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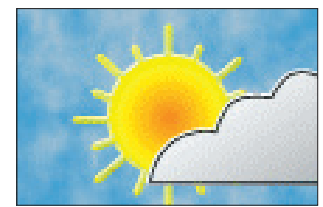
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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

MARCH 1, 2011



VOLUME 106, NUMBER 76

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An artist's drawing shows a proposed joint headquarters for the local police department and sheriff's office, to be built at the Howard County Jail site. Below, Police Chief Lonnie Smith, left, and Sheriff Stan Parker make their presentation during a meeting of commissioners and city council members.

Joint peace office may save \$150,000 annually

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Officials with the city of Big Spring and Howard County unveiled proposed plans for a joint law enforcement center Monday night, promising a long-term savings of a minimum of \$150,000 a year to local taxpayers if the plan is adopted by both governments.

Members of the Big Spring City Council held a meeting alongside Howard County commissioners to present the proposed law enforcement center — which would be located at the newly built county jail, located on W. Highway 80 — to the

public in hopes of garnering input from local residents, according to County Judge Mark Barr.

The meeting began with a presentation by Sheriff Stan Parker and BSPD Chief Lonnie Smith, who described some of the challenges both law enforcement agencies are facing.

"One of the things we need is more space," Smith said as he presented a number of photographs depicting the cramped working conditions at the existing police facility. "The existing facility was built in 1956.



See **CENTER**, Page 3A

Man charged with assault of 5-year-old

Police are not sure how long abuse may have been going on

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

A 66-year-old Big Spring man was arrested Monday by the Big Spring Police Department and charged with aggravated sexual assault of a child.

Telesford Rentiria Galan was arrested Monday at a home in the 700 block of E. 17th Street at approximately 4 p.m., according to BSPD records.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer for the BSPD, the offense was reported to police officials Monday, but it's currently unclear how long the alleged sexual abuse has been going on.

"We're still in the initial stages of the investigation, so it's not clear at this time if the assault occurred just on Monday or if it has occurred over a period of time," Everett said. "We do know, however, that



Galan

See **ARREST**, Page 3A

Art students draw up medals at regional meet

Special to the Herald

Saturday, 11 Big Spring High School Art students competed in the Visual Arts Scholastic Event held at Odessa Permian High School. All 11 students received regional medals for their artworks.

Senior Linda Blount received a regional medal for her jewelry piece entitled "Moonlight's Guardian," created of brass and plastic. She also received a Level 3 ranking for her ceramic piece called "Guardian of the Inner Chamber."


First-year art student Connor Furqueron, a sophomore, received a regional medal for his two-point perspective drawing of an

imaginary Roman city entitled "Change Over Time." He also received a Level 3 ranking for his self-portrait adaptation called "Chemical Aging."

Senior Opal Gonzales, attending the event for the first time, received regional medals for both of her entries. Her entries were a tempera painting titled "Flowers" — which received a perfect score — and a watercolor called "Dreamcatcher."

A perfect score was also given to the tempera painting of a dragonfly in the artistic style of LeRoy Neiman created by senior Sara Goza. The painting's title was "Dreams."

See **STUDENTS**, Page 3A



Gasoline prices soar

Average retail gasoline prices in Texas have risen 22.5 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.22 per gallon.

This compares with the national average that has increased 17 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.34/g, according to gasoline price website TexasGasPrices.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Texas during the past week, prices yesterday were 67.2 cents per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 31.6 cents per gallon higher than a month ago. The national average has increased 25.3 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 64.9 cents per gallon higher than this day one year ago.

Proposal: Spend portion of special fund

By **CHRIS TOMLINSON**
Associated Press

AUSTIN — The chairman of the Texas House budget committee filed a bill late Monday proposing to spend \$4.3 billion from the state's Rainy Day Fund to make up for the current budget deficit, a move many conservatives oppose.

State Rep. Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, introduced the legislation to pay for the current deficit in the 2010-2011 budget. That would free

up \$4.3 billion he could then spend in the next two-year budget. By law, Texas legislators must balance the budget.

Pitts, who heads the House Appropriations Committee, drafted the 2012-2013 budget that calls for \$27 billion in cuts to government services. After weeks of hearings, Pitts and many other lawmakers have begun to publicly discuss tapping the state's \$9.4 billion contingency fund to avoid painful cuts to education and health care.

Conservative activists have been pressuring lawmakers not to raise taxes or tap the Rainy Day Fund. Texans for Fiscal Responsibility, a non-profit group that wants to minimize government spending, has sponsored robo-calls to 350,000 homes asking the public to pressure lawmakers to oppose tapping the fund.

Health and education advocates have called on lawmakers to spend the entire fund, often showing up to hearings in rain coats.

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Obituaries

Jessie Bell



Jessie Bell, 83, of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 28, 2011, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with her son-in-law, Brother Tom Carter of Unchained Life Ministries, the Rev. Doug Shelley and the Rev. Walter McCall officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday, March 1, 2011, at the funeral home. She was born on June 17, 1927, in Waco and married E.C. Bell on March 26, 1948, in Abilene. He preceded her in death on Feb. 19, 2003.

Jessie was a long-time resident of Big Spring. She and E.C. owned and operated Bell Pharmacy from 1954 until retiring on Dec. 31, 1999. She was an active mother and was very involved in her children's activities. She loved dogs and cats and was a big supporter of the Humane Society.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Ann Carter and husband Tom of Coleman and Robin Bell of Conroe; four grandchildren, Kent Bell, Jeffrey Bell, Logan Bell and Chris Guinn; a nephew, Wilson Bell and wife Neva; and a niece, Mary Ann Mullins and husband Jerry.

She was also preceded in death by two sons, Robert "Bobby" Bell on Jan. 31, 1998, and Guy Frank Bell on Nov. 3, 2007.

The family suggests memorials be made to Big Spring Humane Society, P.O. Box 823, Big Spring 79721-0823 or to a favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Mary Lou Simonek



Mary Lou Simonek, 75, died Saturday, Feb. 26, 2011, in Haltom City. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 3, 2011, at First Baptist Church of Stanton with the Rev. Bob Porterfield, pastor of West Kentucky Baptist Church in Midland, officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery of Stanton.

The family will receive friends from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Thursday, March 3, 2011, at Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton.

She was born Aug. 18, 1935, in Colorado City and married Louis Simonek Feb. 3, 1952, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Dec. 7, 2006.

She was a stay-at-mom and raised five children. She cleaned houses and worked as a waitress to help supplement family finances. After the children were raised and had moved out the home, she began working as a secretary for Midland Glass and Mirror. Upon retirement, she built a greenhouse and grew plants as a hobby.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Gloria Ann and Rickey Whitaker of Haltom City; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Dennis and Kim Simonek of Lewisville and Kenneth Wayne Simonek of Dallas; eight grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Sonny, and her twin sons, Ronald and Donald.

The family suggests memorials be made to Professional Hospice, 345 Westpark Way, Suite 101, Euless, Texas 76040.

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

Ramon Ortiz Sr.

Ramon Ortiz Sr., 78, of Laredo, formerly of Big Spring died Sunday, Feb. 27, 2011, in Laredo. Services and burial will be in Laredo.

He was born Feb. 24, 1933, in Encinal. He lived in Big Spring for more than 25 years. He is survived by two daughters, Janie and Ester Ortiz, both of Big Spring; and 64 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one son, Ramon Ortiz Jr.

Mikel Stevan Irons



Mikel Stevan Irons, beloved father, brother, uncle, cousin and friend, passed away Saturday, Feb. 26, 2011, at home in Midland at the age of 60. He was born Aug. 11, 1950, in Big Spring, to the late Jack Irons and Jennie Kate Brazil Irons.

Mike graduated from Big Spring High School in 1968 where his talent for football was quickly recognized by legendary coach Spike

Dykes. He was recruited by many universities across the state and was awarded athletic scholarships to Tyler Junior College, University of Houston and Angelo State University. Before graduating from Angelo State University, Mike entered the National Football League as a free agent. He played center for the St. Louis Cardinals, Washington Redskins and Green Bay Packers, where he was coached by Dan Devine. After playing in the NFL, Mike returned to Angelo State to finish his degree.

Upon graduation, Mike began his career in banking and finance, eventually serving at First National Bank of Midland and Home Savings and Loan. He served his community for 20 years in the banking industry before joining ICA Energy Inc. as president.

Mike lived his life to the fullest, with kindness, integrity, generosity and a great sense of humor. As an avid outdoorsman, Mike loved to hunt and fish and enjoyed sharing this passion with his many friends and family. His smile was contagious, his laughter infectious and his spirit always compassionate. He will be truly missed by his community, co-workers, business partners and loved ones.

He leaves behind two beautiful, talented daughters, Kate Irons Dorff of Dallas and her husband John Dorff, and Abbye Irons of Midland; his brothers, Jack Ed Irons and wife Marilyn Irons of Dallas, and Richard "Dick" Irons and wife Cathy Irons, of Austin; and nieces and nephews, Craig Irons, Lindsey Irons, Michelle Rawlings, Coye Irons, Grant Irons and Hailey Irons Newlin.

Mike was blessed with many friends, who will serve as honorary pallbearers for the funeral service, including Al Boudreaux, Scot Northern, Guy Talbot, Joey Baker, Ernie Meyer, Tim Leach, Terry Fields, Cliff Wilderspin, Craig McMillan, Mike McMillan, Ron McMillan, John Dorff, Tim Everett, Steve McCoy, David Wood, Lee Fisher, Steve Lindgren, Red McKellar, Brett Smith and Reggie McCaslin.

A memorial service will be held Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Midland. The service will be officiated by Bishop Jim Dorff and Dr. Randal Everett. Mike's family will receive friends on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, from 6-7 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home, located at 3800 N. Big Spring in Midland.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mike's honor to Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas, Midland Chapter, 407 N Big Spring ST, Midland 79701.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

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Support Groups

TUESDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m.

Marilou Staggs Snyder



Marilou Staggs Snyder, 73, long-time resident of Denton passed away Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011 at her home in Keller.

Mrs. Snyder was born June 8, 1937 in Lubbock, to Charles N. and Mattie Mae (York) Staggs. She married Charles Dana Snyder on Aug. 29, 1958, in Big Spring. She was a 1955 graduate of Big Spring High School and received her associate's degree from Howard County Junior

College in 1957.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 5, 2011, in the Chapel of Mulkey-Mason Funeral Home, 705 N. Locust, in Denton. Dr. Larry Reynolds will officiate the service. Interment will be at the Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery, where she will join her husband.

