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H BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 24, 2011



VOLUME 106, NUMBER 72

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HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

The Harlem Ambassadors faced off with the Screamin' Sloppy Joes Wednesday night in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. What started out as a simple basketball game turned into four quarters of jokes, dancing ... and football. In the end, the Ambassadors remained undefeated.

Sonogram bill heads to House

By **SOMMER INGRAM**
Associated Press

AUSTIN — The House State Affairs Committee advanced legislation Wednesday requiring women to get a sonogram at least 24 hours before having an abortion, sending the measure to the full House.

The bill, written by Rep. Sid Miller, R-Stephenville, says a woman must be given the opportunity to see the sonogram and hear the fetal heartbeat before an abortion while the doctor explains the features of the fetus. The woman can opt not to see the image.

A woman whose life is in danger doesn't have to get a sonogram, but the bill currently doesn't provide exemptions for women whose pregnancy resulted from a sexual assault.

A similar bill authored by Republican Sen. Dan Patrick passed the Senate last week, but it exempted victims of rape and incest or women carrying a fetus with fatal abnormalities. An amendment to Patrick's bill also reduced the wait-period from 24 hours to two.

Proponents of the legislation are presenting it as an extension to informed consent law that is already in place. They say providing women with sufficient information before making a decision is of paramount importance.

"This legislation is not about abortion or about sonograms, it's about providing information," Miller said. "Basically it's an expanded informed consent. We want to make sure the woman has every piece of information available to her before she makes a decision to abort the child or keep it."

Opponents say the bill suggests women having an abortion have given no thought to their decision. Elisa Saslarsky, member of the National Council of Jewish Women, said lawmakers should focus more on supporting measures that prevent unintended pregnancies.

"This bill is about shaming women seeking an abortion," she said. "An ultrasound is a medical

See **BILL**, Page 3A

LDS luminary to help dedicate local chapel

Special to the Herald

Dieter F. Uchtdorf, Second Counselor in the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, will be in Big Spring Saturday and Sunday to dedicate the new Big Spring Chapel.

While it is rare for one of the three-member First Presidency (which is the presiding organization over the 14 million member

worldwide church) to attend this kind of event, President Uchtdorf is making the trip because of his ties to the area.

Born in what was then Mährisch-Osttrau, Czechoslovakia on Nov. 6, 1940, Uchtdorf was raised in Zwickau, Germany. At the age of 19 he joined the German Air Force



Uchtdorf

and was trained at Webb Air Force Base in Big Spring, where he earned his pilot wings. After receiving fighter pilot training in Phoenix, Ariz., he returned to Germany, where he completed his service.

In 1965, Uchtdorf joined Lufthansa German Airlines as a pilot. He worked as an airline captain from 1970 to 1996, flying

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BSISD spellers heading to regional bee

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District spellers are hoping seven is a very lucky number this weekend.

BSISD will be represented by seven youngsters when they participate in the Scripps-Howard Regional Spelling Bee, scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Saturday on the Midland College campus.

The seven students qualified for Saturday's event by winning spelling contests at their respective campuses, said Robin Ritchey, BSISD spelling bee coordinator.

- The seven campus winners are:
- Bauer Elementary fourth-grader Sierra Mancha, the daughter of Manon Rajbhandari.
 - Washington Elementary fourth-grader Jocelyn Chagoya, daughter of Jessica Chagoya and Ruben Cardoza, who won her campus contest by cor-

See **BEE**, Page 3A



Courtesy photo

These Big Spring Independent School District students competing in Saturday's regional spelling bee are, from left: Sierra Mancha, Bauer Elementary fourth-grader; Jocelyn Chagoya, Washington Elementary fourth-grader; Hannah Jensen, Big Spring Junior High seventh-grader; Rachel McCalister, Goliad Intermediate fifth-grader; Gabriella Medina, Moss Elementary fourth-grader; Austin Fair, Kentwood Elementary fourth-grader; and Jeremiah Cooley, Marcy Elementary fourth-grader.



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Obituaries

Freddie Mae White



Freddie Mae White, 97, of Big Spring died Saturday, Feb. 19, 2011, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at Baker's Chapel AME Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Dec. 26, 1913, at Smithville to Melley and Lun Bailey. She had been a resident of Big Spring since 1936. She married Dillard White on Oct. 30, 1940. He preceded her in death Sept. 29, 2003. She was a homemaker. She was a member of Baker's Chapel AME Church and served as a trustee and missionary faithfully for 35 years.

She leaves to cherish her memory two grandsons, Ricky Ray Winters and Tyree Williams, both of Big Spring; one granddaughter, Felicia Herrera of Big Spring; 10 great-grandchildren, Geneva Lezedema, La Tricia Lezedema, Jelicia Lezedema, Treasure Lezedema, Randy Ulrich Jr., Sharde Ulrich, Leslie Ulrich, Sarah Herrera, Felicia Herrera and Phebe Herrera; and a host of nieces and nephews, including special nieces Doris Valentine, Dorothy Smith, Ida Nell Piper and Melvin Ruth Collier; and favorite nephew, Douglas White Sr.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Linda Money.

Pallbearers will be Henry White Sr., Douglas White Jr., Lonnie Green, Tyree Williams, Garland "Buster" Green and Ervin Winters. Honorary pallbearers will be Douglas White Sr., Fred Lee Cole, Leonard Evans, Curtis White, Charles E. White and Charlie Turner.

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

Paid obituary

Ruby Atkinson



Ruby "Miss Ruby" Atkinson, 87, died Sunday, Feb. 20, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Dec. 6, 1923, in Zephrey to Millie and Thomas Fallis. She moved to Big Spring when she was 18 years old. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ.

She is survived by her daughter, Doris Hitch of Big Spring; two sons, Horace "Bunky" Atkinson and Donnie Atkinson, both of Big Spring; eight grandchildren; and a number of great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Skeet Atkinson; one granddaughter; and one daughter, Deanie Howland.

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

Claudie Aaron



Claudie Aaron, 70, died Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2011, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Graveside services were held Thursday at Fairview Cemetery in Midland.

He was born March 19, 1940, in Sherman to Hazel and Claudie Aaron Sr. He grew up in Big Spring. He married Johnnie Fay Davis on May 6, 1960, in Midland. They have been residents of Midland for 30 years. He worked most of his life in the oil field as a truck driver and pumper. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his wife, Johnnie Fay Aaron of Midland.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one daughter, Sheri Gene Aaron; and one brother, Ronald G. Aaron Sr.

The family suggests memorials to MDA of Permian Basin - Children's Division, 600 N. Marienfeld, Suite 112, Midland 79701; or Hospice of Midland, 911 West Texas, Midland 79701.

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

Stanley Louder

Stanley Louder, 59, of Midland died Sunday, Feb. 20, 2011, at his residence. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 25, 2011, at the First Baptist Church of Stanton with the Rev. David Harp, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011, at the funeral home.

Stanley was born Nov. 26, 1951, in Big Spring to Billy James and Leona Evelyn (Phillips) Louder. He grew up in Stanton and graduated from Stanton High School. He then attended college at Texas A&M University at College Station, and Pan American University in Edinburg. Stanley was an accountant for both individuals and oil and gas companies. He lived for many years in San Angelo and then moved to Midland.

Survivors include two sons, Justin Louder of Lubbock and Jarrett Louder of San Angelo; his father, Billy James Louder of Stanton; one brother, David Louder of College Station; three sisters, Luan Abernathy and husband Neal of Richardson, Rosalyn Hart and husband Joe of Lubbock and Lesa Neese and husband Michael of Bastrop; two uncles; two aunts; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Loena Phillips Louder; and his grandparents, Hub and Gladys Phillips and Raymond and Mattie Louder, all of Stanton.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Hospice of San Angelo, Building Bridges Program, P.O. Box 471, San Angelo 76902.

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

Police blotter

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

- DEBRA DENISE AUSBIE, 49, of 1501 Tucson, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency.
- AMANDA LEOS, 27, of 1504 Chickasaw, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for open container in a motor vehicle - passenger.
- DOUGLAS ARNOLD, 36, of 405 W. Seventh St., was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency.
- RICKY RICARDO LOPEZ, 21, of 601 Caylor, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- ABEL DANNY MORELION, 45, of 1319 Tucson, was arrested Wednesday on warrants for failure to appear, driving while license invalid, dog or cat running at large, no dog or cat rabies vaccination and two warrants from another agency.
- MAURICIO TORRES, 37, of 311 W. Third St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported: In the 600 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. In the 1300 block of Mesquite.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

Sheriff

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

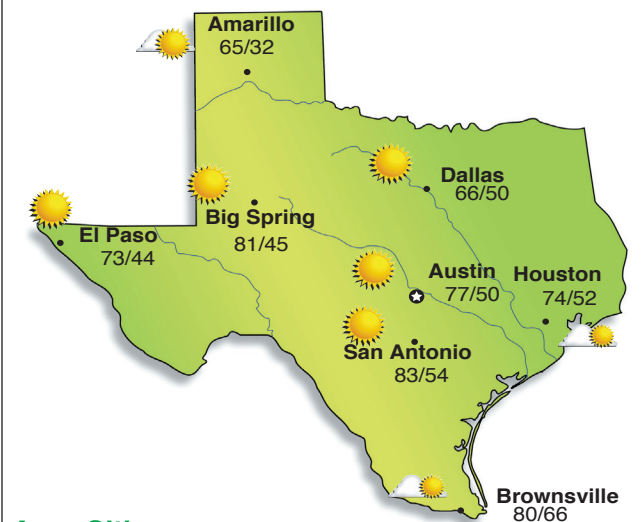
- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 59 inmates at the time of this report.
- TYSON DEMETRIOS BARKER, 20, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of a prohibited weapon and burglary of a habitation.
- ABEL HERNANDEZ HINOJOS, 38, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
- DOUGLAS WAYNE ARNOLD JR., 36, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a Delaware warrant for fugitive - failure to register as a sex offender.
- RICKY RICARDO LOPEZ, 21, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- TIMOTHY RAY LUCIO, 26, was arrested

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 2/25	Sat 2/26	Sun 2/27	Mon 2/28	Tue 3/1
81/45 Mainly sunny. Very warm. High 81F. Winds SSW at 15 to 25 mph.	86/51 Sunny. High in the mid 80s and lows in the low 50s.	72/39 Windy with plenty of sun. High in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	72/36 Abundant sunshine. High in the low 70s and lows in the mid 30s.	76/40 Mix of sun and clouds. High in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 6:40 PM	Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 6:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 6:42 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 6:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:14 AM Sunset: 6:43 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	72	50	sunny	Kingsville	83	62	sunny
Amarillo	65	32	mst sunny	Livingston	74	48	sunny
Austin	77	50	sunny	Longview	67	48	sunny
Beaumont	75	51	pt sunny	Lubbock	73	37	sunny
Brownsville	80	66	pt sunny	Lufkin	72	48	sunny
Brownwood	76	50	sunny	Midland	81	47	sunny
Corpus Christi	78	62	sunny	Raymondville	84	64	mst sunny
Coriscana	65	49	sunny	Rosenberg	75	52	sunny
Dallas	66	50	sunny	San Antonio	83	54	sunny
Del Rio	85	53	sunny	San Marcos	78	50	sunny
El Paso	73	44	sunny	Sulphur Springs	64	50	sunny
Fort Stockton	82	49	sunny	Sweetwater	75	48	sunny
Gainesville	61	44	sunny	Tyler	67	48	sunny
Greenville	62	46	sunny	Weatherford	65	47	sunny
Houston	74	52	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	62	40	sunny

Wednesday by the HCSO on a motion to adjudicate guilt and failure to appear - unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

• SAMANTHA MARIE PAYNE, 27, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

• ABEL MORELION, 45, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid (two counts), theft by check, no vaccination or license for animal, animal at large and violation of a promise to appear.

• MAURICIO TORRES, 37, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• RYAN WAYNE NORMAN, 19, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of E. 12th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of E. 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of Capri. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 4000 block of Dickey. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of E. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Third and Owens. One person was transported to SMMC.
- GRASS FIRE was reported in the area of Channing.

Support Groups

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

• Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org

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Piano concert to benefit CARE fund

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer
Italian pianist Francesco Attesti will lend a helping hand to the Crossroads area Friday, as the internationally acclaimed artist performs a concert benefitting the local CARE fund.

Set for 7:30 p.m. at the Hall Center for the Arts — located on the Howard College campus — the show will feature Attesti performing several works by Polish composer Fryderyk Chopin, according to CARE fund spokesman and concert coordinator Tommy Churchwell.

