone with information concerning the girl's whereabouts or circumstances concerning her disappearance are asked to call authorities at 325-728-5294 or 325-728-3161. A reward of \$15,000 is now being offered for information in the case.

Contact Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232.

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Question: What does Hospice provide?
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Question: When do you qualify for Hospice Care?
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Question: Don't most people die at home?
Answer: 70-80% of Americans die in facilities. Hospice patients get their wish to die at home.

Question: Can Hospice patients die in a hospital?
Answer: **If the patient chooses to, the hospice staff will make the arrangements.**

Question: Will entering a Hospice make you die sooner?
Answer: Statistical studies show that **Morphine eases pain but does NOT shorten life.**

Question: Do patients admitted to hospice ever improve?
Answer: **Yes, some patients actually improve and in time, are discharged from hospice.**

Question: Isn't Hospice only for Cancer patients?
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Question: Is Hospice care expensive?
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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

Don't forget we like your letters to us

It's the so-called "dead of winter," and, although nobody's going to be snowed in very often in these parts, there's not much of anything better to do on a really cold day than sit down and enjoy a good book or read the day's newspaper.

What's more, there's still quite a bit going on these days in our community and we here at the Herald want to take this opportunity to remind our readers that we welcome your letters to the editor and want to publish them in the paper.

On an almost daily basis, you can find our policies concerning letters to the editor located on our "Opinion" page, but here is a reminder:

While it is not an absolute requirement, we ask that letters be limited to no more than 300 words.

Yes, we have printed quite a few letters in the past year that were considerably longer than 300 words. However, letters are printed on an "as space is available basis," and longer letters are more difficult to find space for publication and sometimes wait more than a week to be printed.

Letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address, for verification purposes. Anonymous or unsigned letters, or those that do not include a telephone number or street address, will not be considered for publication.

Letters determined to be libelous or slanderous will also not be printed.

We do reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity and we also reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period for each author.

Unfortunately, the limited size of our staff makes it impossible for us to acknowledge the receipt of letters.

And, as one might expect, letters submitted from those living in our readership area will receive priority.

There are a number of ways to submit letters. They can be mailed to: Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring 79721. Or they can be hand delivered to our offices at 710 Scurry St. during normal business hours Monday through Friday. In addition, you can go to our Website at www.bigspringherald.com and click on the Letters to the Editor icon and be provided with a form that will guarantee it arrives in the editor's office.

We also encourage readers to submit letters via e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com.

The thing to remember is that the Big Spring Herald is your community newspaper and we want to provide you with a forum to express your views.

So, please let us hear from you.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we not preach to the choir, Lord, but sing along with You.

Amen

Best gifts are unexpected ones

It was a love affair from the moment I saw her and she slept with me on the first night.

With my wife upstairs, we shared the bedroom in the basement and though she was a little noisy, I'm pretty sure we didn't disturb anyone upstairs.

Alternating between cuddling and eager to bite me, she left scratch marks on my legs and gouged a little hole in my arm.

A little gassy due to a bout with intestinal worms, she spent a fair amount of time licking my eyes, but mostly she wanted to stretch out next to me, with her head burrowed into my shoulder.

She was a little scared having spent the last few weeks in a cage, but eventually she settled down and went to sleep between my legs, purring contentedly.

White with spots of gray and some hints of brown, she's a tiny thing who entered my life most unexpectedly.

My wife, not normally one for surprises had told me when we were out for dinner one Satur-

day night that, since we had driven separately, that if I was to arrive home first she wanted for me to wait for her before going in.

This struck me as a little odd, so she explained that she had obtained my Christmas present and it wasn't something that could wait until Christmas. I argued a bit, along the lines that Christmas was a pretty miserable day and I wanted to at least break up the boredom with a present.