She is survived by her daughters, Cindy Davis and her husband Mark of Dallas, and Cheryl Hassell and her husband Bob of Keller; a son, Keith Snyder and his wife Brenda of Garland; brothers, David Staggs and his wife Barbara of Hunt, and Charles Rodney Staggs and his wife Dalpha of San Antonio; and seven grandchildren, Samantha, Courtney, Kendall, Kyle, Christopher, Kelsey and Sydney.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in Marilou's name to the American Cancer Society.

Online condolences may be left at www.mulkey-masondenton.com

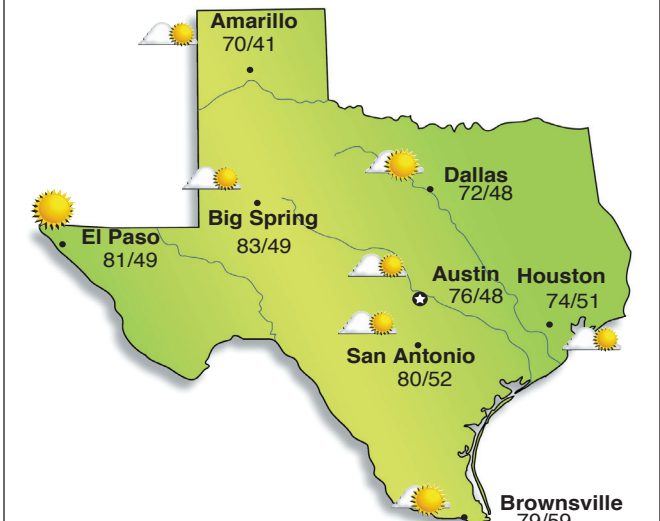
Paid obituary

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 3/2	Thu 3/3	Fri 3/4	Sat 3/5	Sun 3/6
83/49 Partly cloudy skies. Very warm. High 83F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph.	90/52 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 50s.	87/43 Sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 40s.	72/37 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 30s.	78/47 A few clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.
Sunrise: 7:12 AM Sunset: 6:44 PM	Sunrise: 7:11 AM Sunset: 6:45 PM	Sunrise: 7:10 AM Sunset: 6:46 PM	Sunrise: 7:09 AM Sunset: 6:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:08 AM Sunset: 6:47 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	78	50	pt sunny	Kingsville	80	56	mst sunny
Amarillo	70	41	pt sunny	Livingston	72	45	pt sunny
Austin	76	48	pt sunny	Longview	71	47	pt sunny
Beaumont	74	50	pt sunny	Lubbock	84	43	pt sunny
Brownsville	79	59	mst sunny	Lufkin	71	47	pt sunny
Brownwood	78	49	pt sunny	Midland	83	51	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	76	57	mst sunny	Raymondville	80	56	sunny



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Police

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

- AMANDA LYNN MORROW, 32, of 8900 S. Service Rd. in Sand Springs, was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK, 27, address not provided, was arrested Monday on warrants for public intoxication and failure to appear.
- NICKOLAS VANCE JONES, 18, of 304 Circle, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.
- RICKY BOB YANEZ, 25, of 1302 Sycamore, was arrested Monday on a warrant for criminal mischief.
- DANIEL PAUL JOHNSON, 48, of 811 W. Fifth St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JEANETTE MARIE SANSING, 48, of 605 Abrams, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- SHANNON DWAYNE HUDGINS, 33, of 604 S.E. Broadway in Coahoma, was arrested Monday on two warrants from another agency.
- FRANKIE RUBIO, 51, of 621 Sgt. Paredez, was arrested Tuesday on two warrants from another agency and a warrant for public intoxication.
- RICHARD NORMAN RAMIREZ, 45, of 611 N. San Antonio, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of

driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
• THEFT 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 50 inmates at the time of this report.
- NICKOLAS VANCE JONES, 18, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a Scurry County warrant for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- LISA BLATCHFORD, 47, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of abandoning/jeopardizing a child – criminal negligence.
- SHANNON DEWAYNE HUDGINS, 33, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of operating an unregistered motor vehicle and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- JEANETTE MARIE SANSING, 48, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- TELESFORD RENTIRIA GALAN, 66, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated sexual assault of a child.
- RICHARD NORMAN RAMIREZ, 45, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a

charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.

- FRANKIE M. RUBIO, 51, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of displaying an expired license plate, failure to appear – tampering with government records/license/seal to defraud or harm and public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2100 block of Grace. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1700 block of S. Gregg. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Algerita. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of S. Salem. Service refused.
- RUBBISH FIRE was reported in the 1800 block of Industrial.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1600 block of Meadow.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2100 block of Grace. One person was transported to SMMC.

CENTER

Continued from Page 1A

Because the police department is used 24 hours a day and seven days a week, there's going to be a considerable amount of wear and tear.

"The Street Crimes Unit and Narcotics Task Force are both housed across the street from the police department, so any time we have to have a meeting, they have to come across the street and everyone meets in this room," he said. "If someone needs something or forgot something in their office, they have to leave and come back."

Renovating the existing facility would also require the city to make it ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant, magnifying costs, according to Smith.

The creation of a joint law enforcement center would certainly help the city of Big Spring deal with its facility problems, however, ac-

ording to Parker, the county can also benefit greatly from the move.

"After we got the new jail, we quickly realized the sheriff's office shouldn't be separated. We kind of need to be at the jail," Parker said. "The chief (Smith) and I began talking about this and it's really been a two-year process for us, looking at combining our resources and what could be done. That has led us to this meeting."

"We need to be at the jail. If a jailer's child gets sick, they can't just leave to take care of them because state law mandates how many people we have to have on the floor. This would help alleviate that problem. Also, we need a training facility, which is included in this design. And, just like the police department, we need the space," Parker explained, showing the audience several photos of crowded rooms filled with records and other necessary law enforcement items.

Both Parker and

Smith called the idea a win-win situation for both governments, helping to save on design costs — one design for both, instead of both governments designing separate facilities — and providing a single building that would provide more useable square feet of space.

Both men also described the services both agencies are currently sharing, including crime scene technicians and animal control, and how sharing additional services — dispatching, 911 systems, record keeping — could save taxpayers a minimum of \$150,000 a year, a number both described as conservative.

Smith described the relationship between himself and Parker — as well as both law enforcement agencies — as a very positive "codependence," with information and resource sharing between the two departments at an all-time high.

The proposed plan would also relocate the

municipal judge's office to the county courthouse, with a full-time warrant officer and sheriff-provided district court bailiff at the facility for protection.

Mayor Tommy Duncan said he supports the proposed plan, which would provide an answer to the police department's facility problems without the municipality having to raise taxes or sell bonds to achieve it. Little was spoken during the meeting regarding the cost of the overall project, which the city would fund to the tune of \$1.7 million, the amount currently earmarked for renovating the existing police department building.

Members of the Big Spring City Council — with District 5 Councilman Craig Olson absent — echoed Duncan's support, with all speaking out in favor of the plan with the exception of District 2 Councilman Manuel Ramirez Jr., who declined to offer an opinion.

Barr, along with all four county commissioners, also offered their support. However, Precinct 3 Commissioner Jimmie Long cautioned the court against entering into any type of agreement until the county has a better idea of what the coming year's tax rolls will look like.

"I want to move forward with negotiations," Long said. "However, before we say yes to anything, I'd like to see where the county will be with valuations for the coming year."

Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Baker said the advantages offered by the union between the two entities could help make both Big Spring and Howard County more safe for its citizens, which he supports wholeheartedly.

"We represent the taxpayers and citizens, and we owe it to them to spend their money very wisely," Baker said. "However, we (the commissioners) don't represent just the people

living beyond the city limits. We have to think about everyone that pays county taxes, and that includes people living inside the city limits. If this will help protect the citizens, then I'm all for it."

Only two local residents spoke out during the meeting, both asking the governing bodies to proceed cautiously in their negotiations.

Monday night's meeting may very well have made Crossroads history, as well, as Long said county records indicate a joint meeting of the two governing bodies had never been held before.

"I really don't think you would have seen anything like this a few years ago," Long said, smiling proudly.

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

ARREST

Continued from Page 1A

the initial report was for an offense that occurred Monday."

Everett said officers responded to the

complaint, taking Galan into custody shortly after.

"The suspect did not reside with the victim," Everett said. "I really can't go into any greater detail regarding how the suspect knew the victim at this time, as there is an open investigation."

The victim was a 5-year-old female, ac-

ording to police records.

Galan is currently being held at the Howard County Jail pending arraignment, according to Everett.

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

STUDENTS

Continued from Page 1A

Sara's second entry also received a regional medal. Her ceramic and jewelry combination sculpture called "Moment In Time" was based on watches and gear pieces.

Sophomore Amanda Grisham, who attended the event for the second year, received a regional medal for her original charcoal/pastel drawing of a horse called "Spirit From The Dark."

Another first-time attendee, Sydney Hernandez, captured a

regional medal for her charcoal/pastel drawing of a multicolored tiger called "Choice of Colors Not Yet Made."

Sophomore Remington Love received a regional medal and a Level 3 ranking for his entries. A Level 3 ranking was given to a pencil drawing of the family dog titled "Oreo Stuck." His tempera painting of a hummingbird called "Paused In Flight" earned a perfect score and his medal.

Freshman and Art 1 student Juan Ogeda earned two regional medals for his artworks — "Oriental Colors" rendered in watercolors and "Creature" completed in pen and

ink.

Second year art student Adrian Olague received a regional medal for his original ceramic and fiber sculpture called "Wicked Core". His oil pastel titled "Wind Currents" earned a Level 3 ranking.

An oil pastel still life called "Stripes and Circles, Circles and Stripes," created by Art 2 student Ashtyn Payne garnered a regional medal. She also received regional honors for her acrylic painting called "Giraffic."

Finally, senior Kati Valle received a regional medal for her charcoal drawing titled "Freedom" and a Level 3 ranking for her pencil drawing called

"Gossip."

Out of 265 entries in Regional 18, only 12 were chosen to advance to state. Though none were from Big Spring, Art Instructor Judy Tereletsky said she was extremely proud of her students' accomplishments.

"This event is very challenging and more than 24,000 works are judged at the Regional level across the state," Tereletsky said. "Only 8 percent of the submitted works advance to the state event held in Houston."

Tereletsky expressed thanks to those who support the visual arts program, especially Junior High Art Instructor Lisa Zap,

who helped sponsor this year's students.