“When we say he’s internationally acclaimed, we mean it,” Churchwell said.

Attesti is considered one of the finest interpreters of the Romantic and early 20th Century Repertoire, having began practicing at the early age of 6 years old.

At the age of 16, Attesti met Sergio Perticaroli who, im-

pressed by the youth’s capabilities at the piano, invited him to attend the Summer Masterclass at the Mozarteum of Salzburg. There, Francesco was immersed in the Romantic repertoire, particularly the works of Chopin and Liszt.

Attesti continued to study with Maestro Perticaroli for several years in Rome, refining his skills and winning several national and international piano competitions.

Currently, Attesti performs regularly in internationally prestigious concert halls, such as Philharmonia Hall of Saint Petersburg, Tchaikovsky Conservatory of Moscow, Mozarteum of Salzburg, Philharmonie Essen, International Piano Festival of Warsaw, Sarajevo Winter Festival, Cambridge University, Leicester University, Columbia University in New York, Denver University in Colorado and the Conserva-

tory “G. Verdi” in Milan.

Tickets for the concert are \$25, according to Churchwell, with all proceeds going to the local CARE Fund.

“You can purchase tickets at the Big Spring Herald, Chamber of Commerce or at Churchwell Insurance,” he said. “This concert is not only a great chance for area residents to hear an amazing pianist without ever leaving Big Spring, it’s also an excellent chance to help the CARE Fund and spread word of the fund to the people here.”

Churchwell, who is currently working to educate the public on the CARE Fund, said it is designed to help shoulder some of the financial burdens a long term illness can cause, items that are not covered by insurance.

“Every endowment begins with a contract saying you’ll put in \$10,000 to create the endowment. You can do that with a one-time payment or

you can do it with a 10-year commitment at \$1,000 per year,” Churchwell said. “But it has to begin with \$10,000 or more. This fund is aimed at people who have a hardship, but it’s not designed to pay for medical treatment. It’s aimed at their travel expenses, overnight stays, babysitting, things that there is no insurance for. You can’t buy coverage for these kinds of things.

“What we want to do is be able to find these people, people that are ruined by these sort of expenses. The kind of person that is working, has a house and car, but this is such a long term burden on them, every extra dollar they have goes toward gas, hotels and things like that, which really add up. The fund is there to help soften the blow a little bit. It’s never going to make any one individual whole or solve all their needs. It’s designed to work a little

bit here and there.”

Churchwell said the CARE Fund will act to reimburse financial hardships related to long term illness through local charitable organizations, who will be responsible for determining the needs and requesting the funds.

“In this particular case, it’s more like a reimbursement. It’s not money that’s handed out ahead of time,” Churchwell said. “There are so many people that are in need of just gas money to go to Midland and get cancer treatments every week, sometimes as many as five times a week. Where do you get that money? I don’t know of any other place you can get that kind of money for individuals.

For more information on the CARE Fund or upcoming concert, contact Churchwell at 432-267-3857.

Contact Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331, ext. 232.

Take note

• A Mardi Gras dance for junior high and high school age students will be held from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church hall, 1009 Hearn St. Admission is \$3 per person or \$5 per couple. Mardi Gras beads and mask are \$1 per set. The event is sponsored by the Holy Trinity Catholic Youth Group.

• The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.

• The Kiwanis Club of Big Spring will hold its annual pancake supper from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. March 11 at the Howard College Cafeteria. Tickets are \$5 per per-

son and can be obtained from any Kiwanis Club member or by contacting Don McGo-nagill at 267-7601.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound elderly in Big Spring. If you can donate at least one hour a week, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016 and leave a message.

• An account has been set up to help Bob and Jeanine Fishback with Bob’s medical and travel expenses: Bob Fishback Medical Account 915967, Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union, 1110 Benton, Big Spring 79720. For more information, call 263-8393.

• A fund has been established at Citizen’s Credit Union for the Lupe Chavarria family, which lost all of its possessions in a

house fire. For more information, contact the credit union at 267-6373.

• Do you have a minute? An hour? How about making a difference in someone’s life? Become a hospice volunteer. One hour a month can make a difference. Whether it visiting a patient, or working in the office, or helping with a craft, you can make a difference. We can work around your schedule. If interested, please call Michelle Coutermarsh, at Compass Hospice, 263-5999 or apply in person at 1003 E. FM 700 in Big Spring.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Bring this note when you join and receive a box of Weight Watchers snacks through Oct. 31. Flexible payment options.

BEE

Continued from Page 1A

rectly spelling “station.”

• Moss Elementary fourth-grader Gabriella Medina, daughter of Michael Medina and Alma

Hilario, who correctly spelled “dignify” to win her campus bee.

• Kentwood Elementary fourth-grader Austin Fair, son of Marina Fair, who claimed campus honors by correctly spelling “officer.”

• Marcy Elementary fourth-grader Jeremiah

Cooley, son of Lakeisha Johnson, who won his campus bee on the word “vertical.”

• Goliad Intermediate fifth-grader Rachel McCalister, daughter of Carnel and Sharon Carter, who correctly spelled “chaperonage” to win her campus bee.

• Big Spring Junior High School seventh-grader Hannah Jensen, daughter of Brian and Debbie Jensen, who won her campus event by correctly spelling “tempestuous.”

The winner of Saturday’s regional event advances to the Scripps-

Howard National Spelling Bee, to be held later this year in Washington, D.C.

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

CHAPEL

Continued from Page 1A

multiple types of airplanes. He retired as senior vice president of flight operations and chief pilot of Lufthansa German Airlines.

After being called as

an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ, Uchtdorf and his wife, Harriet, moved to the U.S. where they now permanently reside.

As impressive as his secular credentials are, President Uchtdorf’s ministry has set him apart from millions of other Christians, LDS

officials said.

“Like the 12 men who Jesus called as his apostles during his earthly ministry, Dieter F. Uchtdorf serves as an apostle of our lord Jesus Christ,” said Jerry Zant, Stake President of the West Texas area of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

“Having an apostle visit our area is a uniquely spiritual experience for all of us in West Texas. That one of these men who have worldwide responsibility in their ministry would come to Big Spring to dedicate a house of worship, reminds us of the great love that our heavenly

father has for each one of his children,” Zant added. “He knows us personally and, through these special witnesses, pours out rich blessings upon us.”

The chapel dedication will take place at 10 a.m. Sunday at 1803 Wasson. The public is invited.

BILL

Continued from Page 1A

machine, not a political tool.”

The version of Miller’s bill the committee approved differs from an earlier version he filed. The current bill expands the definition of a medical emergency from life threatening to include any impairment of a major bodily function.

It also removed the cause of action allowing a doctor to be sued if he violates the statute. However, physicians could lose their licenses if they don’t obtain and retain a signature from a woman seeking an

abortion stating that the sonogram was offered to her.

The witnesses testifying Wednesday say women should have the right to a face-to-face consultation with a physician before the abortion, as a patient would before any surgical procedure. The doctor often arrives right before the procedure and is gone before the anesthesia even wears off, leaving patients uninformed and vulnerable, they said.

Every abortion is preceded by a sonogram, but currently women are rarely given the opportunity to see the sonogram picture.

Teresa Sadler of Green-

ville said as a pregnant college student years ago, she went in to an abortion provider who tried to keep her from seeing the sonogram. She waited until the nurse left the room to look for herself and said she was immediately told to lie back on the table when the nurse found her looking at the image.

Sadler said she felt an injection in her arm and woke up in a recovery room with the abortion completed — all without ever seeing a doctor.

“What I saw on that screen, I’ll remember forever,” she said. “But I was never given the chance to ask questions. What I’m asking of you

today is to give women that opportunity.”

GOP Gov. Rick Perry carved the way for legislators to take action quickly by declaring sonogram legislation an emergency item at the beginning of the session. Perry has said he will sign the bill if it reaches his desk.

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

Gerald Ford was the first presidential candidate to receive my vote. Of course he was defeated by Jimmy Carter. While most historians would quickly shun any idea of including President Ford or President Carter on Mount Rushmore, they both served an important role in our nation and were worthy of respect.

While many celebrate President’s Day by shopping at “Honest Abe” car sales or “Cherry Tree” furniture shops, I believe praying for our President is the best celebration. Regardless of how you voted in the last election, the words of I Timothy 2:1-2 need to be heeded:

“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.”

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Sunday Worship.....5:00 PM
Wednesday Class.....7:00 PM

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.

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Adam Coleman Sports Editor	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer	

OUR VIEWS

Warmer weather is finally starting to grace us with its presence. The mornings have become warmer and the afternoons have become enjoyable enough to sit outside and enjoy a sunset.

As springtime and summer start to make their way in, now is the perfect time to start getting the kids outside to play. There are numerous area sports leagues starting up for boys and girls. Even if sports aren't your cup of tea, take the time and take a walk through the park or simply just enjoy the warmer weather in your yard.

Either way, warmer weather is coming ... how will you spend it?

ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

• **BARACK OBAMA**
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The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
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Phone: 202-224-5922

• **JOHN CORNYN**
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• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative
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• **JIM LANDTROOP**
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• **KEL SELIGER**
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College): 264-5000.

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— Home: 268-9692; Work
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Home: 264-0306; Work
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7361.

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263-7158.

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 Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we make Your word, Lord, our baton to wave cheerfully. Amen

Judging too quickly?

Society has come to judge everyone.

People are judged by the way they dress, the way they speak, how much money they have ... that's just the tip of the iceberg.

There are so many labels and not enough chances. Don't get me wrong, there are some things that can't be overlooked, some mistakes that can't be erased and some people who won't ever change. However, I'm not naïve enough to believe the world is all sunshine and rainbows, but at the same time, I'm not naïve enough to believe that all people are bad and won't ever change.

Society has come to look down upon the "poor," the "uneducated," the "criminal." Judgements are passed usually before and without ever speaking to the person they are judging. I have been guilty of it, as have those who are usually judged. Insults seem to come freely and stereotypes are assigned before we truly know the facts. Maybe that person is having a bad day, maybe they know no better, maybe they are just out to prove to the world that looking and acting a certain way doesn't have to define the person you are. There are numerous reasons that a person looks the way they look, but it doesn't mean that they are any less of a worthy person. Some of the greatest people to make their mark on this world have come from "poor" families and "lowly" circumstances.

The bad thing about stereotypes is that it's really easy to throw people into them, but all too often, amazing people get written off. Circumstances don't define a person — there are many people who could excel despite their circumstances. There are many people who want to better themselves, but either don't know how or don't

have the support they need.

I'm not making excuses for those who have made mistakes, but I'm also not going to condemn them. It's not my place. Once again, I know that not everyone will change or better themselves; some people are perfectly fine with fitting into what society classifies them as, but it doesn't mean that the ones that want to broke out of the mold and break those barriers should be discouraged from doing so.

Sometimes it takes someone making a mistake for someone to see the errors of their ways. There are some who have to travel down the wrong path, hit rock bottom and lose everything before they wake up. Sometimes it takes dealing with the consequences for a person to realize where they went wrong. Then again, sometimes there is amazing potential laying dormant, but the person containing them buys into the stereotypes and society beliefs and that potential is lost.

People who do change, or at least want to change, are usually on the fence and needing one little push. For some, it's being tired of living the life they have, others it's realizing the pain they have caused. For some, falling in love does the trick and others just need to know that someone — one person — cares.

It's been proven through numerous self-helps and motivational speaking that positive attitudes and encouraging words can do wonders for changing a person's outlook on life. That being the case, the same should be true for negative thoughts. If a person is fed enough negativity and pushed down enough, eventually their spirit breaks and all hope is lost.

Instead of looking down, passing judgement, and throwing away those who are not what society considers acceptable, why not try and improve the world by helping those people out? Instead of spewing insults, why not spew words of affirmation? Everyone in this world,

no matter how down and out they may be, deserves the opportunity to succeed. Everyone deserves to have a family and strive to build the American dream.

Everyone makes mistakes; sometimes people get caught and they pay their dues, but it doesn't mean that they should be punished and criticized their entire life. Nobody knows the circumstances the person was dealing with; nobody knows the feelings behind it, except that person.

Stealing is wrong, but society rates the mistake on the circumstances when the circumstances are revealed; for example: two men, same age, same race, decide to steal. Both have committed a crime, but one man stole for the pure enjoyment of stealing and feeding a bad habit. The other stole to feed his family of three that has recently become homeless. One will receive sympathy and support from the community; the other will be condemned. When looking on paper the crime is the same but once the stories come to light the looks and thoughts are completely different depending on which man you are looking at.

Everyone was young, care-free and at least once threw out the rules. Some change, some don't, but it doesn't mean that the chance to better oneself should ever be taken away.