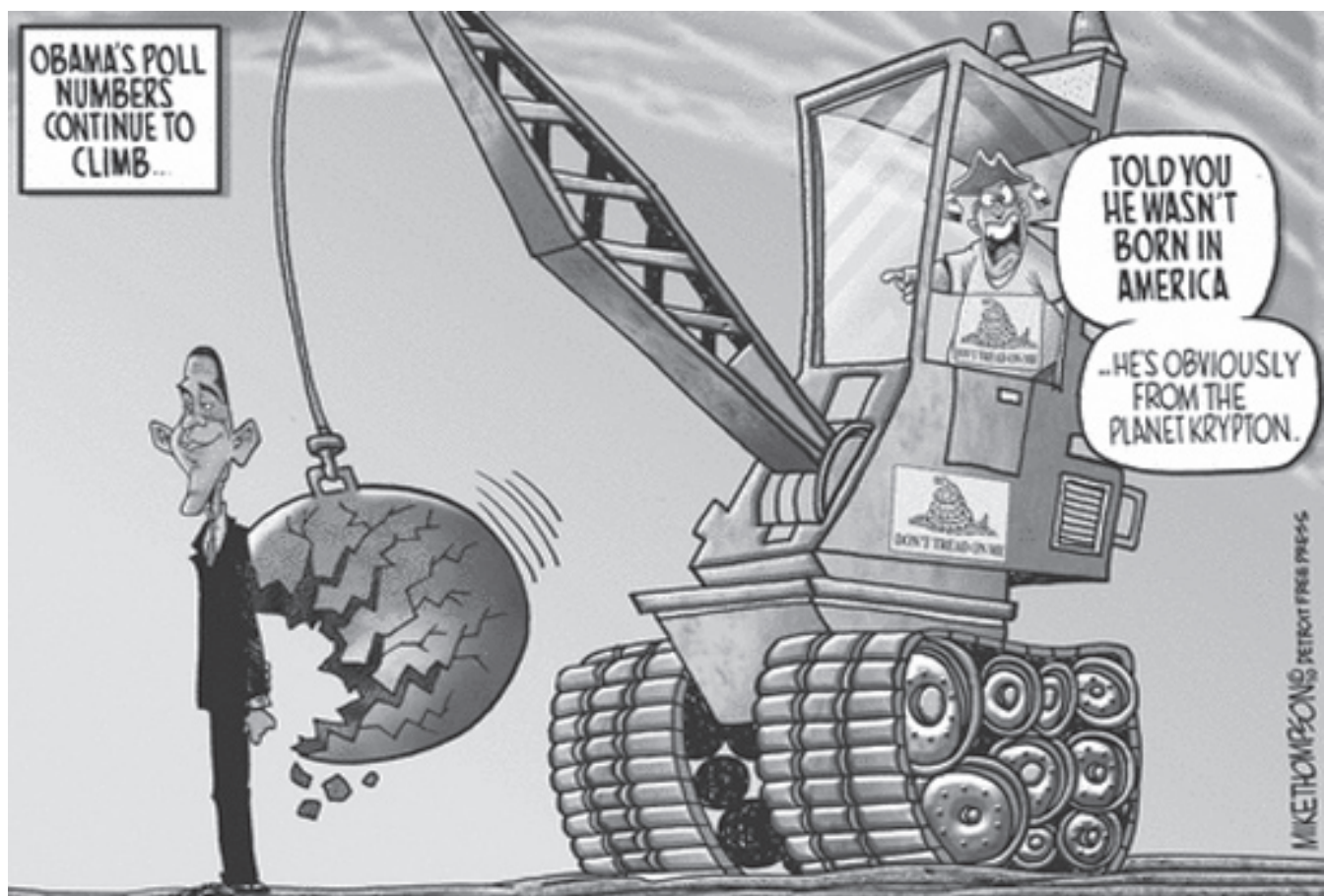
She insisted, however, so I waited for her in the driveway and, upon walking into the house was escorted into the basement where we have a spare bedroom. The upstairs bedroom door was closed as I was brought downstairs and I had absolutely no idea what my wife planned.

I was taken aback a bit when upon entering the basement bedroom I was greeted by my mother-in-law and my son. My wife, who I assumed would leave to head into the closed upstairs bedroom to prepare the present simply sat down next to me.

Not wanting to be rude in the face of a present, I sat quietly making idle chitchat with my mother-in-law while my wife kept glancing at my son. Finally, my wife asked my son if he had left something under the couch.



DANIEL
KLINE



Global leader in innovation, research

Texas is uniquely blessed with a thriving network of research institutions and an inventive spirit that propels us forward in scientific advancements and technology breakthroughs. We attract world class talent and we are able to realize the full potential of their work because of our state's leading institutions' commitment to work collaboratively.

These strengths have enabled Texas to establish an innovation infrastructure that we must continue to strengthen and expand in order to maintain our leading edge.

Ten remarkable individuals in Texas are Nobel Laureates, and their contributions are changing the way we live. Dr. Michael Brown and Dr. Joe Goldstein of UT Southwestern Medical Center won the Nobel for their work on cholesterol metabolism 25 years ago. Today, they are making an equally important contribution by developing future leaders. In 2004, Dr. Brown and I cofounded the Academy of Medicine, Engineering, and Science of Texas (TAMEST), in part, to ensure the tools for achievement are passed down to our state's burgeoning scientists.

After all, we cannot rest on our Nobel Laureates alone!

At TAMEST's annual conference at the beginning of January, the Academy's O'Donnell Awards were presented for Texas' best new research as chosen by a Nobel Laureate committee.

Dr. Margaret Goodell, pediatrics and genetics professor and director of Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine Center (STaR) at Baylor College of Medicine,

was presented with the medicine award.

Goodell was honored for her innovative use of genetics to provide greater understanding about the relationship between the immune system, stem cells and diseases such as leukemia, lymphomas and AIDS.

Dr. J.C. Chiao, an electrical engineering professor at UT-Arlington and adjunct associate professor at UT-Southwestern, received the engineering award for developing sensors to test treatments for illnesses that can lead to cancer.

Chiao merged his expertise in electrical engineering and internal medicine, resulting in this innovative device.

Dr. Kim Orth, associate professor in molecular biology at UT-Southwestern, received the science award for discovering ways invading bacteria debilitate cells' ability to fight disease. This understanding can improve treatment of infectious and immune-related diseases.

I applaud the achievements of these outstanding researchers and look forward to watching their promising careers unfold.

One reason for the acceleration of achievement in Texas is that our research institutions collaborate, rather than compete. Prior to the founding of TAMEST, a silo approach to research was prevalent and institutions were largely unaware of the work being conducted around the state. There was also an element of competition.