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

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Johnson & Johnson has recalled the DePuy ASR XL Acetabular hip socket implant system due to an unacceptably high failure rate. One in eight patients experience symptoms like infection, bone fracture, dislocation and pain. Other complications include increased metal ion levels in the blood, bone staining, necrosis, swelling, nerve damage, tissue damage and/or muscle damage. If you had hip replacement surgery during or after 2005 and you know you have a DePuy ASR XL Acetabular hip implant, or are unsure, please talk to your doctor right away, then contact us toll-free for professional insight into your legal rights.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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Obama is the law

President Obama's brazenly calculated move to unilaterally abandon the federal Defense of Marriage Act showcases his attitude that he is above the law.

DOMA defines marriage as "only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife" for purposes of all federal laws, rules and regulations (Section 3). It specifies that no state shall be required to honor laws of other states that treat same-sex relationships as legal marriages — effectively carving out an exception to the Constitution's full faith and credit clause (Section 2).

Congress passed this law by enormous majorities (Senate 85-14, House 342-67) in response to political pressure in some states to redefine marriage, especially a Hawaiian court's decision suggesting the Hawaii Constitution conferred the right to same-sex marriage. Congress was worried that, among other things, same-sex couples living in other states might go to Hawaii to marry and demand that their home states recognize their marriages.

It seems that in enacting this law, the federal government was quite scrupulous in deferring to the sovereignty of the states by pronouncing a federal standard for marriage applicable to federal laws but not presuming to encroach on states' authority to set their own standards. It affirmed the states' prerogative by providing that their marriage laws would not be abrogated or diminished by conflicting laws of other states but did not preclude them from honoring, if they so choose, laws of other states validating same-sex marriages.

During his presidential campaign, Obama stated that he did not support same-sex marriage but that he did believe that DOMA should be repealed. He gave no hint that he would take it upon himself to issue a

presidential edict, without a congressional bill placed before him, forbidding the executive branch from enforcing the law. But that is precisely what he did this week.

Attorney General Eric Holder announced that President Obama had concluded that the administration would no longer defend Section 3 of DOMA. Holder acknowledged that the Justice Department had previously defended DOMA in court under a "rational basis standard." (It's interesting they chose Section 3, because many legal scholars believe Section 2 is more vulnerable to a constitutional challenge.) But he said Obama now believes that "a more heightened standard of scrutiny" should be required for laws involving same-sex marriage — the same standard that applies to "laws targeting minority groups with a history of discrimination."

To understand the magnitude of Obama's action, we must again consider the above-cited fact that both chambers of Congress passed DOMA by overwhelming majorities reflecting the will of the people that marriage be defined, for legal and policy purposes, as it always had been.

Also, no federal appellate court has ruled the statute unconstitutional.

As he has in so many other areas (EPA, the offshore drilling ban, IMF), Obama has usurped the authority of the other two coequal branches of government to make himself, in effect, not just chief executive but super-legislator and a supreme judicial authority.

Holder admitted in his statement that the Justice Department "has a longstanding practice of defending the constitutionality of duly-enacted statutes if reasonable arguments can be made in their defense," but not otherwise.

But it is preposterous to suggest there are no reasonable arguments to defend the statute when 5,000 years of human history and the express act of Congress fly in the face of that

statement. According to professor John Yoo, "in the few cases that the Supreme Court has heard gay rights cases, it has never adopted (the standard Obama is applying)."

In announcing a new standard, Obama claims that the legal landscape has changed in the 15 years since DOMA was passed. You know the drill: Society has "evolved." That's highly dubious in view of the fact that even people in some liberal states have expressed their preference for preserving the traditional definition of marriage. Further, it is not Obama's place to make this determination, especially when the people have already done so in such emphatic terms through their duly elected congressmen. If the people want the law changed, they can lobby their congressmen to change it or marshal their lawyers to argue their position in actual cases before the courts.

In response to leftists arguing that President George W. Bush also declined to enforce a federal statute, Yoo says that Obama's action is distinguishable. Bush did so in cases in which he was resisting congressional intrusions into the executive's constitutional authorities in the area of national security. Here there are no alleged encroachments on executive authority; it's just that Obama has a different opinion than the American people and has decided to implement it unilaterally.

So now we have an imperial president who is refusing to enforce a law passed by powerful congressional majorities while persisting in enforcing a law (Obamacare) that two federal courts have already invalidated. The only common denominator is that Obama believes he is the law.

To find out more about David Limbaugh, visit his website at www.DavidLimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

Playing the envy game

Ah, yes, the "name game song." Remember? It was a stupid but popular feature of my youth, when like today, many stupid things were popular.

You could take any person's name and insert it into the song. Remember?

Fee-fi-mo-Marc Marc!

It was cute as lace pajamas.

Now, when some corn state governor wants to strip the bargaining rights from union workers, it's the envy song that's goin' round.

See, used to be if an American heard that someone made more money than he did, the American said, "Jeez, how do I get up there where he is?"

No more.

Now, when an American hears that someone else has a bigger paycheck, more vacation or a better health plan, the American says: "That's not fair! How do I drag him down here with me?"

Banana-fana-fo-fenvy.

The one thing every American believes is that everyone else earns too much money. You do not earn too much money. Other people do. In fact, you should make more money. And you can fit any occupation into the "envy game song."

Teachers are easy. They don't work in the summer. They get off work at 3 p.m.

But if you apply the envy song, every occupation is filled with time-serving droolers who make way too much money.

Cops? Yeah. Doughnut-munching dumb asses who drive

around aimlessly all the time. If the cops knew what they were doing, it wouldn't be so easy to buy drugs. These guys oughta be making \$5 an hour.

Insurance people? In my state, car insurance is MANDATORY. What's to sell? Give 'em \$6 an hour, no bennies.

Waitresses? Put on too much eye makeup and carry a tray and, bingo, you're a waitress! Don't tip her. It's not your fault she didn't finish high school.

Middle-level management. Puh-leeze! They don't do the actual work, and they're too stupid to climb into upper management, which means they're too stupid to kiss butt. Forty thousand a year? I don't think so.

Try \$10,000, and make 'em swab out the office crapper. Then you can fire the janitor, who face it, is barely human and certainly doesn't deserve any job at all.

Carpenters? You can teach a monkey to swing a hammer. Mechanics? Wrench-twisting guys in Harley-Davidson shirts who get \$20 an hour for what? Plugging your car into a computer to find out what's wrong. These guys oughta get maybe \$3 an hour.

Firefighters? These people get paid to sleep at work. Sure, they ran into the Twin Towers and died, but if they're worth their bloated pay, how come the towers fell down?

Retail people? C'mon. Those are the monkeys who weren't smart enough to become carpenters. Give 'em \$1 an hour, no breaks.

Small-business owners? Yeah. They "create jobs." If that's true, how come nobody's working? Tax their profits until they're living on \$5,000 a year.

The military? They only work when there's a war. And don't believe that "dying for freedom" crap, either. Most of 'em come home. And for that they get free clothes, free food and free artificial legs. Don't pay these people anything at all. No money. The only reason you join the military is because you're too stupid to get a real job.

Doctors? Sooner or later, all their patients die. Take away their BMWs, and make 'em live on \$7 an hour. Let 'em take the bus to work.

Envy, envy bo-benvy.

What's amazing is that, in this sea of incompetent, lazy spider monkeys, public and private, unionized and otherwise, you have remained pure.

You and only you.

You rise early. You work hard. You give 110 percent, mathematically impossible though that may be. You don't need a union. You can take care of yourself. If the company replaces your pension with a 401k, you bite the bullet and contribute \$20 a week out of your paycheck because you are self-reliant. Anyway, how long can you live after you retire? Not long if you don't eat.

You're a diamond. An example to us all.

And after they get the money away from the teachers and the plumbers and the cops and the cab drivers, they're going to give you a raise and lower your taxes, right?

Because that's how it always works.

To find out more about Marc Munroe Dion and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit www.creators.com.

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.
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- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
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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

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Caffeine Word Find

Just in time for National Caffeine Awareness Month, find the hidden words in the puzzle.

AWAKE	COFFEE	JITTERS
BUZZ	CONSUME	MINIMAL
CAFFEINE	DRINK	SLEEP
CHOCOLATE	ENERGY	TEA

A N I Y W C D V K B Y Y
 W W U P L A R D V A G K
 P L A L L F I Y D R E V
 C M A K G F N Z E J E B
 R H G M E E K N I R F K
 T Y O A I I E T E B F K
 P N P C H N T O U Z O J
 C A C W O E I Z F H C X
 B E X S R L Z M O U U C
 V I M S H Q A S L E E P
 E M U S N O C T A E T Y
 X P Y H G R W Q E B V X

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1789: THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION GOES INTO EFFECT.
- 1837: CHICAGO IS INCORPORATED AS A CITY.
- 1917: JEANNETTE RANKIN OF MONTANA TAKES HER SEAT AS THE FIRST WOMAN ELECTED TO THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.



THIS COMPOUND IS ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY CONSUMED DRUGS, OFTEN TAKEN ON A DAILY BASIS.

ANSWER: CAFFEINE

Beverage Match

Match the beverage with its origin.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 1. Tea | A. Squeezed fruit |
| 2. Coffee | B. Ground beans |
| 3. Juice | C. Chopped leaves |
| 4. Soda pop | D. Carbonated water |

Answers: 1. C, 2. B, 3. A, 4. D



stimulant

substance that raises nervous activity in the body

How they SAY that in...

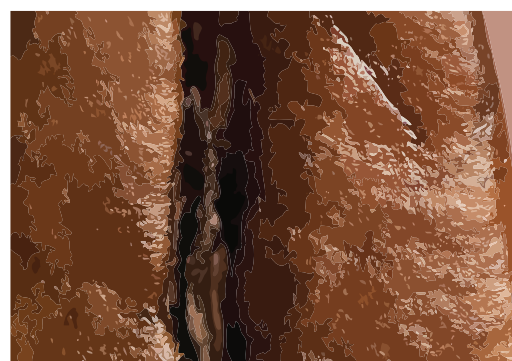
- ENGLISH:** Energy
- SPANISH:** Energía
- ITALIAN:** Energia
- FRENCH:** Énergie
- GERMAN:** Energie

Did You Know?



CAFFEINE CAN IMPEDE A GOOD NIGHT'S REST BY KEEPING YOU AWAKE LONGER.