Every life has the potential to change, for the good and the bad, until that final day and final breath. Remember, just because someone hasn't been caught and it hasn't been recorded doesn't mean that they aren't a bad person. Same goes for the opposite, just because they have been caught or live in certain circumstances, doesn't mean that they don't have potential and aren't willing to change.

Be careful how you judge because one day it could be you getting judged.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234.

Michele Bachmann, how about we make a deal?

I'll make a deal with you, Michele Bachmann.

We taxpayers don't have to subsidize breast pumps in return for not subsidizing your business. From 1995 to 2006, the Bachmann family glommed \$251,000 off the farm program, according to the Environmental Working Group. Fiscal conservatives call these government handouts by their rightful name, corporate welfare. Are we getting through to you, Michele?

Can't tell. The Republican rep from Minnesota now purports to save money by ending the deduction for breast pumps, which Michelle Obama supports. Noting that she had breast-fed her five children, Bachman said: "To think that the government has to go out and buy my breast pump ... You want to talk about the nanny state, I think we just got a new definition."

Who needs a government nanny when you've got a sugar daddy?

Bachmann cleverly hit on a medical device that involves women's breasts. References to female anatomy inevitably draw attention and yucks. (During the health care debate, she warned about "school-based health clinics" turning into "sex clinics.") And since breast pumps are a tool that helps working mothers save up breast milk for their babies, mocking them feeds a conservative bias for stay-at-

home moms. You don't hear complaints about eyeglasses, artificial teeth and crutches, also deductible.

Bachmann's a bit confused over what a tax deduction is. It doesn't pay for things. It lets a taxpayer subtract the cost of something from taxable income. The result is some savings on taxes, but not nearly enough to cover the cost of the item.

But suppose the first lady had called on government to actually buy breast pumps. The money we've sent the Bachmann farm alone could have paid for 1,260 top-of-the-line \$200 models.

Nationally, American taxpayers spent about \$250 billion on farm subsidies between 1995 and 2009.

Imagine how many heart bypasses, new schools, bridge repairs, border patrol trucks — and breast pumps — that money could have bought. Or how much of the national debt could have been retired.

The back-and-forth over breast pump subsidies has been amusing, but inconsequential. Out-of-pocket medical expenses must total at least 7.5 percent of adjustable gross income before they may be deducted. To take a tax deduction, of course, one must pay income taxes and itemize. So making breast pumps deductible helps very few mothers.

Back on the farm, who gets all the big government checks? Over the past 15 years, the richest 10 percent of recipients received 74 percent of the dough, or an average \$445,127 a year, according to the Environmental Working Group. The group

is heavy with large corporations and absentee landowners, including nearly 600 residents of Manhattan.

EWG founder Ken Cook wrote that direct payments (just one of the ag-business programs) "go out to farmers and landowners even if crop prices and farm profit are setting record highs — and most such records have been set in the past few years — or even if the recipient plants no crops at all." The bill to the taxpayer? About \$5 billion a year since 2005.

Interestingly, the Obama administration's new budget plan would curb subsidies for large farms by \$4.25 billion over 10 years. But the House Republicans' budget proposal doesn't touch them — this despite demands to do so from such conservative voices as The Wall Street Journal, National Review, Heritage Foundation and principled tea party groups. Their budget would cut \$747 million this year from the Women, Infants and Children nutrition program, however.

So here's the trade, Michele. We let you pick off a whole bunch of "nanny state" tax deductions. But you also must support efforts to stop sending billions to well-to-do farmers like yourself. Do we have a deal?

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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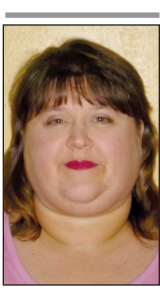


AMANDA MORENO



FROMA HARROP

Casual Cooking with Kris



KRIS SOLIS

Welcome readers to my world where I enjoy simple, sometimes quick, but always delicious meals.

This weeks recipe was inspired by a dish I had at a church Christmas party. The host of the party had some really great food off the grill

and one of the dishes was a spicy shrimp stuff. I had it on some Spanish rice and it was so yummy!

I asked the host a few times for the recipe and came up empty handed. It was so good that I kept craving it for a few weeks so I decided to do it my way and was just as pleased.

I had some leftover rice, combined the two and was a very happy lady, I didn't even have to share with my husband who doesn't like shrimp.

This recipe can be substituted with bite-size chicken and you can also add some canned or frozen okra.

This in itself was a meal, but you can also serve with a side salad and some crusty french bread or cornbread.

Enjoy!

Spicy Shrimp and Rice

- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 1 red bell pepper, thinly sliced
- 1 yellow bell pepper, thinly sliced

- 4 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 package of medium-sized shrimp, peeled/cooked
- 1 15 oz. can of diced tomatoes
- 1 can of chicken broth
- 1 15 oz. can of tomato sauce
- Creole or old bay seasonings
- Oil
- Crushed red pepper flakes
- 4 cups of cooked rice

Cook your rice now if you need to. In a large skillet add some oil, onions and bell peppers.

Add some seasonings and saute for about 10 minutes until soft, then add garlic and saute two more minutes. Add diced tomatoes and red pepper flakes, according to your heat level. I use a lot.

Stir in tomato sauce and chicken broth and let simmer on medium for about seven minutes, then add shrimp and simmer three more minutes to warm up shrimp.

Pour over your cooked rice and enjoy!

Texas news in brief

State fines Citgo over 2009 refinery fire, 1 hurt

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Texas regulators have fined Citgo Refining and Chemicals Co. more than \$303,000 over a 2009 refinery fire that left one worker hurt.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Wednesday announced the fine over the accident in Corpus Christi.

Houston-based Citgo did not immediately return messages Thursday to The Associated Press.

TCEQ cited water and air violations related to the July 2009 incident that left worker Gabriel Alvarado with severe burns.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality found four water violations and two air violations.

2 Amarillo officers not indicted over man's death

AMARILLO (AP) — A grand jury has declined to indict two Texas police officers over a butcher knife-wielding man who died in custody after being stunned by a Taser.

Amarillo Officers Jon Heath and Royce Bushey were to resume their normal duties Thursday.

Potter County District Attorney Randall Sims says the autopsy on 41-year-old Kelly Sinclair determined he died of a methamphetamine overdose.

Sims said Wednesday, after the grand jury no-billed the officers, that Sinclair also was found to have cardiovascular disease and an enlarged heart.

Police on Jan. 5 answered a call about a suicidal person. They struggled to disarm Sinclair outside the home of his parents.

Relatives say Sinclair had stopped taking his medication for bipolar problems.

3 die in head-on crash in Van Zandt County

CANTON (AP) — Three people have died in a fiery head-on traffic accident

about 50 miles southeast of Dallas.

Van Zandt County authorities say the crash happened Wednesday afternoon south of Canton.

Justice of the Peace Don Kirkpatrick says a car going north on Texas Highway 19 went into the southbound lane and hit a pickup truck.

The car driver and both people in the truck, which burned, were dead at the scene.

The Department of Public Safety identified the car driver as 19-year-old Sebastian Ostoin of Canton. The other driver was 43-year-old Francisco Puga of Athens, whose passenger was identified as 60-year-old Kathleen Shue.

Some Texas City homes evacuated after pipe leak

TEXAS CITY (AP) — A gasoline pipeline break has led to the evacuation of more than a dozen homes in Southeast Texas.

Crews worked Thursday to stop the gasoline leak in Texas City.

At least 15 nearby homes were evacuated. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

Texas City emergency manager Bruce Clawson says the break happened in an isolated area. Clawson says there was no fire.

Clawson says the evacuated families were being moved to the Texas City Civic Center.

Officials say the cause of the rupture, discovered around 3:30 a.m. Thursday, is sought.

Beached 12-foot pygmy sperm whale euthanized

GALVESTON (AP) — A 12-foot pygmy sperm whale has been euthanized after veterinarians determined that its prognosis was bleak after it stranded itself on a southeast Texas beach.

Heidi Whitehead of the Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network says the whale was euthanized Wednesday night after veterinarians determined that trying to keep the more than half-ton animal alive in the network's re-

habilitation tank in Galveston would only prolong is suffering. Whitehead said a necropsy was planned for Thursday to determine what caused the animal to beach itself.

Galveston police received a call around 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, saying the whale had stranded itself on Jamaica Beach.

Judge says Miss San Antonio can't keep crown

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A Texas beauty queen who accused pageant organizers of harassing her about her weight lost her crown for a second time Wednesday, when a judge denied her efforts to temporarily forbid a new Miss San Antonio from taking her place.

Attorneys for Domonique Ramirez say the 17-year-old isn't giving up and will now take her case to a Texas jury.

But pageant organizers, weary of a case fit for a soap opera, wasted no time crowning Ashley Dixon as Miss San Antonio — placing the tiara on her while the former runner-up sat in the gallery of the courtroom.

"The judge's decision today speaks for itself," said Linda Woods, president of the Miss Bexar County organization, which runs the Miss San Antonio pageant.

Ramirez was not in court for the decision; her attorneys said she was ill. State District Judge Cathleen Stryker set a March trial after denying a motion for a temporary injunction following a two-day hearing, in which Ramirez testified she was ordered to lose 13 pounds.

Texas man enters plea in hacking of business

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A Texas man who admitted hacking into the computer systems of a Minnesota company and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland pleaded guilty Wednesday to one count of wire fraud.

Jeremy Parker, 26, of Houston, acknowledged that from December 2008 through October 2009 he hacked into the computer networks of a subsidiary of Eden Prairie-based Digital River and stole about \$275,000, according to the plea agreement.

He also admitted that in September 2009, he hacked into two NASA computers that supported oceanographic data being sent back to Earth from satellites. Prosecutors said in a statement that the NASA servers didn't control the satellites themselves, but allowed researchers who paid a fee to access the data coming from the satellites.

Prosecutors said when Parker hacked into the servers, he made the data freely available. NASA spent about \$43,000 to repair the damage.

Border apprehensions down 36 percent

EL PASO (AP) — U.S. Customs and Border Protection says 2010 illegal immigrants captures fell by 36 percent from the previous year to more than 463,000.

In its annual report issued Wednesday, CBP says the 2010 border apprehensions amount to a third of what they were at their peak. In 2005, Border Patrol detained 1,189,000 illegal immigrants.

CPB also says that in 2010, it seized just over 2,000 tons of narcotics. Officials say the figures indicate the agency is "making great strides in securing our borders."

PUBLIC NOTICE


On January 13, 2011, Sharyland Utilities, L.P. ("Sharyland"), a regulated electric utility company, filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") entitled *Application of Sharyland Utilities, L.P. to Approve Study and Plan Pursuant to the Commission's Order in Docket No. 37990 Concerning the Movement of Sharyland's Stanton and Colorado City Divisions from the Southwest Power Pool to ERCOT* ("Application").

The Application included a study which analyzes and evaluates issues related to moving Sharyland's Stanton and Colorado City Divisions from the Southwest Power Pool ("SPP") power region to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas ("ERCOT") power region. The study evaluates seven options which present varying configurations and costs that impact both ERCOT and SPP. The study designates one of the options as "preferred" but also determines that each option is feasible. Three of the options would transfer all of the Stanton and Colorado City Divisions to ERCOT, while the other four options would transfer some service to ERCOT, with some customers remaining in SPP. The Application asks that the Commission (1) find that the study complies with the requirements of the Commission's Order in Docket No. 37990 to conduct such a study and (2) select one of three options presented in the study that would result in a total transfer of Sharyland's Stanton and Colorado City Divisions to ERCOT and direct Sharyland to implement that option.

This Application has been assigned Docket No. 39070. Interested persons will be afforded the opportunity to participate in this proceeding. The deadline for intervention in this proceeding is **March 29, 2011**, and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the Commission by that date.

A complete copy of Sharyland's Application is available for inspection at Sharyland's offices located at 511 West Ohio, Suite 600, Midland, Texas 79701 and 1900 North Akard Street, Dallas, Texas 75201, and at the office of Sharyland's legal representative, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, at 701 Brazos Street, Suite 970, Austin, Texas 78701, (512) 721-2700 (telephone), (512) 721-2656 (facsimile).

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should mail their requests to intervene or their comments (along with 10 copies of your letter) to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas, 78711-3326 with reference to Docket No. 39070. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. All communications should refer to Docket No. 39070.



Compass Hospice *Guiding You on Your Final Journey*

10 Things You Need to Know About Hospice

Question: Isn't Hospice a place?
Answer: No. Hospice is a service that brings care into your own home.

