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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

MARCH 17, 2011



VOLUME 106, NUMBER 90

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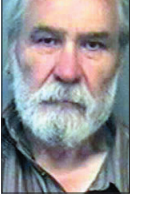
Big Spring's Laura Herrera slides safely into third base during the Lady Steers' 3-1 victory over San Angelo Central at the BSHS Softball Complex Wednesday afternoon. See related story and photo, Page 6.

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Local man guilty of child porn possession

Special to the Herald

ABILENE — Following a two-day trial, a federal jury in Abilene convicted Harvey James Pelland, 76, of Big Spring on all seven counts of a superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Lubbock, in January 2011.



Pelland

U.S. District Judge Jorge A. Solis presided over the trial.

Specifically, the jury found Pelland guilty of two counts of possessing child pornography and five counts of receiving a visual depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Sentencing has been set for June 6 in Abilene.

Each count of possession of child pornography carries a maximum statutory sentence of 10 years imprisonment, and each count of receipt of a depiction of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct carries a statutory sentence of not less than five years, nor more than 20 years imprisonment. Each of the seven counts requires a lifetime of supervised release.

Pelland has been in custody since his arrest on April 6, 2009, on a state charge of failure to register as a sex offender. Pelland entered a guilty plea to the state charge July 19, 2009, records show.

The government presented evidence at trial that in late March and early April 2009, while Pelland was living in Big Spring, he possessed images of child pornography and received images of child pornography from the Internet.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice, to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual

See **GUILTY**, Page 3

Ready to Powwow?

Volunteers needed for annual event slated April 2-3

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Native American dancers from all over the region will pit their skills against one another April 2-3, as the Big Spring Powwow gets ready to once again take over the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

And while the dancers are certainly sharpening their skills and moves for the annual event, Big Spring Powwow Committee Treasurer Connie Lesser said the local group has plenty of work to do before the festivities get under way.

"Donations and sponsors are what keep the powwow going each year," said Lesser. "It costs anywhere from \$8,000 to \$10,000 to put it on each year, so donations are always a huge help, even if it's just a few dollars here and there. Our local businesses, who help sponsor the event, are also a huge part of what we do. We'll be taking business sponsors right up until about a week before the powwow, so it's not too late to show your support for this great event."

Lesser said another commodity

to the annual Big Spring Powwow is volunteers, who play a huge role in making sure the two-day event runs smoothly.

"We need volunteers to help us run some of the minor parts of the powwow," said Lesser. "Things like helping to run the front desk and some of the contests, and monitor some of the different stations. It's a lot of fun, and it gives people a chance to get a birds-eye view of what goes on during the powwow."

See **POWWOW**, Page 3

INDEX

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Comics | 10 |
| Classified | 7-9 |
| State | 5 |
| Obituaries | 2 |
| Opinion | 4 |
| Sports | 6,11-12 |

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Texas' economic miracle is beginning to tarnish

CHRIS TOMLINSON
 Associated Press

AUSTIN, (AP) — Some in Texas had talked tough about solving the state's budget problem by austerity alone, but lawmakers finally faced a hard fact: Texas is in serious financial trouble.

The severity of the state's \$27 billion budget crisis was evident in the furrowed brows, sad eyes and pained expressions of legislators. They fidgeted in their seats as hundreds of teachers, parents and disabled people explained in testimony in recent weeks how proposed budget cuts would ruin their lives.

Legislatures elsewhere are facing budget problems, but most are blending cuts

"If you want to close this shortfall through cuts alone, you have to either (completely) cut payments to Medicaid providers, cut payments to school districts or lay-off a substantial number of state employees."

—Rep. Jim Pitts, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee

with asset sales, increased fees and tax modifications to soften the impact. Texas prides itself on lean government so

Republicans here promised to solve the crisis here by budget cuts alone.

Then rhetoric hit reality this week. The result was the latest and most vivid example of a state taking steps it had fiercely resisted.