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: COFFEE BEAN

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

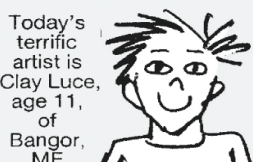
Slylock Fox and Max Mouse received a tip that an escaped prisoner is watching this movie. Max wants to rush into the theater, but Slylock insists they close their eyes for a minute before they enter the theater. Why?



HOW TO DRAW a carpenter



YOUR DRAWING



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A group of jellyfish is called a ...

- a) School
- b) Smack
- c) Mess
- d) Clump
- e) Jar

Answer: (b)

Find six differences between these panels.



www.kidcartoonists.com



The fourth Find the six differences is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

The spirit of a survivor

Turning off the highway, his truck crossed a cattle guard, then headed west. Billowing clouds of caliche dust from the surface of the ranch road followed his vehicle as he headed toward a distant house, barn, and other structures.

Soon he slowed and drove down into a wash area. As he came out of the dry stream bed, the dust that had overcome his truck started to settle on the road ahead.

As he waited for it to clear, he noticed a large grayish bird standing near an old mesquite.

"It's an owl," he offered, as he continued telling me how he had discovered a raptor.

Wondering why it was on the ground, he left his truck. When it didn't fly, he felt it might be hurt.

Borrowing his dog's old blanket, he threw it over the owl. As he carried what he described as a "papoose" back to the vehicle, the bird offered little resistance. After describing its owl-like facial discs, the man offered to bring it to us.

Slowly unwrapping



Courtesy photo

With its slender body and long tail, the Northern harrier is often seen during the winter as it glides three to 30 feet over the ground. With the ability to hover, it may suddenly plummet to the ground in order to seize its prey. Sexes are readily determined by color. The male is gray, while the female is brown.

our latest delivery was primary. Not knowing where the owl's feet and talons were prompted extreme caution. Too often injured raptors would quickly strike at the nearest movement or sound.

Fortunately, its feet were revealed first. Peeling the rest of the blanket from around the bird revealed a Northern harrier, a

hawk that has facial discs resembling those of owls. The contours created by the feathers channel sound to its ears, and often enable the bird to hear its prey before seeing it.

Another identifying feature of this species was its white rump. While this male was a pale gray above, this coloration only extended to his upper chest

on the underside. His belly and beneath were white with flecks of cinnamon. With its long, narrow wings extended, the man could appreciate how the gray above, and white below, were accented with black tips.

Also seen was the obvious injury that had caused the harrier to be earthbound. It had been shot.

Disgusted, the man told of the constant problem with poachers and roadside shooters. Slaughtered deer with only the choicest parts missing were occasionally found on the ranch throughout the year. Any raptor that perched on a fence post or utility pole appeared to be fair game, as were wild turkeys.

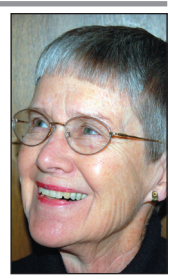
Long before the highway to the south had been widened and wind towers stood like silent sentries on the mesas, ancestors of this species had hunted the open fields. In the midst of seemingly endless, gray wintry days, the birds of prey had tilted from side to side in graceful glides as they followed miles of fence lines.

For motorists traveling to San Angelo, the raptors were momentary flashes of gray or brown, if they saw them at all. Hiding in the dried grasses along the boundary markers, small animals were usually seized by these birds before they sensed any presence of danger.

To assess the extent of the damage to its wing,

BIRD POOP

By BEBE McCASLAND



we took the harrier to Eos Wildlife Sanctuary in Midland. Although we had not felt any broken bones, an x-ray would reveal the extent of the wound. Also having to be considered was nerve damage.

A call the next day was encouraging. While the bones were intact, only time, healing, and rehab would determine the bird's ultimate destiny. At least it had a chance.

Threatened by starvation, and having suffered agonizing pain, the harrier was courageous in its determination to recover. In its eyes when we first met had been the intrepid spirit of a survivor.

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

Cars invitations are in the mail

Invitations to the April 2 Fifth Annual Cars, Stars, and Handlebars fund-raiser are busily being assembled for mailing. We hope you receive yours and accept our invitation. Our excitement for the event is amplified because of the involvement of new committee members who have agreed to join our hard-working team.

Co-chairs Mark and Stacy Barr and Robin Hallman have promised to keep the event every bit as exciting as years past and have opted to keep it on a Saturday evening to give everyone plenty of time to enjoy the evening, which includes entertainment by Adrian Calvio.

This year's \$100 ticket gives two people the opportunity to enjoy an exciting evening at the Big Spring Country Club with heavy hors' oeuvres and plenty of entertainment. Ticket holders are eligible for door prizes and some lucky person will go home with a new



BILLIE CHRISTIE

See BSSH, Page 7A

First thing tomorrow

Years ago, I was visiting with a friend when his dad told us to do a chore. When the job wasn't done, his dad came in and called us procrastinators! We had no idea what that term meant so his dad began what we now call a teachable moment and we learned a valuable lesson on procrastination.

We learned that there are many ways to avoid success in life, but the most sure-fire just might be procrastination. We learned that procrastinators sabotage themselves. They put obstacles in their own path and actually

choose paths that hurt their performance. As I have explored avenues in procrastination, I have discovered the following:

Many people identify themselves as chronic procrastinators. For them procrastination is a lifestyle and it cuts across all domains of their life. They don't pay bills on time; they don't cash gift certificates or checks; they file income tax returns late; they leave their Christmas shopping until the last moment.

Procrastination is not a problem of time management or of planning, but it does seem that telling someone who procrastinates to buy a weekly planner is like telling someone with chronic depression to just cheer up.

Procrastinators are not born; procrastination is learned; they convince themselves

that they will feel more like doing this tomorrow, but the urge to get the work done doesn't appear to be present the next day either.

Procrastinators actively look for distractions, particularly ones that don't take a lot of commitment on their part. Checking e-mail, computer surfing or watching TV are perfect for this purpose. They distract themselves as a way of regulating their emotions.

People procrastinate for different reasons such as the thrill-seekers who wait to the last minute for the euphoric rush or the avoiders, who may be avoiding fear of failure or even fear of success, but in either case are very concerned with what others think of them. They would rather have others think they lack

PARENT'S CORNER

By DARRELL RYAN



effort than ability or the decisional procrastinators, who cannot make a decision. Not making a decision absolves procrastinators of responsibility for the outcome of events.

Procrastination has its share of health risks. Just over the course of a single academic term, procrastinating college students had such evidence of compromised immune systems, more colds and flu, more gastrointestinal problems and insomnia. Procrastination also has a high cost to others as well as oneself; it shifts the burden of responsibilities onto others, who become resentful. Procrastination destroys teamwork both in the workplace and private relationships.

However, procrastinators can change their behavior but doing so consumes a lot of psychic energy and must be done through conscious effort. One must learn self-discipline, time management, self-motivation and how to set priorities. It helps to keep a reminder schedule and checklist and set realistic goals. Sometimes it's important to reward yourself after you complete a task.

I would really like to write more about procrastination, but I think I will wait until later.

Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for the Big Spring Independent School District.

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.

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Nation/world news in brief

Pro-Gadhafi forces try but fail to retake rebel-held city

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Government opponents in rebel-held Zawiya repelled an attempt by forces loyal to Moammar Gadhafi to retake the city closest to the capital in six hours of fighting overnight, witnesses said Tuesday.

The rebels, who include mutinous army forces, are armed with tanks, machine guns and anti-aircraft guns. They fought back pro-Gadhafi troops, armed with the same weapons, who attacked from six directions. There was no word on casualties in Zawiya, 30 miles (50 kilometers) west of Tripoli.

A similar attempt was made by pro-Gadhafi forces Monday night to retake the city of Misrata, Libya's third-largest city 125 miles (200 kilometers) east of Tripoli. Rebel forces there repelled the attackers.

"We will not give up Zawiya at any price," said one witness. "We know it is significant strategically. They will fight to get it, but we will not give up. We managed to defeat them because our spirits are high and their spirits are zero."

Gadhafi, Libya's ruler of 41 years, has already lost control of the eastern half of the country since protests demanding his ouster began two weeks ago. He still holds the capital Tripoli and nearby cities.

House taking up stopgap spending bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans controlling the House are moving quickly to pass stopgap legislation to avoid a partial shutdown of the government when temporary funding runs out Friday.

Tuesday's measure would keep the government running for two weeks to buy time for the Republican House, the Democratic Senate and the Obama White House to try to reach agreement on longer-term legislation to fund the government through the end of the budget year. It's a relatively mild volley in a party-defining spending battle that promises to go on for months or years.

Republicans want to slash a whopping \$60 billion-plus from agency budgets over the coming months as a down payment on larger cuts later in the year, but are settling for just \$4 billion in especially easy cuts as the price for the two-week stopgap bill.

Negotiations over a longer-term solution are likely to be very difficult as House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, seeks to satisfy his 87-member freshman class — many of whom were elected with tea party support — but still manage to reach a

deal with Democrats controlling the Senate and the White House.

Tuesday's measure would keep federal agencies running at last year's spending levels through March 18, in line with two prior spending bills passed last year under Democratic control of Congress. It also adds in \$4 billion in cuts to various programs, including some that Obama has sought to terminate and others that have billions of dollars set aside for pet projects sought by lawmakers. That money's not needed since Republicans have banned earmarks for at least two years.

China rolls back some press freedoms for foreign journalists

BEIJING (AP) — China appears to be rolling back some press freedoms, barring foreign journalists from working near a popular Shanghai park and along a major Beijing shopping street after calls for weekly protests in those spots appeared online.

The new restrictions put the popular leisure spots on a par with Tibet as out-of-bounds areas where foreign reporters need special permission to work, and come after journalists were attacked and harassed while working in the areas over the weekend.

Bob Dietz, the Asia coordinator for the Committee to Protect Journalists, said the treatment of journalists in Beijing on Sunday was "the worst aggression against the foreign press we've seen since the Olympics in 2008."

"Such a heavy-handed response discredits the ruling Chinese Communist Party and highlights their fear of popular opposition," Dietz said in a statement.

The violence and tighter restrictions follow anonymous online calls for peaceful protests every Sunday in dozens of Chinese cities, inspired by the demonstrations that have swept the Middle East.

Prosecutors: Man posing as psychologist persuaded moms to sexually abuse kids, send images

DETROIT (AP) — In real life, Steven Demink didn't have children, a college degree or a lasting career. Online, prosecutors say, he presented himself as Dalton St. Clair, an attractive single father and psychologist — a fantasy image authorities say the Michigan man used to persuade mothers across the country to commit unspeakable acts on

their children.