But now they work cooperatively to maximize the impact of their efforts, hastening the rate of innovations.

For example, UT-Arlington, in conjunction with the Consortium for Nanomaterials for Aerospace Commerce Technology, is developing nanotechnology applications to recharge PDAs. The technology is also being ap-

plied to power unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones, which are increasingly being used by the military in Afghanistan, as well as along the Texas border, to detect illicit activity.

Later this year, Texas Advanced Computing Center will unveil its newest super-computer, LONESTAR 4. Through a joint effort by the National Science Foundation, UT-Austin Texas Tech, Texas A&M, Dell and Intel, LONESTAR 4 will help bring Texas to the forefront nationally for computer-based modeling in energy, biology, physics and cyber-security.

The importance of this work is not lost on Congress. We recognize the long-term value and economic sense of investing in basic research. As savvy farmers know, you can't eat your seed corn. Likewise, America must continue investing in research to foster innovation that fuels the economy.

In December, the America COMPETES Act, legislation to reauthorize the key science agencies responsible for supporting basic research, passed in Congress handily.

I am proud the legislation was fiscally responsible and eliminates duplicative federal programs, allowing us to focus investment on high-value research.

It is my hope that this legislation will provide our research institutions the long-term resources to build on our state's strong momentum.

With our Texas can-do spirit, I am confident our state will remain the best place in America to live, to work, to think and to create.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in more than 100 papers weekly. He can be reached by e-mail at dan@notastep.com

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas and is the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

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• 1848: JAMES W. MARSHALL FINDS GOLD AT SUTTER'S MILL NEAR SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA.

• 1965: FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM WINSTON CHURCHILL DIES IN LONDON AT AGE 90.

• 2003: THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY OFFICIALLY BEGINS OPERATION.



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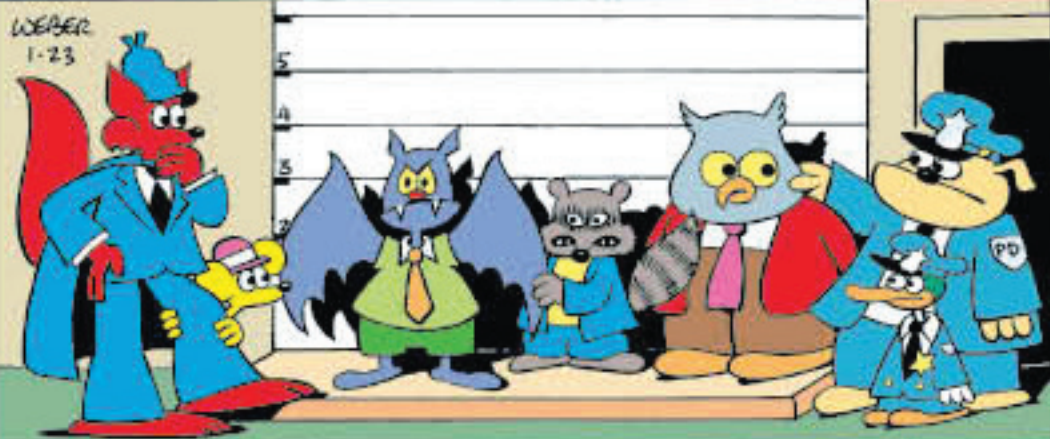
Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: TEAPOT

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

One of these suspects stole diamonds from the Forest Museum. The thief switched off the museum lights and eluded guards through the rooms and twisting halls in total darkness. All of these thugs are night creatures, but which one does Slylock Fox suspect is most capable of this kind of heist?



Find six differences between these panels.



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HOW TO DRAW a piranha



YOUR DRAWING

Today's artist is Ananda Ritterhouse, age 11, of Eugene, OR



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How many pounds of milk does it take to make a gallon of ice cream?
a) 2 b) 6 c) 12 d) 18

Answer - c) Answer - Newspaper, bones, cat's paw, table, hair and frozen.

The fourth Find the six differences is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 539475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Man accused in Ariz. shooting pleads not guilty

PHOENIX (AP) — The 22-year-old man accused in a deadly Arizona rampage that critically wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords has made his first public statement regarding his role in the shooting: He's not guilty.

Jared Loughner entered the plea Monday to federal charges of trying to assassinate Giffords and kill two of her aides. He also faces murder charges in the deaths of

a federal judge and another Giffords aide killed in the Tucson shootings, and more charges were expected.

The Tucson man had his wrists cuffed to a chain around his waist; eight U.S. marshals kept watch in the packed Phoenix courtroom and gallery above. Investigators have said Loughner was mentally disturbed and acting increasingly erratic in the weeks leading up to the

attack on Jan. 8 that killed six and wounded 13.

Giffords, a three-term Democratic congresswoman, was shot in the forehead and spent two weeks in a Tucson hospital before she was flown to Houston to begin her rehabilitation. Among the six who died in the attack at a constituent event was a 9-year-old girl who was interested in politics and was taken there by a neighbor to meet Gif-

fords.

Christina Taylor Green's family, as well as a Giffords intern who cared for the congresswoman after she was shot, are expected to attend President Barack Obama's State of the Union address Tuesday night. Daniel Hernandez was hailed as a hero for rushing to Giffords' side and applying pressure to her wounds before paramedics arrived.