Question: What does Hospice provide?
Answer: Medication, equipment (such as oxygen) and supplies.

Question: When do you qualify for Hospice Care?
Answer: Most people get hospice care too late. **You can qualify as much as 6 months earlier!**

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?
Answer: **Hospice services are available for anyone who has a life-limiting illness.**

Question: Is Hospice care expensive?
Answer: **Medicare and most Medicaid insurances cover hospice at 100%.**

Hospice care is a necessary service that many people never receive.
There are myths about hospice that keep people from getting this specialized and compassionate care when they need it most.
Compass Hospice will guide you through this journey.
For any additional info or questions, please contact us.
Compass Hospice * 1003 E. FM 700 * 432.263.5999

News in brief

Moammar Gadhafi's son denies airstrikes against Libyan cities, claims death toll exaggerated

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP) — Moammar Gadhafi's son denies the government launched airstrikes against Libyan cities and claims reports of the number of protesters killed have been exaggerated.

Thursday's comments by Seif al-Islam Gadhafi come as the Libyan government fights to maintain control after several other major Libyan cities and towns in the east and close to the capital have fallen to the rebellion against the longtime leader.

Seif al-Islam Gadhafi insists the death toll from Libyan security forces has been limited.

Italy's Foreign Minister Franco Frattini said estimates of some 1,000 people killed in the violence in Libya were "credible," although he stressed the information was incomplete. The New York-based Human Rights Watch has put the death toll at nearly 300.

Big tobacco balks at Justice Department's proposed 'corrective' statements about smoking

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department wants the largest cigarette manufacturers to admit that they lied to the public about the dangers of smoking, forcing the industry to set up and pay for an advertising campaign of self-criticism for past behavior.

As part of a 12-year-old lawsuit against the tobacco industry, the government on Wednesday released 14 "corrective statements" that it says the companies should be required to make.

One "corrective" statement says: "A federal court is requiring tobacco companies to tell the truth about cigarette smoking. Here's the truth: ... Smoking kills 1,200 Americans. Every day."

Another of the government's proposed statements begins: "We falsely marketed low tar and light cigarettes as less harmful than regular cigarettes to keep people smoking and sustain our profits."

"For decades, we denied that we controlled the level of nicotine delivered in cigarettes," a third statement says. "Here's the truth. ... We control nicotine delivery to create and sustain smokers' addiction, because that's how we keep customers coming back."

As Wis. Republicans move forward on anti-union bill, Ohio GOP makes slight concession

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Ohio Republicans edged back on a plan to strip public workers of their union rights while their counterparts in Wisconsin slogged ahead on a similar proposal, pushing through a punishing debate that stretched into its third day in the state Assembly.

Republicans in both states maintain the measures would limit spending by handing government entities more flexibility in dealing with workers. But Democrats and their union allies see the bills as a full-out attack designed to cripple union fundraising for Democrats.

The battle over labor rights has been heating up across the country, as new Republican majorities tackle budget woes in several states. The GOP efforts have sparked huge protests from unions and their supporters and led Democrats in Wisconsin and Indiana to flee their states to block measures.

Republicans in Ohio offered a small concession on Wednesday, saying they would support allowing unionized state workers to collectively bargain on wages — but not for benefits, sick time, vacation or other conditions. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's proposal also would allow most public workers to collectively bargain only for wages.

In Ohio, Republican Senate President Tom Niehaus denied protests have dented the GOP's resolve, saying lawmakers decided to make the change after listening to hours of testimony. He said he still believes the bill's core purpose — reining in spending by allowing governments more flexibility in dealing with their workers — is intact.

Analysis: Obama's shift on same-sex marriage reflects trend among younger Americans

WASHINGTON (AP) — One way for President Barack Obama to win the future, it seems, is to have his administration stop defending a federal law that bans recognition of same-sex marriage.

Opinion polls show a steady rise in Americans' embrace of gay rights, and young voters solidly back positions their grandparents opposed, including gay marriage.

"Anybody under the age of 40 doesn't care, or actively supports it," said Steve Elmendorf, a longtime Democratic staffer and lobbyist.

The administration said Wednesday it no longer would defend the constitutionality of the 1996 federal law that defines marriage as only between a man and a woman. Attorney General Eric Holder cited recent shifts in legal thought, not public opinion, in explaining the decision.

"Much of the legal landscape has changed in the 15 years since Congress passed" the Defense of Marriage Act, Holder said. He noted that the Supreme Court has ruled that laws criminalizing homosexual conduct are unconstitutional and that Congress has repealed the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which barred service by openly gay men and women.

Mexican army says suspect claims slain U.S. immigration agent was mistaken for drug gang rival

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican soldiers have arrested an alleged Zetas drug cartel member who allegedly confessed to killing a U.S. immigration agent, but said the attack was a case of mistaken identity.

Suspect Julian Zapata Espinoza — known by the nickname "El Piolin," or Tweety Bird, apparently because of his short stature — told soldiers that a group of gunmen from the Zetas mistook the officer's vehicle for one used by a rival gang.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent Jaime Zapata was shot to death and fellow agent Victor Avila was wounded while driving on a highway near the northern city of San Luis Potosi on Feb. 15.

"That event occurred because of the characteristics of the vehicle, given that they (the suspects) thought it was being used by members of a rival criminal group," an army spokesman, Col. Ricardo Trevilla, said.

The two agents were in a Chevrolet Suburban. Mexico's drug cartels frequently set up roadblocks and ambushes to steal large SUVs and pickups, vehicles they like to use.

Huckabee teases 2nd White House run, hints he may skip 2012 campaign

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mike Huckabee isn't tamping down speculation of another presidential run. But he isn't doing much to prepare for one.

The winner of the Iowa caucuses in 2008 doesn't sound all that enthusiastic about another bid as he travels on a nationwide book tour that includes early GOP primary states. Also calling into question how seriously the former Baptist pastor is weighing a candidacy: He plans to spend part of the summer in Alaska hosting a cruise.

"I'm still very serious about considering it," Huckabee said of the race for the White House during an interview Wednesday. "But I'm doing it in my own time frame. I'm not allowing myself to be pushed into something because the media is all anxious for me to start."

"Help me understand why I've got to decide and nobody else has."

It's hardly the first mixed signal about his interest in the 2012 race, which so far has drawn no declared candidates.

Report: Gap in average sales price widened between foreclosures, regular homes in 2010

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The gap between the average sale price of a foreclosed home and that of other properties grew wider last year, giving homebuyers who snapped up bank-owned homes big discounts.

And homebuyers can expect to see more of those bargains this year, because fewer foreclosed homes were sold in 2010 than were taken back by banks, foreclosure listing firm RealtyTrac Inc. said Thursday.

Buyers who purchased a foreclosed home last year got, on average, a 28 percent discount to a non-foreclosure sale. That's up from a 27 percent average discount in 2009, RealtyTrac said.

While only a slight increase, the trend suggests a widening price spread between foreclosure sales and other types of residential properties.

Foreclosed homes made up nearly 26 percent of all home sales last year, according to RealtyTrac. That's down from 29 percent in 2009 but up from 23 percent in 2008.

Discovery poised for final launch, huge crowd expected to see NASA's oldest space shuttle off

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Space shuttle Discovery is poised to make its last flight.

The launch countdown is in its final hours, with fueling set to begin shortly after sunrise Thursday.

This time, NASA is confident no hydrogen gas will leak and no cracks will develop in the fuel tank. Both those problems cropped up during the initial countdown in November. The repairs took almost four months.

Discovery will head to the International Space Station with a crew of six, as well as a load of supplies and a humanoid robot.

This will be the 39th flight for NASA's oldest surviving shuttle. Discovery first blasted off in 1984, and has since logged 143 million miles.

Minn. prosecutors: Man 'hunted' suicide victims

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A man charged with two counts of aiding suicide was committing a crime — not playing a game — when he

"hunted" vulnerable people on the Internet and encouraged two of them to kill themselves, prosecutors claim.

William Melchert-

Dinkel used alter egos to stalk victims and get them to commit suicide for the "thrill of the chase," prosecutors said in written arguments

filed in advance of a court hearing Thursday in front of a judge who will decide whether his actions were criminal.

"Advising and encouraging others in suicide is not an online game for Mr. Melchert-Dinkel's amusement — it is a crime," Rice County Attorney Paul Beaumaster wrote. He added that Melchert-Dinkel admitted his "conversations moved into the realm of sick and perverse advice."

Melchert-Dinkel has pleaded not guilty to two counts of aiding suicide in the 2005 hanging death of Mark Drybrough, 32, of Coventry, England,

and the 2008 drowning of Nadia Kajouji, 18, of Brampton, Ontario. Melchert-Dinkel's fate is now in the hands of Rice County District Court Judge Thomas Neville after the 48-year-old southern Minnesota man waived his right to a jury trial and said he would not dispute the evidence against him, only whether what he did was a crime.

Defense attorney Terry Watkins has not filed written arguments and did not return phone messages Wednesday. He has said previously that his client's online activities were protected speech, that the vic-

tims were predisposed to suicide and that Melchert-Dinkel's comments were not a factor. Watkins has also said his client's actions do not constitute a crime.

Prosecutors say Melchert-Dinkel was obsessed with suicide and hanging and that he sought out potential victims on the Internet. When he found them, prosecutors say, he posed in chat rooms and in e-mails as a woman, using such names as "Li dao" or "Cami," played the role of a compassionate friend, and offered instructions on how they could take their lives.

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Death toll at 98, 226 still missing

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (AP) — Rescuers fanned out into unchecked areas of New Zealand's quake-devastated city Thursday looking for any remaining life in the rubble, as the death toll rose to 98 with "grave fears" that many of the 226 missing are dead.

"Rescue team! Rescue team!" a visiting firefighter from Australia called out as his team went through an office building apparently abandoned during Tuesday's disaster in Christchurch. There was no response.

Officials appealed to families of the missing to be patient, saying the agony could be worse if they rushed the identifications and came to wrong conclusions.

The official death toll from the 6.3-magnitude temblor

stood at 98, police Superintendent Dave Cliff said. An additional 226 people were listed as missing, and Prime Minister John Key said there were "grave fears" that many of them did not survive.

Among the confirmed dead were two infant boys, one 9 months old, the other 5 months, Cliff said. He did not give details of their deaths.

Two days after the quake and with no one pulled alive from the wreckage for more than 24 hours, the focus was shifting away from possible rescues toward the recovery of bodies and securing the uncertain number of buildings left dangerously wobbly.

Authorities also struggled to restore power, reliable phones and water — Mayor Bob Parker warned residents to assume that tap water is

contaminated and boil it before drinking it or cooking with it. People were streaming out of the city to stay with friends or relatives. The Civil Defense Ministry said about 1,000 had used special flights sending people to other cities.

A video released Thursday showed rescuers in the immediate aftermath of the quake Tuesday, when a team lined a mine-like shaft through the rubble of the Pyne Gould Guinness building, pulling a man, then a woman from between collapsed floors.

"When I saw his face, right there in front of me I just burst into tears, I was just so, so happy," trapped woman Roslyn Chapman said of her rescuer. "I just felt so lucky and to get down on the street and see my fiance ... and to

turn around and look at that building I just can't believe we made it out of there alive," she told TV New Zealand, which broadcast the footage.

There was more misery for the family of Donna Manning, a morning show presenter whose teen-aged children Kent and Lizzy held a vigil outside the CTV building until being told by police Tuesday their mother could not have survived. As they were waiting, their home was robbed.

Hundreds of foreign specialists — from the U.S., Britain, Japan, Singapore and Taiwan — arrived to bolster local police and soldiers and allow teams to broaden their search to smaller buildings not yet checked.

"Now we've got the capability of going out and doing

searches in areas where there may still be people trapped that hitherto we haven't been able to address," Civil Defense Minister John Carters said.

Teams dressed in blue coveralls and orange helmets and with sniffer dogs moved along city streets lined with one- and two-story office buildings, small stores, restaurants and cafes. The brick facades of some had fallen onto sidewalks, and car after car parked at the curb lay crushed under heavy steel awnings.

They went building to building. At times, a dog would let out a bark and rush excitedly into the rubble, the rescuers following gingerly after them. At one place, they uncovered a body pinned under a huge chunk of concrete.

Foreign students feared dead in toppled building

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (AP) — Students from across Asia are feared among the dead in an office building that collapsed in New Zealand's earthquake, with police saying Wednesday that they were "100 percent certain" no one trapped in the rubble was alive.

Survivors of the collapse at the Canterbury Television building described a scene "like out of a horror movie" and said they were worried about dozens of friends and colleagues whose fate was still unclear.