The Republican committee chairman's southern accent turned plaintive as he urged legislators who had campaigned on preserving the state's \$9.2 billion Rainy Day Fund to now break that promise to ease the budget pressure.

"If you want to close this shortfall through cuts alone, you have to either (completely) cut payments to Medicaid providers, cut payments to school

See **BUDGET**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Wanda Patton Holland



Wanda "June" Patton Holland, 81, moved on to her heavenly reward Monday, March 7, 2011.

June was born Feb. 28, 1930, to Eliza and John Denton Patton in Rockwall. She graduated from high school in Big Spring in 1947. June was an active member of the Big Spring Church of the Nazarene where she met her husband of 61 years, Lowell Edwin Holland. They were married in 1950 and lived in

Big Spring until Lowell was called into active duty with the Marine Corps and sent to Korea.

While in Korea, Lowell was injured by a mortar shell which caused him to be totally blind. This injury shaped the rest of their lives together and June became not only his wife and bride, but in many cases his eyes and guide.

It was after this life-changing event the couple moved to Bethany, Okla., and attended Bethany Nazarene College, now Southern Nazarene University. June earned a degree in elementary education in 1956. From 1958 until 2003, June lived in Kansas; first in Chanute and then in Topeka.

Most of her life she was a homemaker and devoted church worker, giving of her time to the youth ministry and missions in the Chanute Church of the Nazarene and the Topeka Fairlawn Church of the Nazarene. From 1977 until 1985, she taught visually impaired students in the Topeka School System. After retirement, she and Lowell traveled extensively overseas, as well as across the U.S. in their RV.

June was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, Lillian Rhyne of Big Spring and Lola Marie Johnson of Dallas.

She is survived by her husband, Lowell; daughter and son-in-law, Cyndi and Lyndel Lackey; and three grandchildren, Jonathan, Juliana and Jace Lackey, all of Oklahoma City.

A celebration of June's life was held at 2 p.m. Friday, March 11, 2011, at Mercer-Adams Chapel, Bethany, with interment in Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens, Oklahoma City.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Swaziland Partnership, Bethany Nazarene Church. To share a memory or condolence, visit www.mercer-adams.com

Paid obituary

James Ed Wilkerson



James Ed Wilkerson, 87, of Big Spring and Norman, Ark., died Tuesday, March 15, 2011, in Norman, Ark. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 19, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Friday, March 18, 2011, at the funeral home.

Mr. Wilkerson was born Aug. 5, 1923, in Paris, Texas, to Clem and Cora Wilkerson before the family settled in Big Spring. The family moved to Big Spring in 1929, where he attended public schools.

He served in the United States Army under General Patton. Ed was present when General Patton's army liberated Pizon in May of 1945. Returning home, he married Doris Elizabeth Stroud on June 15, 1946. Ed and Doris were members of the First Assembly of God in Big Spring for more than 60 years.

He is survived by his son, James "Bo" Wilkerson Jr. and wife Linda of Norman, Ark.; a grandson; a granddaughter; three great-grandchildren; two sisters, Veda White of Dickinson and Juanita Bryant of Odessa; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris; his parents; three sisters, Agnes, Dorothy and Opal; and three brothers, Tutor, Herman and his twin brother, Fred.

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

Dolores 'Dosie' Pearce



Dolores "Dosie" Pearce, 79, of Big Spring went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, March 15, 2011, with her family at her home. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at Hillcrest Baptist Church with the Rev. Elwin Collom officiating, assisted by Ken Thomas. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial

Park.

She was born April 1, 1931 in Wink to Robbie and Ewing Thorpe. She married Lawrence Wesley Pearce on Feb. 7, 1959, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death May 26, 1986. She had been a homemaker most of her life.

In her younger years she had been a telephone operator for Southwestern Bell. In later years she worked as a hostess in food service at Howard College until retiring. She had been a resident of Howard County for more than 60 years. She was a long time, faithful member of Hillcrest Baptist Church. She considered Hillcrest to be her second family.