Also expected to attend the address is the four-member Arizona medical team that treated Giffords, her office said Monday.

Her new medical team in Houston said the next update on her condition would come when they are ready to move Giffords to the rehab hospital.

Loughner's hearing Monday did not offer any indication of a defense strategy.



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Bird Poop: 'To everything there is a season...'

Quickly glancing at the middle of the lake, the woman saw the familiar pair. With necks stretched toward the sky, the large, black beings stood regally atop the base of a once-used geyser. In the morning sun, their outspread wings soaked up the freely given heat.

Often, with her grandchildren in tow, she had watched the winter migrants gather in a row on the dam to the east. Their numbers varied from year to year, but she could always count on some gracing the shoreline. In the part of the county where she lived, waterfowl and shore birds were seldom seen. Some years, as they migrated high in the sky, she might see sandhill cranes, ducks, or geese.

A few days later, before realizing what she had just passed, her rear view mirror confirmed a creature standing just off the pavement. To her, it resembled the birds at the city park.

Turning around, she drove slowly toward it. As she stopped came the realization that she had never been this close to such a bird.

Having a small head for such a large body, it made up for what seemed a proportional imbalance. A lengthy tail at the other end of its dense torso counterbalanced its long neck and hook-tipped bill.

As she walked toward the bird, she noticed it waddled somewhat like a goose. Coated with dust from the grit and gravel of the road's shoulder, its webbed feet were better suited to a watery surface.

Several cars sped past her. Turbulence from the vehicles was minor when compared to what might happen if the bird wandered onto the pavement.

Since she could outrun it, the



BEBE McCASLAND



Courtesy photo

Since it is not waterproof, the double-crested cormorant will spread both wings in order to dry its feathers. Weighing nearly four pounds, the bird is the only cormorant to frequent inland, fresh water lakes.

woman easily penned the bird to the ground with both hands. Surprised by its weight, she had a hard time controlling the wiggly, squirming mass of black feathers.

With no container or box, she decided to put the bird on the floor behind her car's front seats. An old blanket protected the rear from the usual passengers, her dogs.

Stopping at the nearest business, she asked to use the phone. Since she needed gas, she inquired if Animal

Control could meet her at Trio-Fuels.

When an officer called to tell me he had picked up a bird at that location, I couldn't imagine what had happened.

At the shelter, we discovered the woman had rescued a double-crested cormorant.

Against a glossy black head and neck, its orange throat was noticeable. From above, its back and wings were a bronzy black. Even its under parts and tail were black.

Once home, we found no signs of injury. We did discover its emerging curled tufts, or feathers, behind each eye. A prelude to another breeding season had begun.

As its light green eyes followed my every movement, the cormorant suddenly nipped at my exposed hand. Although weary from its earthbound travel, it still had the defiant nature of its specie.

Skilled at grabbing and eating fish, the cormorant depended upon its hooked bill to capture a meal. It also enabled the bird to rip and tear small bits of flesh to feed its young.

Examining its legs located near the rear of a long body, we came to its powerful feet.

Underwater, it was an aquatic master. In deep dives, it could remain below the surface for up to a minute.

Since cormorants often perch on branches extending over water, we fashioned a roost that would accommodate its weight. Bits of fish floating in a large container offered an incentive to eat.

Leaving the bird to discover its new environment and knowing it needed to rest, I remembered another cormorant rescued some five years earlier.

It, too, had been discovered on a county road. Both birds had incurred no obvious injuries.

The first cormorant had flourished in captivity only to succumb to nature's dictate a week later. Wondering if this bird might suffer the same outcome, I felt it would be determined in the days and weeks ahead.

Certainly age and experiences contributed to its life expectancy. Comforting was an ancient admonition that applies, in my opinion, to all species. "To everything there is a season... a time to be born, and a time to die..."

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

Pet or paramour? Some people choose pet

NEW YORK (AP) — Your sweetheart or your pet. Who would you choose to dump if one had to go?

Most current pet owners said they would hold on to their spouse or significant other (84 percent), but a sizable 14 percent picked their pet, according to an AP-Petside.com poll.

Put Sally Roland, 53, of Omaha, Neb., down in the dog-first column. "I'm divorced, so that might explain it," she joked.

The unmarried, like Roland, are more apt to choose their pet over their mate — 25 percent among unmarried pet owners versus 8 percent among the married.

Count Fidel Martinez, 30, of Akron, Ohio, as forever loyal to Killer. That's his mix-breed, 100-pound rescue dog.

"I would absolutely give up my girlfriend for him," Martinez said. "I know it sounds insane but I've had numerous relationships with women. My dog has never let me down."

For the record: Martinez and Killer have been together for seven years. Martinez and his girlfriend have been together for

four.

The two-legged pair have no immediate plans to cohabitate, he said, but she does like the dog a lot.

Women are far more apt than men to say the human-pet choice would be a tough one (40 percent among women compared with 26 percent among men).

Both genders were equally likely to go with their spouse or significant other, according to the poll conducted by GfK Roper Public Affairs and Corporate Communications.

There was also no difference between dog and cat owners: 35 percent of each said the choice would be a hard one and more than eight in 10 would choose their spouse.

Urban dwellers (47 percent) are more apt to say they'd have a difficult time choosing than did suburbanites (35 percent) or rural residents (25 percent).