Demink, 41, of Redford Township, preyed on single mothers for more than a year, prosecutors say, convincing them to sexually assault their children as a form of therapy. After pleading guilty Monday to six charges related to the sexual exploitation of children, Demink faces 15 years to life in prison when he is sentenced in June.

Demink's alter-ego was a single father of a 14-year-old girl, prosecutors said, and he posted pictures of male models as his headshots. In some cases, court documents say, Demink promised the women a date if they followed through with his directions.

Since authorities arrested him in October, seven children were rescued and at least three mothers have been arrested. Prosecutors say all of the children are now safe.

Past looms large as Republican Newt Gingrich lays the groundwork for a likely White House run

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — The biggest obstacle to a Newt Gingrich presidential bid might be Gingrich himself.

The twice-divorced former U.S. House speaker has admitted an affair with a former congressional aide who is now his third wife. His career in Congress is remembered as much for his dramatic fall — the federal government shutdown, his censure and the loss of Republican seats in the House — as his rise. His polarizing style sometimes leaves would-be voters cold.

"I don't think it will be Newt's moral issues that will keep him from winning the presidency," said Tom Perdue, a Georgia-based GOP political strategist. "When he had a chance to govern, he proved that he couldn't."

Unlike many candidates, Gingrich won't have to struggle to make a name for himself. People already know Newt Gingrich. What remains to be seen is whether that hurts or helps him.

"The problem for Newt may be that some voters know him too well," said Ed Faylor Jr. of Iowans for Tax Reform.

BSSH

Continued from Page 6A

\$25,000 vehicle from the reverse elimination drawing. A consolation prize of a big screen television will be given to the next-to-last ticket holder. Remember, you do not have to be present to win, but you do have to be present to sell your ticket.

If you don't get an invitation, give the volunteers a call at 268-7271 and they will get you one. We believe tickets will sell extremely quickly and when the 750 are gone we will be unable to sell any others. Hopefully this will be just as profitable for the patients at Big Spring State Hospital as the volunteers reach a new goal of funding a new family visitation center which will break ground in spring 2011.

To kick off the Cars, Stars and Handlebars celebration, a reception will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday at the historic Settles Hotel, Third St. and Runnels. Settles Hotel Development Company will host a tour of the historic Big Spring landmark beginning at 4:30 at the south entrance. Parking will be available across the street just west of the hotel. A reception and refreshments will follow the tour at 5:30 p.m. on the 14th floor.

Three hospital volunteers have been nominated for awards at the Annual State Volunteer Awards recognition. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase Big Spring State Hospital's volunteer program and our outstanding corps of volunteers. It is so rewarding to have such wonderful volun-

teers who are providing much-needed support and raising funds for patients who need our assistance.

Please mark your calendar for April 14, for the annual recognition of our volunteers at our annual Volunteer Awards Luncheon. Local and state award winners will be recognized, along with service award recipients and the winner of the coveted Jack Y. Smith Award. We always are honored to have Edna Faye and her son, Steve, as our special guests who present this highly coveted award to a worthy volunteer.

The Chalet volunteers continue their monthly workdays at the resale shop. We can always use more volunteer help on these workdays or just anytime you have an extra hour or two. New spring arrivals need to be put out and winter merchandise marked for sale or put up until next year. Volunteers are excited that they soon will receive central refrigerated air conditioning at the Chalet. Hopefully this spring and summer everyone will be more comfortable when temperatures start to climb. There are a lot of renovations going

on so look inside and outside for changes, in the next few months to better serve our customers and donors. The Chalet is located at the corner of E. Second St. and Runnels. They are always in need of donations of household items and furniture, as well as your garage sale left-overs. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Congratulations to January's volunteer of the Month, Cyneather Woodruff. Cyneather serves on the VSC Board and helps with many VSC patient activities and fundraisers. She is best known for calling bingo games each month for the patients.

We salute Connie Rodriguez for being February's volunteer of the month. Connie is one of the cornerstones of The Chalet resale shop. Connie's volunteer efforts and hours are greatly appreciated and that smile of hers motivates

all of the volunteers.

Special thanks to all that respond to the hospital's needs. We asked for warm winter clothing and were blessed with many nice warm jackets and coats. Then we had a need for television sets. It is amazing how many donations of TV's came our way. Thank you! It is so rewarding to be a part of this caring and giving community. The patients' days are filled with hope knowing that someone else cares.

We have some volunteer needs: someone to do simple sewing, cookies for Operation Cookie, used luggage, greeting cards and magazines not more than six months old. The VSC Board meeting is March 10.

Billie Christie is director of Community Relations at Big Spring State Hospital.

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Resist That Impulse

South dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ Q 10 4 3 2
 ♥ 7 4
 ♦ A J 10
 ♣ A 9 2

WEST
 ♠ 5
 ♥ K J 3
 ♦ K 8 3 2
 ♣ K Q J 7 5

EAST
 ♠ 7 6
 ♥ Q 9 8 6 5 2
 ♦ Q 9 7 5 4
 ♣ —

SOUTH
 ♠ A K J 9 8
 ♥ A 10
 ♦ 6
 ♣ 10 8 6 4 3

The bidding:
 South 1♣ West 2♣ North 3♣ East Pass
 4♣
 Opening lead — king of clubs.

When failure seems certain, you have two choices: You either give up and move on to the next deal, or you can try to find some way out of your fix. If you are a fighter by nature, you can attempt to apply the basic principle in bridge that whenever it is clear that normal play is certain to fail, you should look for a solution that may be well off the beaten path.

Consider this deal where West

leads the king of clubs against your four-spade contract. You know that West has five clubs for his overcall, and that if you play the ace from dummy, East will trump it. It is equally certain that East will then lead a heart, after which you can kiss the contract goodbye.

You should therefore apply the doctrine of self-preservation by refusing to play the ace of clubs on the king! After East discards a heart and West continues with the queen of clubs, you play low from dummy again! West then leads the five of clubs to dummy's ace, and East, as expected, ruffs and returns a heart.

You have now lost the first three tricks, but you are out of the woods. You win the heart with the ace, cash the ace of trumps and lead the ten of clubs from your 10-8. West, who has the J-7 of clubs at this point, can do no better than cover the ten with the jack. You ruff in dummy, return to your hand, cash the eight of clubs — discarding dummy's remaining heart — and so make the contract.

The deal demonstrates once again that you can't play bridge mechanically. The temptation to play the ace of clubs at trick one must be resisted when it is obvious that that play is certain to lead to defeat.

Tomorrow: A matter of faith.

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News in brief

About 120,000 acres burn in Texas wildfires

AMARILLO (AP) — About 120,000 acres have burned in West Texas as the wind eased and crews brought all of the fires under control. Lewis Kearney with the Texas Forest Service said Tuesday that firefighters were putting out hot spots at various locations. He says the high fire danger continues throughout the week, but is much improved since wildfires broke out on Sunday. Kearney told The Associated Press that

lighter winds Monday help with firefighting efforts.

He says the Texas Forest Service responded to fires that blackened about 120,000 acres, but the number could go higher when volunteers file their reports on other blazes they fought.

3 Houston-area firefighters hurt in blaze

HOUSTON (AP) — Two Houston-area firefighters have been hospitalized for observation after suffering electrical shock in an industrial blaze.

Investigators say a third firefighter suffered a back injury in Monday night's blaze that destroyed two buildings.

Deputy Chief Andy Dexter with the Klein Volunteer Fire Department says an overhead power line broke while two firefighters were checking a burning mobile home. Both were shocked, but the injuries are considered non-life threatening.

Wesley Cole, chief of Northwest Volunteer Fire Department, says the third firefighter was knocked down when a fire hose broke.

The cause of the fire is

sought.

Texas priest drowns in native El Salvador

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A Roman Catholic priest from South Texas has drowned while on vacation in his native El Salvador.

An online statement Tuesday from the Archdiocese of San Antonio says 32-year-old Father Edwin Vigil drowned Sunday. The diocese says the accident happened as Vigil was "swimming in familiar waters near his home."

Diocese spokesman Pat Rodgers says funeral arrangements are pending.

to 1 million more nurses and 150,000 additional doctors in the next 15 years.

Arthur Garson Jr., who's senior vice president at the University of Texas Health Science Center, on Monday cited the anticipated health needs of the state's growing, aging population.

Garson took part in an Austin conference hosted by the University of Texas System.

He suggested that Texas medical schools would need to double their output over the next four years. He estimates that nursing schools would need to double their output over the next 14 years.

The Austin American-Statesman reports Texas had 188 physicians per 100,000 residents in 1990. By last year that number grew to 200 doctors per 100,000 residents.

Defense begins for guru accused of abuse

SAN MARCOS (AP) — Some supporters of a Hindu guru on trial in Texas on charges that he sexually abused girls say they never saw him alone with children.

The prosecution rested Monday in the San Marcos trial of 82-year-old Prakashanand Saraswati.

The religious leader, known as Shree Swamiji, is charged with 20 counts of indecency with a child by sexual contact over allegations from the 1990s.

Defense attorney Jeff Kearney told jurors that prosecutors failed to produce any evidence to support the allegations.

Emily Roberts, who grew up at the ashram, testified that she "never saw a child alone with Swamiji."

The Austin American-Statesman reports a prosecutor asked the guru's supporters whether they could reasonably claim that they knew what he was doing every hour of every day. Most agreed they could not.

Officials search for fugitive in day care fire

HOUSTON (AP) — Officials are trying to locate a Houston home day care operator who apparently fled to her native Nigeria after being charged in a blaze at the facility that killed four children and injured three others.

The search for Jessica Tata comes as investigators release new allegations about the blaze, saying Tata left the children she was caring for without adult supervision, while a stovetop burner was on, before the fire. Investigators believe the burner was the source of last week's blaze.

Tata, 22, was charged late Sunday evening with reckless injury to a child involving serious bodily injury in the death of 3-year-old Shomari Dickerson. The charge carries a sentence of two to 10 years in prison.

Officials said Monday they believe Tata has fled to Nigeria.

Prosecutors have declined to say whether they plan to file additional charges against Tata.