She is survived by one son, James (Jim) Pearce and wife Kelley of Big Spring; one daughter, Lisa Dyer of Aransas Pass; one brother, Jack Thorpe and wife Lynn of Lampasas; one sister, Norma Jean Aston and husband Dough of Buchanan Lake; seven grandchildren, Jaceson Jennings, Jacob Jennings, Trisha Themis, Laci Johnson, Brittany Hankins, Mandy Walker Garvin and Kayla Hankins; seven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one brother, Don Thorpe.

Pallbearers will be Jaceson Jennings, Jacob Jennings, Douglas Aston, Bill Myers, Dale Walker and Ken Thomas. Honorary pallbearers will be Don Kelso, Rocky Bryant, Mike Moates and Greg McAlister.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Compass Hospice, especially to Charlie McCalister, for their loving care.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials to Hillcrest Baptist Church, 2000 W. FM 700, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Police blotter

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

- TERRY WILLIAM SAWYERS, 49, of 1504 S. Main St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MANUEL SOSA, 18, of 2510 Ent Dr., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1300 block of Stadium.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.



Howard County Feed & Supply






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Local 5-Day Forecast

| Fri 3/18 | Sat 3/19 | Sun 3/20 | Mon 3/21 | Tue 3/22 |
|---|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 94/59 Mainly sunny. Near record high temperatures. High 94F. | 82/59 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s. | 86/58 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s. | 88/54 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 50s. | 90/53 Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 50s. |
| Sunrise: 7:53 AM Sunset: 7:56 PM | Sunrise: 7:51 AM Sunset: 7:57 PM | Sunrise: 7:50 AM Sunset: 7:57 PM | Sunrise: 7:49 AM Sunset: 7:58 PM | Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 7:59 PM |

Support Groups

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. and noon, each lasting an hour. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

• CLAYTON DOW BIRMELIN, 24, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid.

• JOSHUA JOEL RIOS, 27, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on Howard County warrants for driving while license invalid and violation of a promise to appear.

• STEPHEN CRUZ, 32, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on municipal warrants for failure to control speed and violation of a promise to appear.

• GRAZIANA MOJICA, 43, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on charges of violation of a promise to appear and no liability insurance.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 2300 block of Gatesville. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Rickabaugh Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Utah. One person was transported to SMMC.

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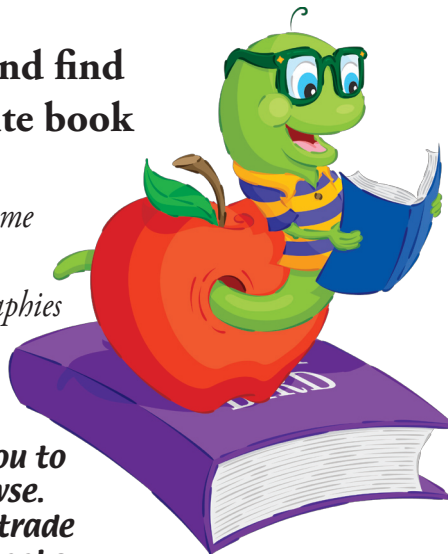
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POWWOW

Continued from Page 1

According to committee member Randy McKinney, the powwow is not a religious event, but will certainly help those in attendance lift their spirits.

“The powwow is a social event and there is no Native American religion involved; there will be no medicine men and no ceremonies,” said McKinney. “A powwow is a wonderful experience; the drum alone will lift your heart and make your feet want to dance.”

“Dancing has always been a big part of the Native American culture, as it has in many cultures. Most people think of war dances or rain dances. However, Native Americans dance for many reasons — a good hunt or harvest, marriage or childbirth, or just for the fun of it. These dances would last for days.”

Vendors offering many different wares will also be available and a food drive is scheduled with all donated canned goods given to local food banks.

“The vendors will be selling all kinds of Native American wares, from jewelry and art to food, like the traditional fry bread,” said Lesser. “There will also be a silent auction, so it should be a lot of fun for everyone in the family.”