"As we were eating lunch, there was a major shaking, and suddenly the floor fell," 19-year-old Kento Okuda told Japan's Asahi Shimbun newspaper. Okuda was studying at King's Education language school inside the building along with more than a dozen other Japanese.

"Everyone around me was saying things like 'It hurts' as they fell downward," he said. "And then I realized I was in total darkness, with my right leg pinned by something so I couldn't move."

Rescuers had to cut off his leg to free him.

By Wednesday afternoon, authorities had called off rescue operations at the building, where an unknown number of people were working or studying when the quake struck.

"We don't believe this site is now survivable," police operations commander Inspector Dave

Lawry told reporters, adding that the part of the building that remains standing was in danger of collapse, weakened by quake aftershocks and fire.

A number of overseas students who were in the building when it toppled had not been located, he said, adding that he could not give an exact number.

"The sad fact is we're removing resources from this site to other sites where there is a higher chance of survivability," Lawry said.

"My heart goes out to those families ... knowing that some of their children have probably been killed in this incident."

Those trapped were thought to include as many as a dozen Japanese students attending a language school on the premises and 15 employees of a TV station. Also missing were students from Thailand, China and South Korea.

Families of the missing waited anxiously for any news that their relatives escaped the avalanche of concrete and debris unleashed by the magnitude 6.3 quake.

"We don't know whether Noriko was eating lunch inside the school, or whether she went out. If she went out, she may have survived," Shu Otsubo, whose daughter was taking classes at King's Education and hasn't been heard from since the earthquake hit, told Japanese broadcaster

NHK.

Some of those trapped in the building — including a Japanese teacher and Chinese nurse — were able to use their mobile phones to contact their families. It wasn't clear if all of those who made contact with the outside world were among the more than 20 people police said had been pulled from the building.

Particularly hard hit were a group of Japanese from the Toyama College of Foreign Languages who were eating lunch at the language school when the quake hit.



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Arts and crafts kits get creative

By **KIM COOK**

For The Associated Press

Not so long ago, it was hard to find an art kit for children that involved much more than some pompoms, glitter and a few pipe cleaners.

Today's creativity kit is a whole different pot of paint. Some introduce new artistic techniques, while others offer open-ended project possibilities.

If you're looking for stay-at-home spring break craft activities that encourage experimentation and expression, you're in luck.

Bridget Daly and Shannon Ninburg, Seattle-based art educators, offer a variety of award-winning project kits on their website eyecanart.com.

The kits come with everything needed and are designed

for repeat use. Choose from Printmaking, Pastel Stencils, Wax Drawing, Amate Cut Paper (symmetrical design cutting) and Sumi-e Painting.

The last, for example, comes with a bamboo brush, watercolors, printing ink, papers and even a chop block to create your own signature, as the traditional Asian artists do.

With a \$20-\$25 price range, the kits get raves on parent blogs.

Zebmix.com takes creativity to the kitchen with the mantra "stirring up fun." Started by another pair of Seattle parents, graphic designers Brian Alm and Lisa Burgess, each kit comes with a Safari Baking Map.

The map has instructions on one side and project ideas, word games, and math and science challenges on the other.

There's a Flour Power Cookie kit complete with kid-size green rolling pin, ingredients, and dragonfly and daisy cutters.

Cupcake Studio comes with ingredients, zebra cupcake papers and a zebra frosting pen.

The kits also are available in eye-catching tins that can be used for lunch or little collections long after the goodies are gobbled.

All the ingredients are organic or all natural, and the kits go for \$22.99.

Creativityforkids.com has some great kits for transportation lovers.

Drift cars, trucks and racing bikes can be tricked out with paint and stickers (\$24.99).

The company's Pop-Up Bookmaking kit comes with two blank books, die-cut pieces, stickers, googly eyes and

markers, and has won a number of parents' choice awards, as has the It's My Life Scrapbook kit.

Scrapbooking's a great way for kids to start gathering childhood memories.

If you're trying to de-clutter, consider having the kids take photos of toys, books and games they've outgrown. They can paste the photos in albums with descriptive captions, then pack up the goods and pass 'em along.

The kids may enjoy adding photos of friends, pets and fun experiences to the scrapbooks.

When they're teens, they'll have fun revisiting the virtual playroom.

If you've got a storyteller in your family, consider Eric Carle's Sketch-and-Tell art pads, with covers featuring Brown Bear, Grouchy Lady-

bug, Hungry Caterpillar and others.

The covers may inspire budding authors and illustrators to create their own stories; there's space for words and images on all 32 pages (\$1.99). Markers and pencil crayons are also available (what-does-you-see.com).

Finally, if you don't mind gathering up the components yourself, look at Boyd's Mills Press' "Look What You Can Make With" book series (prices range from \$5.95 to \$16.49). They give instructions for projects involving cardboard boxes, tubes, plastic, newspapers and other easily scavenged items for a wide range of age groups.

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HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Twyla Ards and the Howard College women take on Frank Phillips at 5:45 p.m. today at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Howard women need win, help for postseason berth

BY ADAM COLEMAN

Sports Editor

The Howard College women's basketball team needs a lot of help as far as making the Region V Tournament is concerned. Head coach Earl Diddle knows that much.

In order to clinch a berth, the Hawks not only have to take care of Frank Phillips at 5:45 p.m. today in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, South Plains has to beat New Mexico Junior College and Midland College has to beat Odessa.

"We've got to do what we've got to do and then we're at the hands of these other people, which is not a real good feeling," Diddle said. "But that's the position we're in."

At 5-6 in conference play, the Hawks are a full game behind 6-5 New Mexico Junior College. Howard hasn't exactly helped itself out the last few games, with four losses in its last five conference contests.

The Hawks have dropped games to South Plains, Midland, Western Texas and Odessa down the stretch.

The latest loss — a 66-45 affair at Odessa Monday — was a tough one to take, considering the position the Hawks are now in.

"I don't think we quit," Diddle said of Monday's game. "We just didn't rebound the ball. We looked at the film, we played very well. We just did not block them out whatsoever. I think they scored 24 points from second (chance) shots."

"It was just a matter of fact that we let an athletic team become athletic."

Tonight the Hawks will face a team with nothing to gain or lose. Frank Phillips is 0-11 in conference play and the Hawks already beat this team in Borger 65-49 earlier this season.

Just because the Hawks face an 0-11 conference team tonight doesn't mean they should relax, though.

Diddle said a team like Frank Phillips is a dangerous one to face. The Plainsmen have talent, a good scheme and have given a few teams problems this season. Underestimating them would be a mistake.

The Hawks experienced a little bit of that in the Westerns Texas loss at home Feb. 17. The Hawks needed a win to avoid being in a situation like tonight's.

"They're coming down, there's no emphasis on

See **HAWKS**, Page 2B

Nowitzki, Stojakovic send Mavericks past Jazz

The Associated Press

DALLAS — The Utah Jazz were already reeling from the news that leading scorer Deron Williams had been traded. Then they ran into the Dallas Mavericks.

Dirk Nowitzki had 23 points to lead seven double-figure scorers, and the Mavericks cruised to a 118-99 victory Wednesday night.

Peja Stojakovic hit four 3-pointers and scored 18 points, and Shawn Marion contributed 16 points for the Mavericks, who stretched their winning streak to four games. Dallas has won 14 of its last 15 overall and eight straight at home.

"It's a good team even without Deron Williams," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. "They had only one point guard so they had some makeshift lineups, but they can play. It was a win we needed to get."

Al Jefferson scored 30 points, Paul Millsap had 18 and Andrei Kirilenko 17 for the Jazz, who will have to snap a five-game losing streak as they revamp their lineup.

"Nobody else is going to feel sorry for us," Utah coach Tyrone Corbin said. "These guys, and most teams in the league, if you show them any weakness, they'll bury you. We don't want to be embarrassed."

The Mavs got off to a sloppy start with eight first-quarter turnovers as the Jazz

carried a 26-23 lead into the second. Dallas had gone five days without a game, and the rust was evident.

The Jazz might not have seemed like the trade was affecting them early on, but the Mavericks clamped down on defense and closed the second quarter with an 11-4 spurt over the final 3:12 for a 59-55 halftime advantage behind Nowitzki's 14 points.

Jefferson's 19 first-half points kept the Jazz close before the Mavericks turned up the heat in the third quarter, breaking the game open with a 16-5 surge that included consecutive 3-pointers by Rodrigue Beaubois and Stojakovic for a 79-68 advantage. The Mavs were ahead after three quarters, 88-77, and went on to lead by as many as 21 in the final quarter.

Dallas shot 58 percent from the floor and had 30 assists, 12 from Jason Kidd.

"We were really making shots and sharing the ball," Nowitzki said. "We had (seven) guys in double figures again, and that's how we've been winning lately... sharing the ball, passing the ball, making shots."

Stojakovic continues to round into form in his seventh game since he signed a free agent contract with Dallas on Jan. 24.

"Peja's one of the top five or six shooters all-time," Carlisle said. "If we can get him looks, there's going to be a great chance he'll knock them down."

Williams bid farewell to teammates and coaches before flying back to Salt Lake City on Wednesday afternoon, shortly after the team traded him to the New Jersey Nets. The Jazz got Devin Harris and Derrick Favors in the three-team deal, along with the Nets' first-round draft pick, cash and the Golden State Warriors' first-round draft pick in 2012.

Earl Watson started at Williams' point guard spot, but it still was a jolt for a team that has been struggling ever since the resignation of longtime coach Jerry Sloan earlier this month.

"I haven't gotten over Coach Sloan," Jefferson said. "So when they hit me with (the trade of Williams), it was like, wow, I was surprised. But it's a business."

Millsaps said he was "shocked" to learn of the deal.

"You never thought something like that would happen," he said.

Notes: Harris will wear No. 5 and Favors has been assigned No. 15.

They aren't expected to join their new team until Friday. ... Before the game, Mavericks owner Mark Cuban said he liked his team as currently constructed and expressed doubt that he would be making any trade-deadline deal, although he wouldn't totally rule out the idea. "We're always listening...you've always got to listen," Cuban said. "We just weren't out there pitching."

Area basketball playoff schedule

Boys, Area Friday

No.11 Grady vs. Anton -7:30 p.m.

Rip Griffin Center Lubbock

Big Spring vs Kennedale

-8 p.m. Breckenridge High School

Stanton vs. Bushland -6 p.m.

Rip Griffin Center Lubbock

Garden City vs. Dell City - 8 p.m. Monahans High School

Sands vs. Spur - 6:30 p.m. Post High School

New Knick Anthony says he's ready for expectations

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The crowd roared as soon as the words hit Madison Square Garden's overhead video board.

"I was born in Brooklyn, New York," it read.

And what a homecoming it was for Carmelo Anthony.

Anthony was an immediate star on his first day as a Knick, and he capped off his big day by scoring 27 points and grabbing 10 rebounds in a 114-108 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Wednesday night.

Already exhausted from the chaos of All-Star weekend and a cross-country trip to New York, it wasn't surprising when he struggled with his shot for three quarters of his de-

but. But on a day that was all about him, Anthony could only think about the Knicks.

"To come in today, go straight from the press conference to the locker room, then got to get ready for a basketball game like this was a lot," he said. "But at the end of the day, the only thing that matters was a win."

Anthony made only 10 of 25 shots but was at his best in the closing minutes, helping New York hold on after fellow superstar Amare Stoudemire fouled out. He matched the third-highest scoring game in a Knicks debut since 1964, just two points shy of Keith Van Horn's re-

See **KNICKS**, Page 2B

Area softball, baseball teams begin tournaments

BY ADAM COLEMAN

Sports Editor

The level of competition goes up a notch as area softball and baseball teams begin tournament play today through the weekend.

The Big Spring softball team has started the season 2-2 and is in the Midland West Texas Classic today in Midland. At 0-2, Coahoma softball is also in this tournament. The two teams actually meet in the second game of the tournament.

Big Spring is coming off a win at Levelland and the Bulldogettes'

tough schedule has had its affect early with losses to Haskell and Odessa High School.

Forsan softball is in Lubbock for the Lubbock Cooper Tournament today.

Big Spring baseball is also in Lubbock for the Lubbock Cooper Tournament. The Steers are coming off a season-opening 8-2 win over Monahans at home Monday. Forsan baseball is at Albany High School for a tournament and Coahoma is in San Angelo for the Lake View Tournament.

Sports in brief

Big Spring Girls Softball Association

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will conduct sign-ups for girls ages 4 to 14 to play. Sign-ups are each Saturday through March 12 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Big Spring Mall. The registration fee is \$80 with no fundraiser. It will cover the full uniform.