Giving up a pet for any reason can be really tough — unless you are the owners of Princess the canine escape artist.

David Rosenthal and his fam-

ily in Missouri City, Texas, were ready with what they considered an ideal fenced backyard when they welcomed the 2-year-old American Eskimo from a shelter. Then things went from pretty good to not at all.

"She kept getting away," he said. "She'd dig underneath the fence, sneak out through every little crack."

Even worse, the 49-year-old Rosenthal discovered the hard way that the bushy sago palm plants in the backyard were poisonous to dogs (and humans, too).

"Plus she was nipping at kids," said Rosenthal, who has three. "We were told it was friendly to kids." So off Princess went, back to the shelter after a year. "It was sad but we knew there was already somebody there to adopt her."

The family now has two other rescue dogs.

About six in 10 adults (57 percent) have had to give up a pet at some point in their lives, with current pet owners (64 percent) a bit more likely to have done so.

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HC women fight back for win over WTC



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Taniqua Ards makes a free throw in the Howard College Hawks' win over Western Texas College Monday in Snyder. She had 12 points.

BY ADAM COLEMAN

Sports Editor

SNYDER — The Howard College women's basketball team had reason to be encouraged at the end of a sloppy first half against Western Texas College, as the Lady Westerners weren't doing much better.

That was because the Hawks' defense stayed steady throughout Tuesday's game, and once the offense woke up, Howard College had a firm grip on the game.

"With most teams, if you're not playing well offensively, you don't play well defensively," HC head coach Earl Diddle said after his team's 51-45 win Monday. "I really think that's how we won the game in the first half because we're not playing well, but we found a way to stay in the game."

The Hawks were led by Zeslie Johnson, who finished with 14 points. Taniqua Ards had 12.

For Howard the first half was riddled with turnovers and missed shots. The Hawks had 10 turnovers and were 37.5 percent from the field.

The Lady Westerners finished the first half at 40.9 percent from the field with 15 turnovers.

It was a testament to both squads' defenses. Outside of Wykeia Sanders' 11 points, the Lady Westerners couldn't get much going, leading to the small 24-21 lead at the end of the half. WTC, however, had taken away Tasha Tubbs in the post and Twyla Ards from beyond the arc. The two standouts combined for seven points at the end of the first half.

The Lady Westerners couldn't hold the Hawks down forever, though.

Howard got its third lead of the game at 38-36 after Taniqua Ards completed a 3-point play at the 7:41 mark in the second half. The Hawks went up 45-40 after two Kali Jerrell scores and three free

throws.

The Lady Westerners' comeback to tie the game at 45 with a little over three minutes left was negated by scores from Johnson and Jerrell. Meanwhile, WTC couldn't keep up. The Lady Westerners had three turnovers on their final six possessions.

What happened in the second half that didn't happen in the first for the Hawks was simply better ball movement and getting the ball inside the paint.

"We really gave them too many second shots," Taniqua Ards said, referring to the first half. "We did well on defense and moving the ball on the offense. We really have to do that."

Howard College 51, Western Texas College 45

Howard College 21 30 - 51

Western Texas College 24 21 - 45

Howard — Porsche Young 2, Kali Jerrell 8, Twyla Ards 8, Tasha Tubbs 7, Zeslie Johnson 14, Taniqua Ards 12

WTC — Kulia Wilson 2, Presley Gann 5, Tiffani Jones 9, Jamie Wilson 2, Wykeia Sanders 11, Sarah Lain 4, Avian Brown 6, Nastashia Atkins 6

3-point field goals — Howard 4 (Twyla Ards 1, Tasha Tubbs 1, Zeslie Johnson 2), WTC 3 (Jones 3)

Free throws — Howard 9-15, WTC 10-13

Total Fouls — Howard 13, WTC 14
Records: Howard (18-4, 3-1 in WJCAC play), WTC (11-13, 1-4)

Next game: Howard vs. Odessa College at 5:45 p.m. Thursday in Big Spring

Contact Sports Editor Adam Coleman at 263-7331 ext. 237 or at the e-mail address sports@bigspringherald.com

Biggs leads WTC past Hawks for 88-77 win

BY ADAM COLEMAN

Sports Editor

SNYDER — No one was bigger than Deverell Biggs in Western Texas College's 88-77 win over Howard College Monday.

The guard's 31 points powered the Westerners past the Hawks, but Howard College head coach Mark Adams isn't quick to forget the other four players who scored in double figures against his team.

"It was a great team effort so you'd hate to give too much credit to one player when the team played so well," he said.

Biggs was 10 of 14 from the field, 5 of 8 from the 3-point line and a thorn in the Hawks' side all night.

Monzaigo Williams had 14 points, Reggie Slaton had 11, Lonnie Robinson had 16 and Brandon Johnson had 10 in the WTC win.

When it came down to it, the Hawks didn't have an answer for WTC's constant 3-pointers in the first half. The Westerners hit nine shots from beyond the arc by halftime, five of which belonged to Biggs. The Westerners went on a 13-2 run in the middle of the first half for a 29-16 lead thanks to two 3-pointers from Williams and another 3-pointer from Biggs.

The Hawks could do little to stop the bleeding, even with the help of Jermaine Winfield's big second half, in which he scored 15 of his 26 points.