For more information about the powwow, contact Lesser at 264-7748, or visit the Powwow Committee’s Web site at www.powwowbigspring.com.

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

BUDGET

Continued from Page 1

districts or lay-off a substantial number of state employees,” said state Rep. Jim Pitts, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. “You would have to do these things immediately.”

Magnifying the difficulty of the move here was that Pitts and other conservatives knew they had to get the state’s — and perhaps the nation’s — most outspoken advocate of budget cutting — Gov. Rick Perry — to climb down from the no-spending pledge with them. It took a week of convincing, but Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and Speaker Joe Strauss — all Republicans — issued a statement on Tuesday approving a \$3.2 billion withdrawal from the reserve fund to plug the budget hole, in addition to making \$1 billion in cuts.

That deal will solve the budget problem — until Aug. 31. Lawmakers still need to cut another \$23 billion from the next two-year budget.

“In other words, the state only has about three-fourths of the money it needs to continue doing what it is doing now,” explained F. Scott McCown, director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities, an advocacy group for the poor. “And every single thing the state does now is something that the governor previously agreed it ought to be doing.”

Several months into the current legislative session, the government fiscal crisis across the nation is proving as difficult for states with a tradition of austerity as for those more accustomed to spending. Other conservative states are struggling with how to pay for keeping tough-on-crime corrections policies in place.

Perry, the state’s longest serving governor, has signed every budget over the last 10 years and praised lawmakers for spending only what’s necessary. Last week lawmakers pressed Perry’s budget experts to help cut \$4 billion from the current budget, but neither side could reach the goal.

So Perry relented, but his support for tapping the Rainy Day Fund now came with an ultimatum about the budget that begins Sept. 1.

“I remain steadfastly committed to protecting the remaining bal-

ance of the Rainy Day Fund, and will not sign a 2012-2013 state budget that uses the Rainy Day Fund,” Perry warned. So the dilemma may return.

The Texas Public Policy Foundation, one of the most influential conservative groups in Texas, opposed this week’s concession and will fight any future solutions involving spending.

“We are disappointed to learn that Texas will likely resort to using its Rainy Day Fund this early in the legislative session,” said Talmadge Heflin, director of the group’s Center for Fiscal Policy. “Those who seek to empty the fund because it is raining today have not checked the long-range weather forecast.”

That Republican leaders’ posture in the financial crisis came in stark contrast to their campaign rhetoric.

“Texas is better off than practically any state in the country,” Perry said in September, well after the coming problem was identified. When asked about the budget deficit in December, Perry dismissed the question as speculative. Even though Texas’ budget shortfall is among the worst in the nation, Perry says Texas remains an example for other states.

Last week, he touted a Federal Reserve Bank statement forecasting that Texas could add more than 264,000 jobs in 2011. Proposed budget cuts, though, could lay-off 100,000 school employees, 60,000 nursing home workers and eliminate 9,600 state jobs this year.

Democrats question why Perry and Republican lawmakers would tap the Rainy Day Fund to pay bills to creditors due in August, but not to save jobs.

Using the fund, which is made up of revenue from oil and gas taxes, could “mitigate the cuts to our children’s education, the zeroing out of pre-kindergarten, the zeroing out of college scholarships for all freshman starting in 2012 and 2013,” Demo-

cratic state Rep. Mike Villarreal said.

But there is little for Democrats to do. Republicans hold every statewide office in Texas, two-thirds of the state House seats and 19 out of the 31 seats in the Senate. The main political division is between veteran conservatives and ultra-conservative Tea Party Caucus members.

State Rep. Debbie Riddle, a caucus member, said her constituents expect her to slash state spending. In the end, though, she voted to spend the Rainy Day Fund.

“I don’t think there is one of us ... who has not had our heart hurt and even broken in two with a lot of the testimony we have heard,” she said. To tap the Rainy Day Fund “is a long step for me, and I imagine it is for others here, too.”