Late registration after March 12 is \$10 extra. For

more information, contact Lucy Ramirez at 466-3670.

Coahoma girls softball sign-ups

Coahoma girls softball will be conducting early bird sign-ups for girls ages 3 to 18 (3 to 6 will be co-ed) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Coahoma Community Center and at the Big Spring Mall. This is a one day special \$10 discount.

Regular sign-ups are March 10-12, 17-19 and 24-26. Times for those days are 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and the locations are the same. The fee is \$60, no fundraiser. Shirts and shorts will be provided. There will be a tournament hosted for every age group. Call Billy Newton at (325) 207-2640 or (432) 394-4294 or Amy Overton at (432) 816-1968 for more information.

Williams traded to Nets, latest star to head East

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — The second blockbuster NBA trade in two days sent Utah Jazz point guard Deron Williams to the New Jersey Nets, shifting another star from the Western Conference to the East and to a bigger market.

Now, while the Nets hope they can keep their new All-Star long-term and turn him into a face-of-the-franchise player the way Jason Kidd was years ago, small-market teams are left to wonder what the future holds for them.

Is there something the NBA should do to protect teams from losing their stars?

"I think this is a relatively recent phenomenon, but one that I believe is being watched very closely," Jazz CEO Greg Miller said after trading away his All-Star point guard in exchange for rookie Derrick Favors, point guard Devin Harris, two first-round draft picks and cash.

"I can only speak from the Jazz ownership perspective in saying that I'm not interested in seeing a congregation of star players on a handful of teams throughout the league. I don't think it does the teams any good. It doesn't do the fans any good. It doesn't do the sponsors any good.

"I would like to see as much parity as there can be in the league. Beyond that, it's all just specula-

tion."

The trend started in the summer of 2007 when the Boston Celtics made a blockbuster 7-for-1 trade with Minnesota that gave them 10-time All-Star Kevin Garnett. The Celtics with the Big Three of Garnett, Ray Allen and Paul Pierce went on to win the NBA title in 2008.

Last offseason, the Jazz lost power forward Carlos Boozer to the Chicago Bulls, Phoenix star Amare Stoudamire signed with the New York Knicks, and league MVP LeBron James ditched Cleveland for Miami's beaches and a star-studded Heat lineup that featured Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh.

On Tuesday, the Knicks finalized a deal with the Denver Nuggets that sent All-Star Carmelo Anthony and Chauncey Billups to the Eastern Conference.

It all left King James boasting that his prediction of a shift of power to the East was coming true.

The Jazz chose to combat it the only way they could — by being proactive with the Williams trade and getting as much as they could now even if it created more turmoil just 13 days after Hall of Fame coach Jerry Sloan abruptly retire after clashing with Williams.

Utah's front office said it had no definite indication from Williams that he wouldn't re-sign after

2012, but it also had no indication he would.

"We had an opportunity to replace ambiguity with a high degree of certainty," Miller said.

In weighing the decision, Miller tried to put himself in Williams' shoes, as a player trying to earn as much money as he could in a short window of opportunity.

"Deron probably felt like he could attain those objectives in bigger markets," Miller said. "If that's the way he felt, I wouldn't want to hold him here against his will or have him be unhappy. If our franchise couldn't offer Deron things he needed, then it was best he go somewhere he can get those things."

Complicating matters was the prospect of an NBA lockout next season, which could have left Williams as a free agent outright heading into the 2012-2013 season.

While Williams' trade caught many by surprise, including Williams, who heard it as he watched TV before a shootaround Wednesday morning in Dallas, the Nets have been trying to wheel-and-deal since last year.

They couldn't get James as a free agent, and then saw Anthony go to the Knicks.

The Nets and Jazz had talked weeks earlier, Utah general manager Kevin O'Connor acknowledged.

among the crowd that filled the lobby of the Theater at Madison Square Garden and was interviewed by the MSG Network at halftime.

But Anthony made it clear his focus is on Madison Square Garden's basketball court, where he averaged 30.4 points in his visits with Denver, just behind Kobe Bryant's 30.5 for best among active players.

Wearing a Knicks warmup suit and orange headband, Anthony beamed as he posed for photos holding his new jersey.

"Will we win a championship this year? Who knows?" said Anthony, who spoke for about 10 minutes. "That takes time. But at the end of the day, we're moving into the right direction. I felt like I wanted to be part of an organization, part of a team who had some upside and knew what the future was holding."

Not everything was cleared up even after the deal was done. MSG chairman James Dolan felt the need at the start of Wednesday's news conference to again deny reports he had removed team president Donnie Walsh from negotiations while being advised by Isiah Thomas.

"While Isiah Thomas is a friend of mine, a very good friend of mine, he was not at all involved in this process," Dolan said. "He wasn't advising me or telling me what to do in any way, and any reports that implied he was doing that are simply untrue and a fiction in somebody's mind."

The Knicks also got guard Anthony Carter and forwards Renaldo Balkman and Shelden Williams from Denver. New York dealt forwards Wilson Chandler and Danilo Gallinari, guard Raymond Felton and center Timofey Mozgov to the Nuggets.

The Nuggets didn't want to include Billups, a Denver native who is so beloved there that Nuggets president Josh Kroenke and general manager Masai Ujiri apologized to his family and the team's fans during their press conference Tuesday.

"It was time to go obviously and I'm excited about this challenge," Billups said.

Anthony, Stoudemire and Billups — all teammates in 2007 on the U.S. basketball team that won the Olympic qualifier while running Knicks coach Mike D'Antoni's offense — posed for photos together during the press conference. The Knicks have stressed the importance of also acquiring Billups, a five-time All-Star and former NBA finals MVP, as did Anthony.

"He knows what it takes to win championships," Anthony said. "He knows what it takes to win basketball games."

The Knicks haven't made the playoffs since 2004. They are in sixth place in the Eastern Conference in their first season since acquiring Stoudemire from Phoenix last summer.

Stoudemire has said the blockbuster deal could make them better equipped to face teams like Boston and Miami, which already have multiple All-Stars, in the postseason.

"I know we got to jell. We got to get our chemistry down," Anthony said. "At the same time, we've got to roll."

KNICKS

Continued from Page 1B

cord 29 on Oct. 29, 2003.

"He played great. He played Carmelo basketball," Stoudemire said. "That's what I wanted him to do, to be himself out there."

Friends since high school, Anthony and Stoudemire have craved this reunion since the moment Stoudemire signed here in July. But neither was certain it would happen as the Nuggets weighed trade offers from the Knicks and New Jersey Nets in the final days before the trade deadline.

Anthony was on his way to the airport, headed for that unwanted return to Denver, when the call he waited for all season finally came Monday night.

The one that makes him a brighter star, and maybe makes the Knicks a bigger threat come playoff time.

"I think New York needed a moment like this," Anthony said.

So did Anthony.

After waiting since September while the Nuggets worked to send him to the only destination he wanted, Anthony finally arrived Wednesday, telling a packed news conference he is the right kind of person to deal with New York.

"Is it going to be an easy transition for me? No. Is it going to be a lot of challenges? Yes. Is there going to be a lot of expectations? Yes," he said. "But I'm willing to accept all of them challenges."

The Knicks are betting on it, trading away four of their top players as part of a three-team, 13-player blockbuster that was completed Tuesday. All the players completed their physicals Wednesday, making Anthony eligible to make his Knicks debut against the Milwaukee Bucks.

"I feel like I'm still dreaming right now," said Anthony, now wearing No. 7 and armed with a three-year, \$65-million extension as he joined fellow All-Star Stoudemire in the frontcourt, giving the Knicks the potent duo they hoped they could assemble last summer in free agency.

With the building appearing completely full before tipoff, fans roared as quotes from Anthony appeared on the overhead videoboard before introductions, noting he was born in Brooklyn and wanted to be former Knicks star Bernard King.

Anthony was then introduced first to a raucous ovation, and quickly earned his first points as a Knick on an offensive rebound with 9:37 left in the first quarter.

Referring to the high price the Knicks paid, Anthony said, "I'm pretty sure if any of you guys were GMs or owners, you would want me and Amare on the same team as well. I don't know who would turn that down."

Anthony decided last summer he wanted out of Denver, the team that drafted him third overall in 2003. The Brooklyn native wanted the deal to New York, in part for the opportunities it will present he and his actress wife, La La Vazquez, who was

HAWKS

Continued from Page 1B

mistakes, they're free to do whatever they want to do and there's no consequences," Diddle said of Frank Phillips.

"There's absolutely no pressure."

Diddle and the Hawks aren't putting much pressure on themselves, either.

The head coach said his players have to control what they can and if everything works out, they'll be in the Region V Tournament. If not,

Diddle said the Hawks could have a 21-win season to be proud of heading into the offseason.

Howard men

The Hawk men are already in the Region V Tournament, sitting at 11-2 as the No. 2 team in the conference. They have a lot more to play for, though. A Howard win over Frank Phillips at 7:45 p.m. and an Odessa College win over Midland would give the Hawks a share of the conference title. Midland already clinched a share of the title Monday. Midland and Howard split games this season.

Sophomore night

With tonight being the

regular season finale for both the Howard women and men, the teams' sophomore will be honored in between games.

For the women, Taniqua Ards, Twyla Ards, Jackie Bartleson and University of Houston signee Tasha Tubbs will be honored. Taniqua, Twyla and Tubbs have all been key players for the Hawks this season.

The same could be said for Carlos Emory and Joe Bright on the men's side.

The two were key to the Hawk men's national championship last season and returned this year as leaders of the team. Corey Stern and Johnnie Lacy are also sophomores.

sudoku

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



By Steve Becker

Proper Technique Pays Off

West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ A Q 9
 ♥ A 5
 ♦ 7 6
 ♣ K J 10 6 3 2

WEST
 ♠ 10 6 3
 ♥ 9 6 2
 ♦ 10 8 4 3 2
 ♣ 7 4

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

SOUTH
 ♠ K 7 5 4 2
 ♥ 8 3
 ♦ A K Q J 9
 ♣ A

The bidding:
 West North East South
 Pass 1♣ 3♥ 3♠
 Pass 4♥ Pass 4NT
 Pass 5♠ Pass 7♣

Opening lead — nine of hearts.
 This deal occurred in the 1986 Cavendish Club Invitational, regarded by many as the most prestigious pairs contest in the world. The declarer was Michael Rosenberg, who together with his partner, Matt Granovetter, finished first in the 36-pair field.

They were one of five pairs to reach a grand slam on the North-South cards, but were the only pair to make it without any assistance from the defense. By agreement, North's five-spade response to four notrump showed two aces plus the queen of

spades, after which South had no compunctions about bidding seven spades.

Rosenberg won the opening heart lead with dummy's ace, crossed to the ace of clubs and led a spade to the ace. He now had several options open to him, but unerringly chose the winning line.

At trick four, he cashed the queen of spades and then played the king of clubs, discarding his heart loser. When the queen of clubs did not appear, he next played two high diamonds, leaving the missing ten of trumps outstanding for the moment.

The advantage of playing diamonds while a trump was still missing can be seen in the actual deal. Had the third trump been drawn, declarer would have gone down due to the unlucky 5-1 division of the opposing diamonds.

But Rosenberg decided it could cost nothing to take out insurance against a bad diamond break — unlikely as it was — by testing diamonds first. Had both opponents followed to the A-K of diamonds, he would have drawn the missing trump and claimed the rest.

As it was, though, East showed out on the second diamond but was unable to ruff. Rosenberg then ruffed the nine of diamonds with dummy's nine of trumps, returned to his hand with a heart ruff and drew West's last trump to bring in the grand slam.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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GARAGE SALE: 1/2 mile from Coahoma on FM 820, Friday 9a-5p. Couches, coffee table, and lots of misc. items. Everything going cheap.

SATURDAY 8-2, 1751 Purdue. Home Décor, Antiques, Baseball Collection, Big/Tall Men's 2X-4X, Junior Girls 3-9, and much more!

Help Wanted

HOWARD COUNTY will be accepting applications for the position of Maintenance/Custodial worker until February 28, 2011. You may apply in the County Treasurer's Office on the second floor of the Courthouse, 300 S. Main St. Room 201, Big Spring, TX. EOE.



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Parks Maintenance Worker
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For more information go to www.mybigspring.com, or apply in person in the Human Resources Office located at 310 Nolan. (432)264-2346.