Carlos Emory, who finished with 25, did his best to pull the Hawks back into the game by himself in the closing minutes of the game. The Hawks were

down 81-66, but Emory scored 11 consecutive points and Howard was down 84-77 suddenly.

It was too late, however.

"We could've played a lot better," Emory said. "We came out the first half kind of sluggish. We're a way better team. There were a lot of turnovers. We have to do a lot of work in practice and hopefully next game, we come out full throttle."

Western Texas College 88, Howard College 77

Howard College 33 44 - 77

Western Texas College 51 37 - 88

Howard — Jason Walker 4, Carlos Emory 25, Corey Stern 2, Shavon Coleman 4, Joe Bright 7, Jermain Winfield 26, Tramel White 9

WTC — Deverell Biggs 31, Malcolm Herron 6, Monzaigo Williams 14, Reggie Slaton 11, Lonnie Robinson 16, Brandon Johnson 10

3-point field goals — Howard 5 (Carlos Emory 5), WTC (Biggs 5, Williams 2, Robinson 2)

Free throws — Howard 12-18, WTC 15-20

Total fouls — Howard 21, WTC 13
Records: Howard (13-6, 2-2), WTC (16-4, 2-3)

Next game: Howard vs. Odessa College at 7:45 p.m. Thursday in Big Spring

Contact Sports Editor Adam Coleman at 263-7331 ext. 237 or at the e-mail address sports@bigspringherald.com



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Shavon Coleman goes for a layup during the Hawks' loss to Western Texas College Monday in Snyder. Howard College fell to 2-2 in WJCAC play.

Sports in brief

Big Spring Little League Baseball

Sign-ups for little league baseball for ages 4-15 take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Big Spring Mall every Saturday until Feb. 12. They also will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 7 through Feb. 11 at the mall.

Participants can also sign up at Gartman Refrigeration on 3206 East FM 700 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today through Feb. 11. Registration is \$80 and it includes jersey, pants, socks and belt. Be sure to bring the child's birth certificate.

For more information, contact Paige at 213-2062

or Robert at 816-8161.

Garden City football

The 2010 Six-Man Football Division I state champions and their families will host a meal Sunday, at the St. Lawrence Parish Hall, 2400 FM 2401, near Garden City. The meal will begin at 11:30 a.m. and will include country style ribs, beans, potatoes, salad and dessert, followed by a 2011 highlights video. Proceeds will help the team members pay for their State Champion Rings. Everyone is invited. For

more information please contact Carol at 432-354-2654.

2011 MAYB River City Shootout

Registration is ongoing for the 2011 MAYB River City Shootout Basketball Tournament to take place on Feb. 19-20. The tournament is for boys and girls, grades 3 through 8. Please e-mail wardca@yahoo.com or call (979) 417-3721 for additional information. Online registration is available at www.otcybc.com.

Sands-Grady boys showdown on tap

Big Spring girls

The Big Spring Lady Steers finally got their first District 5-3A win Friday against Snyder, but they'll take a break from district play to face Monahans at 7:30 p.m. today in Monahans.

Big Spring boys

The Big Spring Steers (19-6) are off today with Abilene Wylie on tap Friday, but they have something to celebrate. The newest TABC rankings have the Steers at No. 21 in the state in class 3A.

Coahoma-Forsan

Part 2 of the clash between these two Howard County teams takes place today. The girls' game is at 6 p.m. and the boys' at 7:30 in Coahoma. While both Forsan teams need a win to keep pace in the District 3-2A race, both Coahoma teams are just looking for a win after slow starts in district play. Both the Forsan girls and boys got the best of Coahoma in the first meeting between these

two teams in Forsan.

Sands-Grady

The Sands boys are undefeated in district play (9-0) and Grady is the team to beat. The two teams should face off at 8 p.m. The girls' game between these two schools is at 6:30 p.m.

Stanton

The Stanton Buffs continued to roll with Tyler Fulton and Trace Sidle, among other key standouts. They take the floor against Colorado City at 7:30 p.m. today in Colorado City. The girls play at 6 p.m.

Garden City

Garden City is at home against Paint Rock today. The boys play at 8 p.m. and the girls at 6:30 p.m. The boys have been rolling lately, with a 4-1 district record.

Chicago Bears blast Jay Cutler's critics

The Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, ILL. — Jay Cutler finally got some protection.

The Chicago Bears rushed to their quarterback's defense on Monday, blasting current and former players who in Twitter posts questioned his toughness for sitting out most of the second half of Sunday's 21-14 NFC championship game loss to Green Bay with a knee injury.

"I think it's crap," general manager Jerry Angelo said. "I thought they were a union. If that's the way they unionize themselves, they got bigger issues than the one that they have with the owners. I'm very disappointed. That, to me, is dirty pool."

Jacksonville Jaguars running back Maurice Jones-Drew and Arizona Cardinals defensive lineman Darnell Dockett, along with former players like Deion Sanders and ESPN analyst Mark Schlereth, were among those criticizing Cutler on Sunday.

To that, coach Lovie Smith said, "Our quarterback's a tough guy. ... It's pretty simple what happened yes-

terday. Before the half, Jay hurt his knee. He showed a lot of toughness to continue to play with it."