Pitts, the appropriations committee chair, acknowledged that making \$23 billion in cuts for the next budget would be devastating. Pitts said. He added that he has a plan that he doesn’t want to make public yet. But if it involves the Rainy Day Fund, the question will be whether he can rally enough conservative support for it when the time comes.

Take Note

• West Texas Opportunities is holding its community meeting Friday at 3 p.m. at the Howard County Library. The public is invited. This month’s special speaker will be Sandra Price, lead driver of the Howard County TRAX Program. Sandra will be sharing information about the public transportation system for Howard County. For more information, call Connie Baca, center director, at 432-267-9536.

• American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the post home, 3203 W. Highway 80. Plates are \$10 each. Carry out is available. Plates will be delivered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084.

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Time for Giving

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ K Q 6
 ♥ J 9 4
 ♦ 9 7 3
 ♣ 8 5 4 2

WEST
 ♠ 10 7 5 2
 ♥ 6
 ♦ K 10 5 4
 ♣ J 10 9 7

EAST
 ♠ J 9 8 4 3
 ♥ Q 8 3
 ♦ J 8 6 2
 ♣ 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A
 ♥ A K 10 7 5 2
 ♦ A Q
 ♣ A K Q 6

The bidding:
 South West North East
 2♣ Pass 2♦** Pass
 2♥ Pass 3♥ Pass

* strong, artificial ** waiting
 Opening lead — jack of clubs.
 All too often, a result that is really due to poor play is blamed on bad luck. These are the hands that have been known to drive many a dummy to drink.

Here is a prime example. South bid the excellent heart slam after North had shown modest values by raising to three hearts.

Declarer won the opening club lead with the ace and immediately

cached the A-K of hearts. The failure of the queen to fall did not yet concern South, since if the opposing clubs were divided 3-2, he could still get home safely by eventually using dummy’s fourth club as an entry to the K-Q of spades.

Accordingly, declarer cashed the ace of spades and then played the king of clubs. But when East showed out and refused to ruff either the king or the queen, South could no longer make the slam.

South was quick to blame the defeat on the “terrible” divisions in hearts and clubs, but the outcome was actually his own fault. With proper play, the contract is a virtual laydown from the outset.

To assure 12 tricks, all declarer has to do is be willing to lose a trick to the queen of hearts. After winning the first club, he should cash the heart and spade aces and then lead a low heart to the nine.

Regardless of who wins the trick or how the suit is divided, South cannot be stopped from sooner or later entering dummy with the jack of hearts to discard a club and a diamond on the K-Q of spades. It is true that this approach will cost an over-trick if the trumps are divided 2-2, but that is a small price to pay for ensuring a small slam.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

God controls time. He created evening and morning. He created light, sun and moon. He has the power to send darkness in the middle of the afternoon and the power to make time stand still. He controls time, timelessness and eternity.

As we “spring forward” to Daylight Savings Time, it might be a good time to reassess your use of time. Is it time for you to put away petty jealousies and bad attitudes? Is it time for you to reaffirm your love for family and friends? Is it time for you to encourage the hurting and help the needy? Is it time for you to introduce peers to Jesus Christ? Is it time for you thank God for one more day in this life? Is it time for you to praise God for the joyful anticipation of being with Him when time is no more?

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 Wednesday Class.....7:00 PM

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

OUR VIEWS

Relief for the Japan victims anywhere and everywhere

With the recent devastation taking place in Japan, it seems that everyone around the world is thinking of ways to help those involved.

Being a whole other world away can become discouraging when it comes to thinking of ways that you can help, but distance doesn't have to stop you from helping if that's what you want to do.

Relief efforts and donations are being put together and collected all over. For Verizon Wireless customers there is one more way to help.

Verizon Wireless customers can make a \$10 donation to their choice of ten non-profit organizations by sending a text message, with no text messaging fees applied. To donate to the Red Cross text REDCROSS to 90999, Salvation Army text JAPAN to 80888, Convoy of Hope text TSUNAMI or SUNAMI to 50555 or International Medical Corps text MED to 80888.