2011 Spring Revival SET ABLAZE On Fire For God

Host: Pastor Michael Willard & The CCC Family

Wednesday, March 23rd through Saturday, March 26th 7:00 p.m. Nightly



Wednesday Speaker: Pastor Lamar Turner Kingdom Covenant Ministries



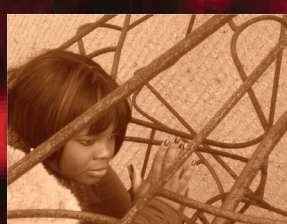
Thursday Speaker: Pastor Jimmy Pruitt Grace Point Church



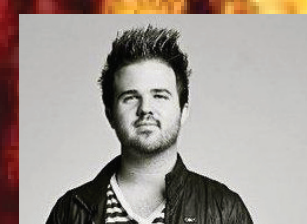
Friday Speaker: Pastor Jarrod Dugger Fresh Fire Fellowship



Saturday Speaker: Asst. Pastor Martin Johnson City of Refuge Church



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Special Musical Guest: Cody Carnes

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Exec: Texas needs 150,000 new doctors

AUSTIN (AP) — A medical executive predicts Texas will need up




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Twin Set **\$299**

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King Set **\$549**

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Hawk women win play-in game for postseason berth

BY ADAM COLEMAN

Sports Editor

ODESSA — The Howard College women's basketball team thought it was in the Region V Tournament after beating Frank Phillips to end the regular season.

They had to play one more game, however.

The Hawks beat New Mexico Junior College 66-61 Monday in Odessa in a game that determined which team will go to the Region V Tournament, which begins Thursday.

"I'm really proud of the way we came out," Howard head coach Earl Diddle said. "We were very spirited. We were ready to play and I give all the credit to the girls because that's a tough position to be in. Because when you think you have something, you have it taken away, that's tough to rebound from."

After the win over Frank Phillips Thursday, the Hawks were tied with New Mexico Junior College for the fourth and final spot for a berth in the postseason out of Region 5-West. Both teams were 6-6 in conference play.

The Hawks thought they clinched because of the power points system, which allots teams certain points for beating certain opponents in the conference. The Lady Thunderbirds, however, also thought they had more points than Howard.

The matter had to be appealed to all the presidents of each school in the

conference, leading to a late decision to have a play-in game in Odessa for that fourth and final spot. Diddle and the Hawks were not in favor of playing another game to get in the Region V Tournament. Diddle said a lot of credit should go to athletic director Britt Smith and president Cheryl Sparks for trying to challenge that decision, but the Hawks had to abide by it and in the end, it worked in their favor.

The standout sophomore led the team in scoring with 19 points. Kali Jerrell had 17 in the win. New Mexico and Howard split the season. In this game, Diddle said from tip-off, Howard had upper hand and the support was there, too. He said Hawks fans were vocal in Monday's game.

Now the Hawks prepare for Grayson Community College at 7 p.m. on the first day of the Region V Tournament Thursday at the Rip Griffin Center on Lubbock Christian University's campus in Lubbock.

In what has been a whirlwind of decisions since the regular season finale, Diddle is proud his team came up big when it did.

"I think it really speaks well of the character of our team going through what they went through on Friday," he said. "Everyone had us in the tournament Thursday after the game. ... By Saturday, it went to the presidents challenging the decision that was made on a play-in and then on Sunday, explaining what happened."



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Tasha Tubbs shoots a 3-pointer during the Howard College Hawks' 66-61 win over New Mexico Junior College Monday in Odessa. In what was a late play-in game to determine the fourth and final Region V Tournament berth out of the conference, the Hawks did what they needed to do to extend their season.

McGruder, K-State top No. 7 Texas

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — Kansas State is surging at the right time.

Texas, the team that two weeks ago looked unstoppable in the Big 12, is slipping at precisely the wrong one.

Rodney McGruder scored 22 points, Jacob Pullen scored 20 and Kansas State muscled past No. 7 Texas 75-70 on Monday night, the Wildcats' fifth straight win and first on the road over a Top Ten team since 1994.

Pullen exemplified the tough, physical nature of the game, scoring 16 points in the second half despite falling hard on his right wrist as Kansas State (21-9, 9-6 Big 12) sent the Longhorns to their second straight loss and third in four games.

"Everybody wrote us off. They cast our

season down the drain," Pullen said of the Wildcats' 1-4 start in the conference. "People say we're a good team again but we can't let things like that get into our locker room and we can't let down our guard. Our morale is to the sky."

Texas is heading in the opposite direction.

An 11-0 start in conference play had the Longhorns among the top contenders for a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament. Now they're trying to regroup and not worry about how far they may fall.

"We're better than what we're playing and that's the concern," Texas coach Rick Barnes said. "You've got to stay disciplined with what you do. Kansas State did exactly what we thought they'd do and that was try to push us out of our offense."

Texas (24-6, 12-3) met its defensive match against the Wildcats, who held the Longhorns to 34 percent shooting. Freshman Tristan Thompson scored 26 points for the Longhorns but his teammates shot just 14 of 54 from the field. Kansas State shot 50 percent two days after Texas gave up a 22-point lead and let Colorado shoot 53 percent in a road loss.

Curtis Kelly scored 15 points for Kansas State, doing much of his damage in the first half when Pullen was struggling to score. McGruder was 4 of 6 on 3-pointers.

Thompson was the only Longhorn who could match Kansas State's physical play. He grabbed 10 rebounds and had several dunks but got little help on offense. Jordan Hamilton scored 14 points on 5-of-18

See TEXAS, Page 2B

Area boys' basketball playoff schedule

Regional Quarterfinals Wednesday
Sands vs. Paducah
6 p.m.
Merkel High School - Merkel

Garden City vs. Ira
6:30 p.m.
Post High School - Post

Stanton vs. Muleshoe
6 p.m.
Rip Griffin Center - Lubbock

Spurs' Parker out 2-4 weeks with calf injury

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Spurs point guard Tony Parker will likely miss two to four weeks with a sore calf muscle, handing the NBA's top team its first significant injury after coasting all season with unusually perfect health.

Parker strained his left calf in Sunday's win over Memphis. He had started every game during a blazing start for the NBA-best Spurs (49-10), who can already match their win total from last season Tuesday when they play the Grizzlies again.

Parker is averaging 17.1 points and 6.6 assists, piloting a refreshed offense that is quicker, higher-scoring and no longer revolving around

"When Tony's on the court the whole dynamic of the team changes. He's so good at breaking the first line and finding open teammates or finishing. He gives us another great weapon offensively."

Manu Ginobili, Spurs guard

Tim Duncan.

"When Tony's on the court the whole dynamic of the team changes," Spurs guard Manu Ginobili said after Sunday's victory. "He's so good at breaking the first line and finding open teammates or finishing. He gives us another great weapon offensively."

George Hill will likely take Parker's place. He'll get only a couple warm-up games in the starting lineup before the Spurs face LeBron James and Miami for the first time Fri-

day.

The Heat are the first of two big back-to-back games for the Spurs, who also play the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday in their third meeting this season.

Parker was injured when he collided with Grizzlies guard Mike Conley in the second quarter. The 28-year-old Parker did not return to the game.

The Spurs didn't practice Monday. Parker will stay in San Antonio for rehab while the Spurs travel to Memphis

and then Cleveland this week, before coming home to play Miami.

Health has been a major factor behind San Antonio's surprise return to championship form. Like Parker, Duncan has started every game, and Ginobili has started all but one.

San Antonio was hardly as lucky the previous two years. Injuries to their Big Three crippled the Spurs in the two seasons after reaching the Western Conference finals in 2008.

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.

Area softball, baseball notes

Forsan baseball

The Forsan Buffs are rolling after the Albany tournament this weekend, taking care of Coleman 13-4 and Hamlin 6-0. With two wins — 9-2 and 10-0 — over Jim Ned, and a 3-0 win over Miles, the Buffs are undefeated heading into the Coahoma-Forsan tournament, which begins Thursday.

Big Spring softball

The Big Spring junior varsity and varsity softball teams are scheduled to play Greenwood at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., respectively. The game times have been switched. Varsity will play at 4 p.m. and junior varsity at 6 p.m.

The Lady Steers are coming off the West Texas Classic in Midland where they picked up a few wins over Coahoma, but took a 5-4 loss to Midland Lee and an 11-6 loss to Lubbock Monterey.

Coahoma softball

The Coahoma Bulldogettes have started the season at 2-6, but are fighting through a tough schedule. They have Post at home today in district play at 5:30 p.m.

In the West Texas Classic in Midland last week, the Bulldogettes took a 9-0 and 9-5 loss to Big Spring, 13-0 loss to El Paso Hanks and 10-0 to Midland Lee. However, they did pick up some wins, beating Plainview 9-5 and Seminole 10-0 in that tournament.

Time running out on NFL's labor agreement

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Let the countdown begin. Less than 72 hours before the NFL's collective bargaining agreement expires, the league and the players' union were scheduled to resume negotiations in front of a federal mediator.

There was no telling whether the sides would fare any better Tuesday than they did over seven consecutive days of talks that wrapped up last week — and left the league's owners and the NFL Players Association far apart on the major issues.

When it comes to the NFL, it's all one big guessing game at the moment.

"Everything is hypothetical right now," new San Francisco 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh said. "I'm just optimistic we can get something done."

The CBA expires at midnight as Thursday becomes Friday on the East Coast, and the owners could lock out the players immediately. Even before that, though, the union could decertify — essentially, declare itself out of the business of representing players — and let the players take their chances in court.

Not far away from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, where director George Cohen will attempt to help the parties make more progress, the 32 teams' owners are slated to meet Wednesday and Thursday at a hotel in Chantilly, Va., for updates on the status of negotiations.

And then they will need to determine their next step.

Whatever happens between now and Friday could eventually wind up causing the country's

most popular sport to lose regular-season games to a work stoppage for the first time since 1987. Or everything could be resolved by management and labor in an industry with revenues topping \$9 billion annually.

The biggest sticking point all along has been how to divide those revenues, including what cut team owners should get up front to help cover certain costs, such as stadium construction.

Among the other significant topics in negotiations: a rookie wage scale; the owners' push to expand the regular season from 16 games to 18 while reducing the preseason by two games; and benefits for retired players.

In many respects, this boils down to money, of course. And there is plenty of money at risk that longer it takes for the league and NFLPA to work together again.

"Players have a lot of risk; clubs have a lot of risk," Jeff Pash, the NFL's lead labor negotiator, said in January. "We know that the financial consequences of no agreement — of a significant delay in reaching an agreement — will be significant and will be shared. It does not fall on one party."