COASTAL TRANSPORT is seeking **Owner-operators** with a Class A CDL. Must be 23 years, X endorsement with 1 year experience. **For More Information, Call 888-527-7221 Monday 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday.**

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DISABILITY SERVICES of the Southwest is looking to hire personal care attendants for disabled male in his home, Big Spring area, to assist him with daily needs. Day, evening, and weekend shifts are available. Must be CPR certified and 18 years old; call (432)550-6900 for further information. EEO

DRIVERS NEEDED Class A/B CDL Required. Call 432-267-5122.

Early Childhood Teaching Position Pay depends upon experience and education. Apply Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.

ESTABLISHED COMPANY in Big Spring needs One Experienced Remodel Carpenter. Experienced in all phases of construction remodeling. Must have valid Driver License and be drug free. Call RS Home Repair, (432)816-3030.

FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. \$550.00 Weekly plus Bonus. Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are background check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 19 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

Help Wanted



FAST GROWING company seeking the following positions in the Big Spring area, LVN/RN for Medicare home visits, LVN/RN for Pediatric hours. Salary DOE. Apply in person at 1030 Andrews Hwy Ste. 109 Midland, or call 432-570-8880 for an application.

HIRING FULL-TIME mechanic. Requires verifiable experience w/diesel and heavy equipment. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental ins. 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX.

KITCHEN HELP & CARHOP. Must be Neat in Appearance. Honest & Dependable. No experience necessary will train. Inquire at Wagon Wheel, 2010 Scurry St. No phone call Please!

MEDICAL ASSISTANT with experience preferred (full-time). Bilingual a plus. Fast pace working environment. Come by 1501 West 11th Place for application or leave resume.

NOW HIRING full time/ part time employees at WES-T-GO. Apply in person, 1800 Gregg.



NOW HIRING Experienced Equipment Operator and (2) Yard Hands. Must be able to pass a drug test. Apply in person @ Erath Iron and Metal. For more information call (432)268-1512.

OTR TRUCK Drivers Needed. Must have a CDL Class A with 2 years experience. Company offers excellent pay and benefits. Quality home time. Owner Operators Welcomed to Apply. For more information call 1-800-624-5919 ext. 116.

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehab now hiring charge Nurse for 10pm-6am shift. Competitive pay plus benefits. Great family working environment. Apply in person at 3200 Parkway or on-line at www.parkviewnursing.net

THE COLORADO River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following position in the Big Spring Area.

Electrician- Trouble shoot, service, and maintain pump control panels, electric motors up to 3000hp, power distribution systems, electrical sub-stations submersible motors, and commercial and residential wiring. Intermediate level position, basic understanding of electronics/electricity needed. CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave. Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432) 267-6341 or crmwd.org

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1501 East 4th St.

PUMP REPAIR person needed. Must be able to lift 70 lbs. Drug free, high school diploma or GED, good driving record, background check. Call 432-267-5422.

RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service In Stanton has immediate openings for CDL Driver, roustabout pushers and helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

VAN DRIVER/ CAREGIVER- Work 1:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m. at Jack & Jill Child Care. Later hours also available. Apply in person at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.

Help Wanted

SECURITY OFFICERS Needed for Hospital Federal Inmate Protection detail. All positions are Part-time and PRN.

Physical Requirements: Must be in general good health and vision must be correctable to 20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye. The ability to distinguish basic colors is required. Emotional and mental stability is required.

Other Requirements: Must be able to pass State and Federal Backgrounds and Credit Checks.

Experience Requirements: One year (2040) hours of experience in the armed forces or coast guard which involved significant performance of guard duty of detainees or prisoners; or the equivalent experience in a federal, state, or local government, or private organization which involved protecting/police duties, or college level training in courses such as corrections or police science may be substituted for experience at the ratio of two hours of instructions for one hour of experience. Apply at Workforce Center (in the Post Office), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.



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On the Farm

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State of the economy forces liquidation-Murphy Auctioneers has been asked to sell at public auction a complete inventory of western saddles & horse equipment from a Giant Wholesale Saddle Distributor. This business is liquidating a very nice collection of top quality saddles & tack. 10% Buyers Premium. Everybody is welcome.

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Legals

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Sealed proposals addressed to Mr. John Grant, General Manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, P.O. Box 869, 406 E. 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79721, until 3:00 PM, Thursday, March 17, 2011, for construction of 40'x75' metal building.

At this time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

This project consists of construction of a metal shop at the District's Terminal Pump Station located at 1400 S FM 1788, Midland Texas. Specifications are available and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 406 E. 23rd Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 during normal business hours.

Inquiries regarding project specifications are to be directed to **Ryan Sayles, Staff Engineer,** telephone (432)267-6341, email: rsayles@crmwd.org. #6891 February 17 & 24 and March 3, 2011

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Howard County Auditor will accept sealed bids until 10:00 a.m. on March 11, 2011 for the following:

SEAL COATING
Specifications may be obtained in the Auditor's Office, 300 S. Main Street, No. 202, Big Spring, Texas or by calling (432)264-2210. Bids will be presented to the Commissioner's Court at 10:00 a.m. on March 14, 2011 for their consideration. The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Jackie Olson
Howard County Auditor
#6899 February 24, and March 4, 2011

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Sagittarius moon will inspire the exploration of different cultures. In the next three days, it will bring good fortune to open your eyes, ears and taste buds to uncommon experiences.

The Sagittarius moon favors travel, though you really don't have to go far to find an entirely new world. There's one behind every door in your neighborhood.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When you feel pressured, you act out of fear. That's why it will be useful to stomp out your own impatience because it will only lead to regret. Have more fun, and it will be easier for you to have patience, too. ,

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It will benefit you to keep communication short and to the point. You will be heard, understood and respected. People will

know that you're not a person who will waste their time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Even when you think people understand what you are saying, it's important to ask for clarification. As a bonus, you'll be helping others to get clearer in their intention.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There is a positive purpose behind your communication and behavior, though someone you are close to might not understand what it is. Spell it out, and you'll get the support you need.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You value honesty and don't see the need to sugarcoat your response to the world. Try to be gentle, though. People around you will be more sensitive than usual. Let your tone of voice convey compassion.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You know the result you want to get from each and every interaction. This makes you purposeful in all of your dealings. Your confidence will help you

attract money this afternoon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are willing to make an effort for a special relationship. You are even willing to change in some small way in order for things to work well. The other person will mirror this gesture.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are usually empathic to the needs of those around you, but you have to draw the line somewhere. Today, if you walk a mile in the other person's shoes, you're likely to get a foot ache — it's just not a good fit.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be working on an important project. Even if you feel good about the details, there are simply too many of them to carry around with you and still feel calm and relaxed. Make lists, and you'll feel lighter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's not too late to make a New Year's resolution. Make a declaration to your

loved ones about what you intend to do this year. This will help you gain the focus and clarity you desire.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Unload the issues on your mind into a journal or to a counselor or friend. This exercise will remind you of your positive qualities. Tonight, you'll feel friendly and open to making new social contacts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You could save yourself years of struggle by asking for help from the right person. Hint: It's a person who has been where you are and turned the situation into a success story.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 24). You'll get a public forum in which to communicate your ideas and put them into practice. Mental pursuits ignite your energy. You could simultaneously succeed at more than one career, making you the envy of your friends. Your love life will be fun-filled in July and August. September brings a

glamorous adventure. Cancer and Taurus people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 24, 2, 10, 49 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Long ago, I was told by an astrologer that I have Pisces in the 7th house and that it signifies problems with being understood by others. I also have Venus in the 7th house, and the astrologer said it would soften the negative effects of Pisces in the 7th house. I have been through a lot in my love life. I lived with a man for seven years waiting for him to ask me to marry him, and ultimately, he dumped me for someone he met at work. I don't think I could love or trust anyone again. I'm haunted by the idea that no one will ever truly understand me. Is it true?"

If you ever hear a message from an astrologer or anyone else that makes you feel limited in your ability to have the kind of life you want, disregard it. You are the authority in your own life. The 7th house relates to partnership, joint ventures and mar-

riage. I interpret Pisces in the 7th house as a positive omen, signifying an ability to make a soulful connection with your chosen partner. Pisces energy is also highly creative, which suggests that you instinctively know how to turn a relationship into something unique and special. Your closest relationships are an opportunity to apply and cultivate your talents.

CELEBRITY PROFILE: "Sex and the City" star Kristin Davis is a soulful Pisces with Mercury and Saturn in Pisces, as well. These are ideal aspects for an actress, as Pisces lends tremendous powers of empathy to its natives. Pisces people have the remarkable ability to momentarily forget about themselves entirely in order to take on the perspective and absorb the feelings of another person.

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

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My boyfriend and I have been together for three years. We are compatible in every way but one. He feels compelled to run to the aid of his single, female neighbor, even though she has a boyfriend.

He watches her dog, fixes her fence, helps with clogged drains, etc. I've told him this makes me uncomfortable. I feel he is sending the wrong message, enabling her to rely upon him and creating a bond.

I want him to stop volunteering his services. He thinks I am making a big deal out of nothing. He says he likes to help people.

A similar situation happened two years ago with a different single, female neighbor, and I found a flirtatious note from her on his door.

I don't believe anything happened between them, but the neighbor apparently hoped something would.

I think he craves the adoration and wants women to idolize and praise him for coming to their rescue. Am I being petty, or is my boyfriend playing me for a fool? — *Concerned Girlfriend*

Dear Concerned: Neither. You are probably right about your boyfriend's need for admiration and praise, and it has nothing to do with playing you for a fool. This is simply part of his character.

The problem, as you say, is that

some women will get the impression that he is interested in them romantically.

If he is unwilling to accept this fact, your choice is to trust him and put up with it, or break it off.

Dear Annie: I am a 21-year-old female looking for my mother's approval. My biological mother left when I was a baby, and my stepmother has been my mom since I was 6 months old.

We never really got along while I was growing up. I have tried repeatedly to have a relationship with her, but I always catch her saying bad things about me to my family.

Now they all think ill of me. I wasn't even welcome at last year's Christmas party.

Due to all the nasty things my stepmother has my family believing, I made the decision to stop speaking to her.

But now my father and I hardly ever talk to each other. I know she is still saying things behind my back, because my younger sister gets into



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

arguments with her about it. Do you have any suggestions? — *Desperate for a Mother's Love*

Dear Desperate: Since you and your stepmother have had a contentious relationship for years, it will be difficult to improve it, but not impossible.

Talk to your stepmother in your father's presence. Say gently that you want her to be in your life, that you care very much about her and that you want to make your relationship better.

Ask her to come with you for counseling. You could talk to your clergyman or get a referral from your doctor.

If your stepmother sees that you are genuinely interested in making the effort, she may agree to work on it. Either way, your father needs to see that you are trying.

Dear Annie: I am a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) and would like to offer a suggestion on how to correct a child's manners.

To change behavior, research indicates it is more effective to do so with positive reinforcement.

One reader suggested giving a child

25 pennies at the beginning of each meal, losing a penny for each infraction, such as chewing with his mouth open.

A much more effective plan would be to reinforce the child for correct table manners, like chewing with his mouth closed or using a napkin. Each time, he would receive a penny for the desired behavior. The stack of pennies would build up.

It is easier to catch negative behavior. However, when we make the conscious effort to notice and reward desirable behavior, the positive behavior will replace the negative sooner and will be more lasting. — *Ann Steele, NCSP, Wausau, Wis.*

Dear Ann Steele: We greatly appreciate your expertise. Thank you.