Smith said Cutler sprained the medial collateral ligament in his left knee late in the first half and would have been questionable for the Feb. 6 Super Bowl had the Bears beaten Green Bay. He also emphasized the team and medical staff made the call to lift the quarterback, who played the first series in the third quarter before standing on the sideline.

Cutler underwent an MRI on Monday and was at Halas Hall. He did not make himself available to the media and declined comment on the criticism after the game.

His coach and teammates had plenty to say, though. They were particularly peeved about a series of Twitter posts by current and former players ripping Cutler.

"I'll just tell you this, the one thing I know about Jay Cutler is he's tough," said third-string quarterback Caleb Hanie, who led a late comeback bid. "Another thing I know about him is he's going to stand up for his team-

mates. He didn't want to let his teammates down. So if he could have been on the field and been productive for the team, he would have done it."

Receiver Earl Bennett, Cutler's teammate at Vanderbilt, called the criticism "very unprofessional."

Defensive tackle Anthony Adams labeled it "garbage" and "unfair."

And tight end Greg Olsen said, "I think it's insane. I think anyone who's ever watched us, that would probably be the last thing anyone's ever questioned."

Yet current and former players alike were doing just that.

Jones-Drew, who played the first 14 games with a partially torn meniscus in his right knee before shutting it down, posted two comments about Cutler. He first compared the quarterback to former Florida coach Urban Meyer, who resigned in December, then wrote: "All I'm saying is that he can finish the game on a hurt knee ... I played the whole season on one."

"I threw out this joke and the backlash came in," Jones-Drew told The Associated Press in a telephone inter-

view on Monday. "I tried to make it right, but it backfired."

Jones-Drew said he was rooting for Cutler and the Bears on Sunday, and acknowledged the knee injury was serious enough to leave the game. He also said he had received death threats from Bears fans.

Dockett posted, "If I'm on Chicago team Jay Cutler has to wait till me and the team shower get dressed and leave before he comes in the locker room!"

Schlereth wrote, "As a guy how had 20 knee surgeries you'd have to drag me out on a stretcher to Leave a championship game!"

And Sanders had this to say, "I'm telling u in the playoffs u must drag me off the field. All the medicine in pro lockerooms this dude comes out! I apologize bear fans! ... Folks i never question a players injury but i do question a players heart."

The way the Bears see it, Cutler doesn't owe anyone an apology. They think he's owed a few, in fact.

"I can't even believe I'm sitting here talking about Cutler's toughness," Angelo said.

After Duncan scare, Spurs top Warriors 113-102

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Manu Ginobili had 20 points and seven assists, and the San Antonio Spurs endured Tim Duncan's brief injury scare before beating the Golden State Warriors 113-102 on Monday night.

Duncan went down with a left knee injury in the second quarter that had the entire Spurs bench stunned and shaken. He returned to finish with 16 points and seven rebounds, helping San Antonio rebound from a loss to New Orleans and calm any nerves about what initially appeared to be a serious fall.

Tony Parker added 18 points and 11 assists, Antonio McDyess had 14 points and 10 rebounds and the NBA-best Spurs (38-7) cruised to an otherwise stress-free victory that clinched the Western Conference's best record through games of Feb. 6. That means Spurs coach Gregg Popovich will coach the West squad in the All-Star game Feb. 20 at Los Angeles.

David Lee had a season-high 31 points to go with 12 rebounds, and Monta Ellis scored 25 for a Warriors team hoping to get into the playoff picture during a huge homestand. Instead, the franchise

that knows all about postseason play dominated as it has all season.

The bigger victory for the Spurs might be that they left town with their team intact.

Duncan gave his teammates a scare when he was setting a pick on Acie Law, turned to roll to the basket and his left knee appeared to buckle slightly. Duncan fell to the floor, cringing for about a minute while he held his knee.

The entire Spurs bench, including Popovich, came onto the floor to check on the 12-time All-Star. Duncan had to be helped up but eventually

walked to the locker room under his own power.

Apparently, he wasn't hurt too badly.

Duncan, diagnosed with a hyperflexed left knee, returned to start the third quarter and San Antonio found its spark. Duncan, Ginobili and Parker — the core of all those championship teams — helped San Antonio build an 83-70 lead.

Duncan played his usual minutes and showed no signs of being hobbled.

The Spurs had won eight in a row until losing to the Hornets in their previous game. San Antonio also has had

winning streaks of 12 and 10 games this season.

Notes: Spurs F Matt Bonner missed his fifth consecutive game with a bone bruise on his right knee. Popovich said there is no structural damage but the team is somewhat concerned that it hasn't improved. "It's not getting better a lick," Popovich said. ... The Warriors began an eight-game homestand, the longest since they played eight in a row in the 1964-65 season. Seven of those games were played in San Francisco, and the other in San Jose. The Warriors also are in the middle of playing 13 of 14 at home.

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady voted unanimous All-Pro

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — It's unanimous. And Tom Brady has outdone even himself.

The record-setting Patriots quarterback is the leading vote-getter for The Associated Press 2010 NFL All-Pro Team, the seventh straight year at least one player has gotten every vote. Three years ago, when Brady set the league record for touchdown passes, he missed by a half-vote of being unanimous, sharing a ballot with Brett Favre.