The league estimates there would be a cut in gross revenues of \$350 million if there's no new CBA by August, before the preseason starts, and a loss of revenues totaling \$1 billion if no new contract is in place until September. And if regular-season games are lost in 2011, the NFL figures that revenue losses would amount to about \$400 million per week.

If the league locks out the players, everything would stop except the NFL draft on April 28-30.

NFL lockout, decertification: What it all means

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A primer on a potential labor shutdown in the NFL, which could happen this week.

Q: What does a lockout mean?

A: If the owners impose a lockout of the players after the collective bargaining agreement expires at the end of the day Thursday, there would be no on-field football action or communication between players currently in the NFL and the teams. Team doctors would be allowed to monitor the progress of injured players, but not at the team's facility, the league says.

No offseason workouts or minicamps would be held during a lockout. No players, including those drafted in April or rookie free agents, could be signed. Players would not have medical coverage provided by the teams, but can continue their coverage by paying for it themselves.

Should the lockout last long enough, there would be no games.

A lockout is a right management has under federal labor law to shut down a business upon the expiration of a

collective bargaining agreement. Employees have the same right — they can strike, something the NFLPA did in 1982 and 1987.

Q: What does decertification mean and where might it lead?

A: Decertification would mean the union no longer exists, and it almost certainly would lead to a court fight.

Decertification would primarily be a legal move by the players to prevent a lockout. Players would give up their rights to collectively bargain, but they could individually file antitrust claims against the NFL and the owners. It's a lengthy process in which the players would claim the league is restricting trade. If they were successful, the league could lose some of its antitrust protection; as long as there is a players union, the league is protected from such antitrust actions.

The NFLPA received approval from its members to decertify in a series of meetings with each of the 32 teams that began last summer. According to the union, the primary reason to decertify is to save the 2011 season.

In 1989, the union decertified and a subsequent settlement with the NFL in 1993 led to free agency and the reforming of the NFLPA.

The union must decertify before the CBA expires at the end of the day Thursday or jurisdiction for labor issues no longer will be handled by U.S. District Court Judge David Doty in Minneapolis. But the union could file for decertification in another six months.

Q: Why is the draft being held? How will a work stoppage affect players entering the league?

The draft was protected under the CBA signed in 2006 that the owners opted out of in 2008. Nonetheless, the plan is to go ahead with the draft.

In a work stoppage, drafted and undrafted rookies will not be permitted to sign contracts or communicate with NFL clubs after the draft, except for a news conference for top picks at club facilities. Those players, just like veterans, would need to organize and pay for any workouts they conduct independently.

The players also would need to provide their own injury insurance, although many already do so beyond what clubs provide.

Q: What happens with free agency during a work stoppage?

A: It disappears. No player contracts can be negotiated or signed. While hundreds of players whose contracts have not expired would be in football limbo, the free agents would fall into far deeper uncertainty.

Q: Can the CBA deadline be extended? Who would have to do so and how would it be done? Under what terms would the league be operating in that case?

Both sides would have to agree to "stop the clock," and that likely would only occur if significant progress is being made as the CBA expiration deadline closes in Thursday night. The union says it has offered to extend the deal several times. Regardless, both sides would have to agree to the terms for and length of an extension.

It's an unlikely scenario.

Hansbrough home finale a winner for No. 8 Irish

The Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Ben Hansbrough took the microphone after the game, stood at midcourt and started complimenting all those around him. Almost like the Academy Awards.

He acknowledged coach Mike Brey, the wild fans at the Purcell Pavilion and his family sitting in the stands.

He was most appreciative of his teammates following his final home game for Notre Dame. That's because he and the Irish made the night a memorable one with their shooting.

Tim Abromaitis hit a career-high nine 3-pointers and he and Hansbrough scored 30 points each as the eighth-ranked Irish routed No. 19 Villanova 93-72 on Monday night.

The victory ensured a double bye in the Big East tournament for Notre Dame and wrapped up a 17-0 season at home, the only team to go unbeaten on its home court in the conference this season.

"It means a lot because I told these guys before the game to do it for us. I said let's not do it for anybody else, just do it for ourselves, because of how hard we worked," said Hansbrough, who hit seven of Notre Dame's school-record 20 3-pointers.

Brey, initially worried his team might be a bit tight, called the offensive performance "off the charts."

"Obviously we shot it good but we got good shots," Brey said.

All game. Abromaitis' nine 3-pointers were one shy of the school record set by Kyle McAlarney against North Carolina in 2008.

"I was telling Abro, 'Did you know we hit 16 3, combined?' He was like, 'What?'" said Hansbrough, who had 10 assists and five steals.

"That was a decent little shooting night. I think that's just part of our mental preparation and guys getting in the gym and working on their shots. We

shot the ball incredible tonight."

Villanova's defense just didn't put any pressure on the perimeter.

"I don't think they really focused on shooters like some other teams do. Earlier in the year, I think I would have paid good money to get a couple of those looks," Abromaitis said. "I think I surprised myself getting that open."

And he couldn't believe the Irish made 20 from long range.

"I don't think I've ever seen that before and I don't know if I'll ever see that again," Abromaitis said.

Notre Dame (24-5, 13-4) finished 20 for 32 on 3-pointers. The Irish, shooting 37.7 percent from 3-point range this season, was 11 for 19 in the first half, including 4 of 6 from Hansbrough, to build a 47-27 lead. The Irish led by as many as 25 points in the first half and 32 in the second, sending a spirited home crowd into a frenzy as they made one open 3-pointer after another.

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TEXAS

Continued from Page 1B

shooting and was a non-factor for most of the game. J'Covan Brown scored 11 points but didn't make a field goal until hitting two long 3-pointers in the final minute.

"They pressured us as well, but we just missed our shots," Texas guard Cory Joseph said.

Texas, which was used to blowing out teams at home, knew it was in for a fight when Kansas State's Jamar Samuels, who is 6-foot-7, decked 5-10 Texas guard Jai Lucas in a collision near midcourt in the early going.

But Thompson was the only one who really responded with three early dunks and tough rebounding. He scored 12 of Texas' first 20 points.

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Apply at Workforce Center (in the Post Office), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

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to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.

The moon is in Aquarius, and Venus breaks into this high-minded realm, as well. Intellectual pursuits are favored, especially ones that also require networking and creativity. During this Venus transit, which lasts until March 26, friendship is the primary focus of relationships. Meetings of the mind will be increasingly important.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your decisive action will be required. You'll take on each issue as it comes to you because you realize that the delayed handling of problems is likely to result in bigger problems.

Legals

Public Meeting Notice Texas Department of Transportation

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a public meeting on March 10, 2011, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the TxDOT - Lubbock District Training Center, Building D, 135 Slaton Road, Lubbock, Texas 79404.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow public input to the FY 2011 November/ February Revisions to the 2011-2014 Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP).

The STIP is a mechanism used by TxDOT and Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) to fund projects for the next four years and includes all federally funded projects. The FY 2011 STIP amendment for November/ February 2011 may be viewed on line at <http://www.txdot.gov/business/governments/stips.htm>

or any TxDOT District Office prior to the meeting. Locations of these offices can be found at http://www.txdot.gov/local_information/.

The meeting will be informal and all interested citizens are invited to attend and express their views on the program.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aides or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print or Braille are requested to contact Betty Gonzales, (806)748-4578 five (5) days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Written comments may be submitted to TxDOT, Attention: Lori Morel, 118 E. Riverside Dr., Bldg. 118, Austin, Texas 78704-1205, or by email at Lori.Morel@txdot.gov. To be considered, a 10 day public comment period to submit written comments will close at the Lubbock District Office by 5:00p.m. Monday, Feb. 21, 2011. #6902 March 1, 2011

Tomorrow's Horoscope

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll complete your responsibilities without much trouble. Note that your good fortune hinges on going above and beyond the call of duty. Can you take things one step further?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're never bored, as there is always more to learn. Even the people and things that you see in regular daily life will be intriguing as you pursue deeper levels of knowledge.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Just because you haven't done something before doesn't mean you'll be bad at it. There's a good chance you'll stumble onto an activity you were always meant to do and succeed on your very first try.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Go on and say hello to the people you want to meet, if for no other reason than it's just good practice to do so. In time, you'll overcome fear and will no longer care much about what anyone thinks of you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Someone will offer specific recommendations to help you improve your performance. These comments are meant to be helpful, and if you can hear them as such, you will have an edge in business and in life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When it comes to your loved ones, you refuse to coast on your past successes. Love can only be felt in the present moment. Your relationships are stellar because you never stop working on them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are being watched and listened to by those who can promote and help you. Consider that everything you say will contribute to other people's opinion of you. All speaking is public speaking.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People around you will wonder how you are able to understand a situation that has everyone else so baffled. It's because you are extremely perceptive and adept at reading between the lines.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You know just how to get the most out of the least. And though it's good to be frugal, it doesn't have to be dull. You'll have fun spending your money whether you let go of a dollar or thousands.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're naturally generous, and you are always thinking of what others might need or want. With your loved ones in mind, you'll make the best decisions for everyone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have a talent for asking interesting questions. Stay close to your loved ones when you talk to them. Your eyes will inform you better than your ears.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 1). You are more concerned with doing the right thing than with doing the profitable thing. Because of your goodness, you'll be rich in more ways than one. A special relationship blossoms in April. Remodeling and renovations happen in May. An intellectual award comes in June. You share a special connection with Taurus and Leo people. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 33, 24 and 1.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Do you think I could ever be married to Justin Bieber? I'm three years younger than he is and his biggest fan. I pledge him my eternal love every day. I'm a Libra, and he's a Pisces. Do these signs go together forever? Also, how can I meet him?"

I believe any astrological combination could potentially work. Libra and Pisces have much in common. They are both artistic and have a strong need for harmony and beauty in their environment. Libra is friendly and easy to get to know. Pisces is soulful and likes to go with the flow. These two signs could definitely hit it off. The biggest difference between Libra and Pisces is the way they get their energy. Libra is often energized by being around people, learning about the lives of others and sharing experiences with friends. Pisces is energized by exploring his talents, making internal connections and using his imagination. Since you're a social Libra, you're most likely to meet Bieber while out having fun with your friends. Join his official fan club so you can keep up on radio contests, concert promotions and other Bieber-related events.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: There is no known vaccine for "Bieber Fever," and by the looks of things, the mania is still highly contagious. From YouTube to the top of the Billboard charts to the 3D blockbuster "Never Say Never," Justin Bieber's passion for pop has fans under his spell. The 17-year-old's sun, Venus and Saturn are all in the sign of old souls, Pisces, and he was born under the magnetically attractive Scorpio moon.