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

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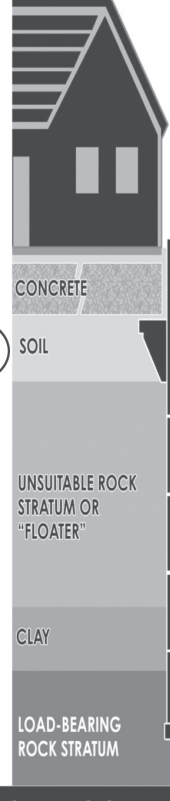
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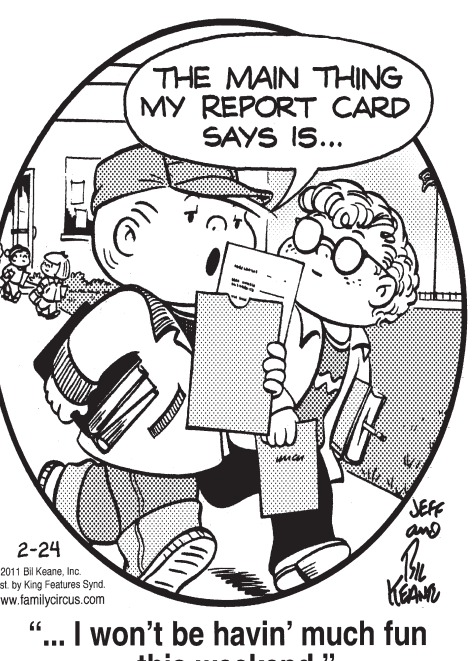
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5:PM ABC	News	Alma Notic.	Lopez News	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	Seinfeld King	Granger Brad	World Business	Lyrics! Lyrics!	Cash Cab		Gangland	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Hannah Forever	Nation Pardon	SportsCenter	
6:PM Wheel	Jeopardy!	Llena de Amor (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News	Caso Cerado	News	King	Sala Charles	PBS News-Hour	'70s '70s	Cash Cab		Gangland	NBA Pre-game		Good Good	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	
7:PM 30	Wipeout	Eva Luna (SS)	American Idol	Big Bang Rules	Aurora (SS)	Commun Couples	Movie: Last Holiday, LL Cool J	Upd Sid Roth	Aviators Parks	The Vampire Diaries	Man vs. Wild	Movie: The Godfather, Part III, Talia Shire	Gangland	NBA Basketball: Miami Heat at Chicago Bulls.	Game Game	Shake It Good	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	
8:PM 30	Grey's Anatomy	Triunfo del Amor		CSI: Crime Scene	Herederos-Monte	Office Parks		Local Programming	Pioneers-Tele	Married Married	Wild: Venezuela		TNA Wrestling		Movie: The Wash, George Wallace	Fish Deck Good	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	
9:PM 30	(:01) Private Practice	Mujeres Asesinas	Simpsons How I Met	The Mentalist	Alguien te Mira (SS)	30 Rock Out	Fam. Guy		Conan	King	Man vs. Wild		UFC 127 Countdown	The Mo'Nique	Deck Deck	College Basketball	SportsCenter		
10:PM 30	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Alewine Van Impe	Charlie Rose	King	Man vs. Wild		MAN MAN	Wendy Williams	Hannah Hannah	NFL Live	Final		
11:PM 30	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Lopez Tonight	Conan	Upd World	South Pk	Man vs. Wild	Movie: Training Day, Scott Glenn	MAN MAN	Trailers	Inside the NBA	Movie: The Wash, George Wallace	Wizards Wizards	SportsNation	
12:AM 30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Verdad Oculta	Law & Order: SVU	Late					World	South Pk	Man vs. Wild		MAN MAN	(:10) The Shield	Leverage	Suite Life Suite Life	NASCAR	SportsCenter	
1:AM 30	Paid	Tontas Cielo	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News	Lopez After Dark		Light of the Southwest										

DENNIS THE MENACE



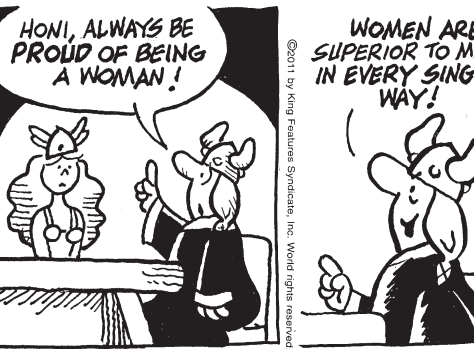
"OUR SNOWMAN HAS BECOME A SLUSH-MAN!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

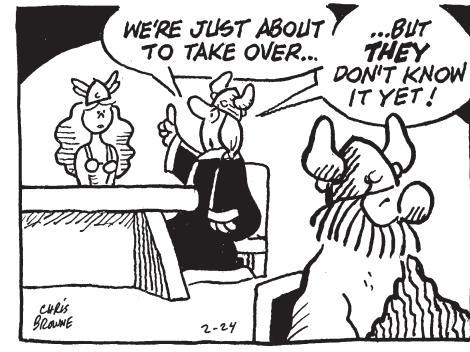


"... I won't be havin' much fun this weekend."

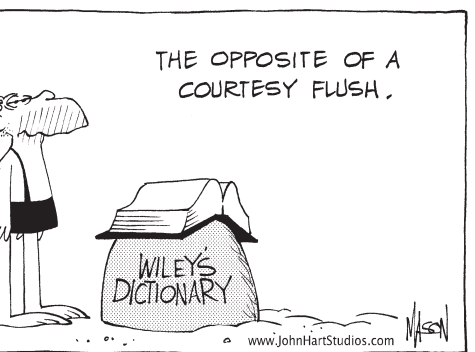
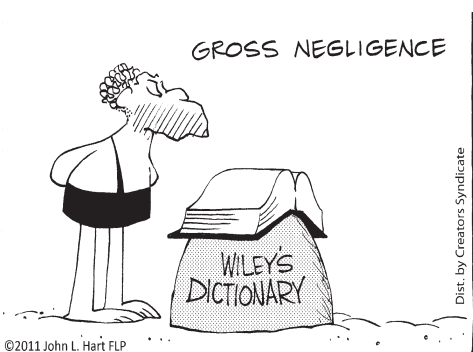
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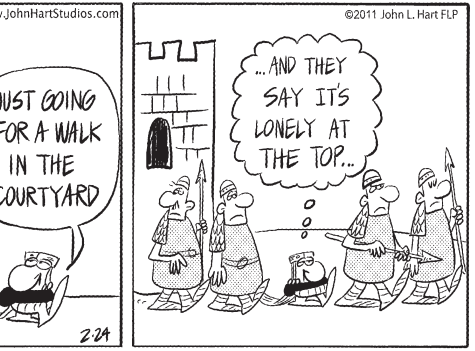
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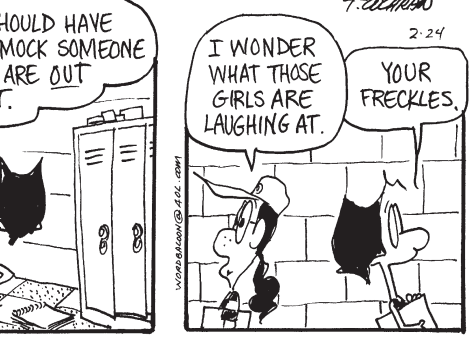
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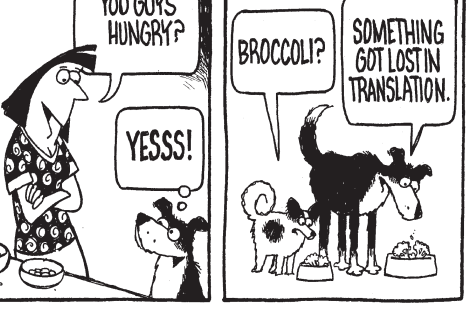
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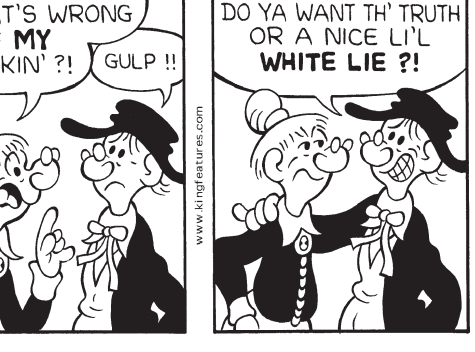
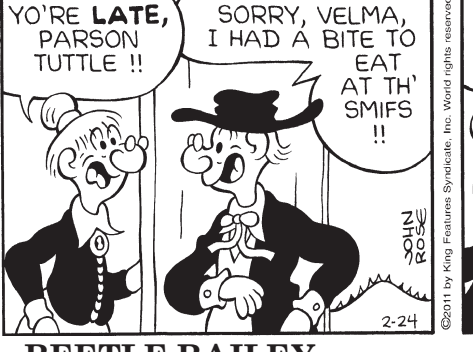
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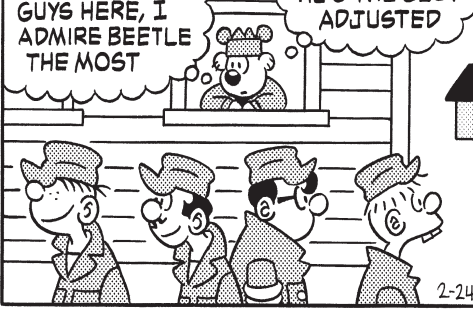
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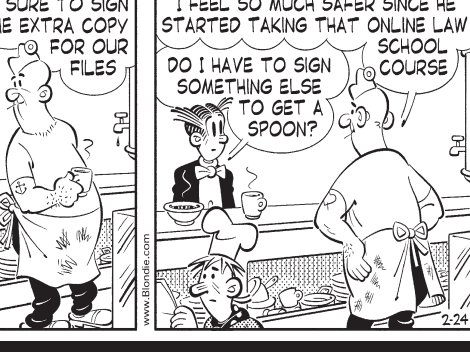
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BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 2011. There are 310 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 24, 1761, Boston lawyer James Otis Jr. went to court to argue against "writs of assistance" that allowed British customs officers to arbitrarily search people's premises; citing English common law, Otis declared: "A man's house is his castle." (Although Otis lost the case, his statement provided a source of inspiration for American independence.)

On this date:

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued a papal bull, or edict, outlining his calendar reforms. (The Gregorian Calendar is the calendar in general use today.)

In 1711, the opera "Rinaldo" by George Frideric Handel premiered in London.

In 1803, in its Marbury v. Madison decision, the Supreme Court established judicial review of the constitutionality

of statutes.

In 1821, Mexican rebels proclaimed the "Plan de Iguala," their declaration of independence from Spain.

In 1863, Arizona was organized as a territory.

In 1868, the House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate.

In 1920, the German Workers Party, which later became the Nazi Party, met in Munich to adopt its platform.

In 1942, the Voice of America went on the air for the first time.

In 1961, the Federal Communications Commission authorized the nation's first full-scale trial of pay television in Hartford, Conn.

In 1981, Buckingham Palace announced the engagement of Britain's Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer. A jury in White Plains, N.Y., found Jean Harris guilty of second-degree murder in the fatal shooting of "Scarsdale Diet" author Dr. Herman Tarnower. (Sentenced to 15 years to life in prison, Harris was granted clemency

Answer to previous puzzle

ARCED	PREPS	PFC
SOLVE	RELIC	LEO
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SEWN	ESP	IXNAY
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AFTS	DEM	REELS
FIELD	EXERCISE	
	ROOST	ALEC
LAPEL	ASI	AUDI
URL	LEATHROMP	SON
MEA	APRIL	BETON
PAN	RATTY	ADAMS

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Bellyache
 - 5 Dabble on the uke
 - 10 Cranberry sites
 - 14 Sector
 - 15 Stood up
 - 16 "No harm done"
 - 17 Some alibis
 - 18 Like standardized tests
 - 19 Social starter
 - 20 Misapprehension
 - 23 Bucolic hotel
 - 24 Noshed on
 - 25 Almanac tidbits
 - 28 Morning hrs.
 - 31 Speck in the ocean
 - 35 Spheroid coif
 - 36 Merciless
 - 38 Word adored by matadors
 - 39 Slug
 - 42 It sounds like "air"
 - 43 Highly emotional
 - 44 Regarding
 - 45 Indian metropolis
 - 47 Puppy squeak
 - 48 Mean look
 - 49 Slippery one
 - 51 Flying-safety agcy.
 - 52 AstroTurf, e.g.
 - 61 It's above the attic
 - 62 Bucks
 - 63 Clickable image
 - 64 Raced
- DOWN
- 1 Baby elephant
 - 2 Mezzo's big moment
 - 3 Stagger
 - 4 Grapevine phrase
 - 5 Glossy fabric
 - 6 Physically fit
 - 7 Frolic
 - 8 Computer operator
 - 9 Sorceress of Greek myth
 - 10 Prejudices
 - 11 Prefix for present
 - 12 Attend
 - 13 Onion covering
 - 21 Recent USNA grad
 - 22 Long-legged bird
 - 25 Confronted
 - 26 Synonym for 42
 - 27 Merciless grouping
 - 28 Impressive
 - 29 Civilian clothes
 - 30 Brew, as tea
 - 32 On the run
 - 33 Upper echelon
 - 34 Choir voice
 - 36 Busy buzzer
 - 37 Lend a hand
 - 40 Pickpocket, for one
 - 41 Island group of Spain
 - 46 Young cow
 - 48 Get tired
 - 50 Sycamore segments
 - 51 Burst of light
 - 52 Song and dance
 - 53 Tooth part
 - 54 Pop singer Amos
 - 55 Paint layer
 - 56 Smidgen
 - 57 Stein fillers
 - 58 Pinnacle
 - 59 Nonspecific amount
 - 60 Easy job

FAKING IT by Billie Truitt
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