As usual, Brady preferred to deflect praise to the rest of the Patriots, who went 14-2 this season before losing in the playoffs to the Jets.

"I've been here for a while, so I've seen our offense evolve," Brady said. "We do some different things now than we've done in the past. Ultimately we're still trying to do the same thing, which is be productive and win games."

Brady won those 14 games as the league's leading

passer, and he went a record 335 attempts without an interception. Overall, he threw for 36 touchdowns and had just four picks.

Brady is one of three New England players selected to the squad by a nationwide panel of 50 media members who regularly cover the NFL. He is joined by guard Logan Mankins and inside linebacker Jerod Mayo.

A player has made the team unanimously since 2004, including one of this year's All-Pros, Baltimore safety Ed Reed. The Ravens also have defensive tackle Haloti Ngata and kicker Billy Cundiff on the team.

One rookie made AP All-Pro: Detroit defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh.

"It's a great honor and it's an award I've had my eye on, along with being in the Pro Bowl," Suh said. "Those are two of the highest accomplishments you can have other than winning a Super Bowl and

being MVP. To be the only rookie speaks volumes about the help I got from my teammates — especially on the defensive line — and my coaches."

Suh's work, including 10 sacks that ranked him tops at his position, so impressed longtime defensive coach Gunther Cunningham that the Lions coordinator said, "I've never seen anything like this and a lot of people want to compare him," he said. "There's no comparison."

It's also difficult to compare Oakland's Shane Lechler to other punters. Lechler has the most All-Pro selections of anyone on the 2010 team, six.

The AFC is the dominant conference with 18 of the 27 spots: nine on offense, seven on defense, two special teamers.

Joining Brady in the backfield is one of the season's biggest surprises, Houston running back Arian Foster. He went from a nonentity with the Texans to the league's leading rusher.

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For further information, please contact Human Resources at (432)684-0317 or (432)684-0339.

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The Libra moon favors diplomacy and agreement. This can only happen after each party makes known their wants and needs. In some cases, this information will be freely offered. But more often than not, it will have to be requested or even teased out. Make it safe for others to say what's on their minds and in their hearts.



ARIES (March 21-April 19). A certain charming person you know always seems to get away with more. This is neither bad nor good. It's just life. As a witness, you'll be inspired to think about taking greater risks, as well.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Ask for a small favor.

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BON BAKER, CHAIRMAN
#6864 January 25 & 30, 2011

Tomorrow's Horoscope

You usually don't like to do this because you fear it will annoy the other person or make you feel indebted. However, this is not the case. By asking, you will endear yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). An expert will comment on what you have done. You might be surprised to hear what this person thinks about your work, but you will take a positive meaning from it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You are not overly results-driven, though in regard to a certain goal, your patience is running thin. You enjoy the journey, but you still really want to get to the destination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). What appears to be honest, casual social interaction will in many ways be a game. There is a tacit agreement as to the rules, as well as a payoff of some kind for the one who plays the game well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are many levels to a relationship that come into play. If you dare to examine possible ulterior motives — your own and the other person's — you will find the process most enlightening and even perhaps liberating.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There are certain people in your life who need to know that you appreciate what they can do. They want to know that you think they are competent. Showing your respect is an act of love.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You can't do everything yourself, it's true. However, for the next few days, whatever you can do alone will give you more power. The fewer the number of people involved the better.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone will view things differently from the way you see them, and both ways are valid. It will help you to try on the other point of view, even though, ultimately, you will act on your own perspective.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You were coasting along on a project, but now the game has changed. There's more at stake than ever. You'll have to innovate and hustle in order to make it work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A person who keeps mentioning how he or she doesn't want to be a bother actually wants and needs more of your attention. People who really don't want you to think about something won't bring it up at all.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The balance of listening and talking will not be equal, but you will find the perfect equation for success in this regard. You will listen twice as much as you talk and be all the wiser for this.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 25). It's a year marked by inspiration, imagination and good fortune. You do not demand that these offerings occur in the way you expect them to, and that's why you'll be continually delighted by the surprising way your life unfolds. February brings a contract. April favors travel. Aries and Taurus people will express their admiration in tangible ways. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 14, 2, 24 and 19.

JANUARY 25, A BIRTHDAY OF LITERARY HISTORY: There is an inordinately large array of historically significant and

great Aquarian artists, and January 25 seems to have a special resonance for literary figures. Three highly celebrated and influential writers share a birthday of January 25. The Scottish poet Robert Burns, who wrote Auld Lang Syne, was born that day in 1759. The Aquarian mindset represented in his work became a great inspiration to the future founders of liberalism. That date in 1874 brought the English author of "Of Human Bondage," William Somerset Maugham, into the world. He would become one of the most popular writers of his era, penning award-winning plays, novels and short stories. His legacy lives on through the Somerset Maugham Award, a British literary prize awarded annually that includes a sum of money to be spent by the honoree on foreign travel. Also sharing a January 25 birth is the English modernist Virginia Woolf. A significant figure in London's literary society, this author of "Mrs. Dalloway" was also immortalized in film by Nicole Kidman, who won an Academy Award for her portrayal of Woolf in "The Hours." Aquarians are known for their forward-thinking and experimental approach to the arts.

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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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

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

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ANSWERS

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