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. © 2011 CREATORS.COM

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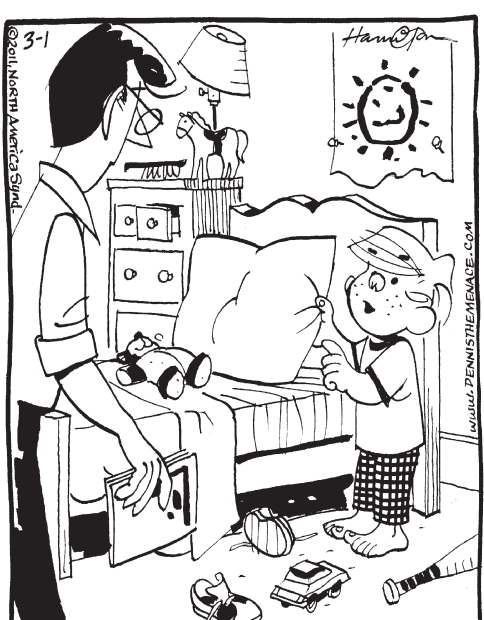
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5:PM :30	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez News	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	Seinfeld	Scrivner Uri Harel	World Business	Lyrics! Lyrics!	Cash Cab	James Caan	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Fish Wizards	Nation Pardon	SportsCenter	
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	Liena de Amor (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News	Caso Cerado	News	King	Dr. Young Brad	PBS News-Hour	70s Show	Pitchmen	Movie: Grindhouse Presents: Planet Terror	Bones	Good	College Basketball: Baylor at Oklahoma.	College Basketball: Illinois at Purdue.		
7:PM :30	No Ordinary Family	Eva Luna (SS)	American Idol	NCIS (DVS)	Aurora (SS)	The Biggest Loser	Office Upd	Office Jim	In Performance...	One Tree Hill	Dirty Jobs	Movie: True Grit, Kim Darby	Movie: Pay-back, Maria Bello	Together Game	Movie: The Luck of the Irish	NBA Coast to Coast	College Basketball	
8:PM :30	V	Triunfo del Amor	Raising	NCIS: Los Angeles	Herederos-Monte		Office	Office	Light of the Southwest	Frontline (DVS)	Hellcats	Movie: Grindhouse Presents: Death Proof	Southland	Game Deck	Fish			
9:PM :30	(:01) Detroit 1-8-7	Aquí y Ahora (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	The Good Wife	La Reina del Sur	Parenthood	Office	Office	Independent Lens	Married Married	American Auction	Best of PRIDE	Memphis Beat	The Mo'Nique	Good	E:60	SportsCenter	
10:PM :30	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Mark Cortes	Charlie Rose	King	Dirty Jobs	Movie: True Grit, Kim Darby	UFC's Ultimate Fight Night	Wendy Williams	Hannah	Final	NFL Live	
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Verdad Oculta	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Lopez Tonight	Ministerio-Vida	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk	South Pk	Cops	American Focus 4	Movie: Back in the Day, Pam Grier	Wizards	NASCAR	SportsCenter	
12:AM :30	Extra	Tontas Cielo	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd	Church	Homecoming	Overhaul	Movie: Spaceballs, Dick Morris	Disorderly Con.	Leverage	Wizards Suite Life	NASCAR Suite Life - Europe	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



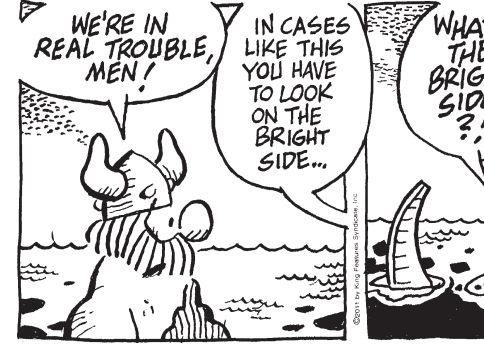
"IF I PUT A QUARTER UNDER MY PILLOW, WILL THE TOOTH FAIRY LEAVE ME A TOOTH?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

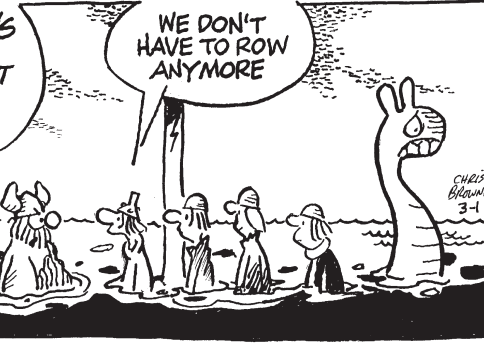


"Maybe Mommy will have to take Billy into the shop."

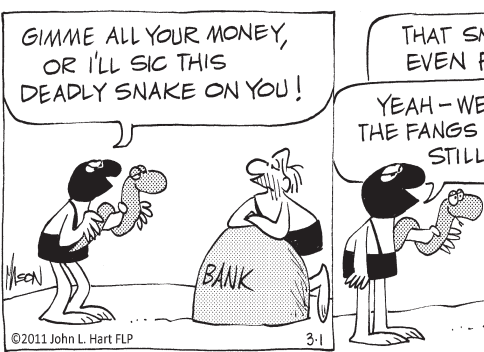
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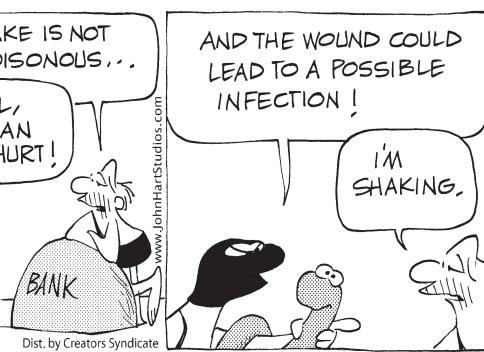
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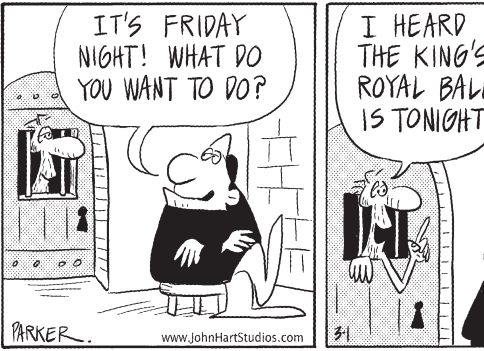
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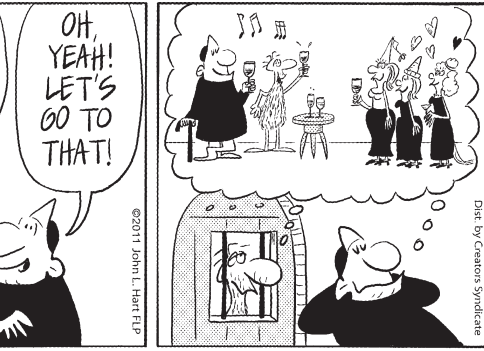
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

DOUBLE NEGATIVES by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Drains strength from
- 5 Dressed (in)
- 9 Paper fragment
- 14 Hair ringlet
- 15 Pasta alternative
- 16 Make happy
- 17 Neighborhood
- 18 Poker-hand starter
- 19 Italian coins
- 20 Perhaps
- 23 Swindle
- 24 Pas' partners
- 25 Fire-setting crime
- 28 Restful resort
- 30 In the past
- 33 From Japan, for example
- 34 Garden tools
- 35 Just slightly
- 36 Defeated one's comment
- 39 Outer boundary
- 40 Barbell metal
- 41 Grape plants
- 42 ___ Moines, IA
- 43 Tummy muscles
- 44 Increases
- 45 Shirt-sleeve filler
- 47 Granola grain
- 48 Inconsistent
- 57 Bite on, as a puppy
- 58 Border on
- 59 Otherwise
- 60 Marry secretly
- 61 Sit for a portrait
- 62 Burrowing mammal
- 63 Passover feast
- 64 Crystal-ball user
- 65 Bird-feeder food

This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, March 1, the 60th day of 2011. There are 305 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 1, 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed an executive order establishing the Peace Corps.

On this date:

In 1790, President George Washington signed a measure authorizing the first U.S. Census.

In 1809, the Illinois Territory came into existence.

In 1811, in what became known as the Massacre of the Citadel, hundreds of warriors known as Mamluks were slain in Cairo by forces loyal to Ottoman governor Muhammad Ali.

In 1867, Nebraska became the 37th state.

In 1872, President Ulysses S. Grant signed an act creating Yellowstone National Park.

In 1931, Memphis, Tenn., held its first Cotton Carnival.

In 1932, Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., the 20-month-old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh, was kidnapped from the family home near Hopewell, N.J. (Remains identified as those of the child were found the following May.)

In 1954, Puerto Rican nationalists opened fire from the gallery of the U.S. House of Representatives, wounding five congressmen.

In 1971, a bomb went off inside a men's room at the U.S. Capitol; the radical group Weather Underground claimed responsibility for the pre-dawn blast.

In 1981, Irish Republican Army member Bobby Sands began a hunger strike at the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland; he died 65 days later.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Robert Clary is 85. Singer Harry Belafonte is 84. Former U.S. Solicitor General Robert H. Bork is 84. Actor Robert Conrad is 76. Rock singer Mike D'Abo (Manfred Mann) is 67. Former Rock singer Roger Daltrey is 67. Actor Dirk Benedict is 66. Actor Alan Thicke is 64. Actor-director Ron Howard is 57. Actress Catherine Bach is 57. Country singer Janis Gill (aka

Answer to previous puzzle

SAKE	AMMO	ACTS
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YOYO	ACHE	SEWN

22 Stock up on

25 "All kidding ___ . . ."

26 Wedding bands

27 Manuscript enclosure: Abbr.

28 Songs for one

29 Lowly worker

30 Make amends

31 Chess and checkers

32 Poems of praise

33 Really impressed

34 Basil or oregano

35 Without a warranty

37 Southeast Florida city

38 Lloyd Webber musical

44 Roof timber

45 Open-mouthed

46 Movie critic, at times

47 Helpful

48 Change for a \$5 bill

49 Cairo's river

50 Like two peas in ___

51 Short snoozes

52 Double-reed instrument

53 Diamonds and emeralds

54 Spiny houseplant

55 Spot of land in the ocean

56 Can't do without

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