Also for those with family in Japan, Verizon is doing their part to ensure that you can make contact without having to worry about the cost of the phone call. Calls and texts to Japan made before April 10 won't be charged.

For others that are wanting to help out, there is always the possibility of gathering donations or through volunteering your time. The American Red Cross is always in need of volunteers.

Volunteering may not seem like a major contribution, especially thousands of miles away from the devastation, but it doesn't mean that it's not important. There are always local organizations that could serve a bigger purpose if given the man-power.

There is never a donation classified as too small. As long as you giving you are making a difference.

Remember, helping out doesn't have to cost a lot. Even the smallest gesture can make the biggest impact.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we get on the good side, Lord, and get on Your side.

Amen

Sometimes happiness will come through despite pain

Wearing your feelings on your sleeve is a two-fold problem:

you take the chance and possibly get hurt or you don't and take the chance of getting hurt. Either way, whatever the outcome, it is your fault. Nothing in life is guaranteed, but one thing is for sure: you won't ever know unless you let yourself experience it.

Wearing your feelings on your sleeve may open yourself up to the possibility of getting hurt, but it also opens up the opportunity to true happiness. In any situation where feelings are involved there is the opportunity of getting hurt, but the real question is – is the possibility of pain worth the happiness that could be felt.

Is it conceivable to not take a chance and avoid the pain and miss out on the chance of something great? The true answer lies within yourself.

It is easy to listen to those who will tell you that the choice is wrong or point out the million and one things that just don't seem right. There is always someone to point out the bad. However, without the risk is there really a point to happiness?

Not taking a risk means that no pain will ever be felt, but it also means that happiness can't be reached. Life is a gamble and nothing is certain, but are the odds really all that bad. No matter which way you play it, you have a 50/50 chance; either happiness will come out of it or it won't. Then again, even if for some reason it doesn't work and happily ever after isn't the outcome, at least you have the opportunity to make memories. You have the opportunity to experience something that you may never have otherwise. It could even bring a new sense of understanding or fresh point of view.

If there is no risk then there is no point.

It may seem easier to hide behind a wall and steer clear of anything and everything that could cause pain, but in doing so you are limiting yourself. The wall that you build may seem invisible, but it's not as invisible as you may think.

When you build that wall you are not only closing off yourself from the world, but the world from you. Walls are built to keep things out and that is exactly what they do. The thing that people often forget is that walls are not prejudice, they will serve their purpose with anything that comes their way; the bad may be kept out, but the good has no hope of getting in.

When you have a wall up, life is perceived in a different way. The people you meet will find it hard to read you and often times find it difficult to communicate with you. The wall is too busy blocking your view of what is out there. It's hard to see over. Usually, the wall that you put up to protect you ends up destroying your possibilities.

Thankfully, even the strongest wall has its cracks. There are those certain people that can see those cracks and then there are those that might even try to crack them even more.

Building these walls limit the opportunities of happiness, love, and life. A person can only pretend for so long that they are not lonely and that they don't need anyone, but eventually it becomes too much.

It may be a dangerous thing to wear your feelings on your sleeve, but it's something that I do and will continue to do. For many years I kept my feelings hidden because I was afraid of the pain, but then I realized not only was I not feeling the pain, but I wasn't feeling the happiness. I was more alone than I wanted to be. Even though I was keeping others from hurting me, I was hurting myself.

I hurt myself by not allowing myself to feel anything. I hurt

myself by not letting others get to know me. I rejected them before they had the chance to reject me. There is no telling how many people I pushed away that could have been important. I was so set on keeping the pain from others out that eventually, I ended up causing myself pain. The seclusion kept out other people, just as I had planned, but eventually the pain of loneliness became too much. I refuse to do that any longer. I may get hurt and my heart may get broken, but the joy I experience in between is definitely worth it for me.

I finally realized that the loneliness was the cause of my own doing. It wasn't going to go away until I took away the wall. As long as that wall was up that special someone would never find me; those important friends would never see me for me and life would never be complete. Something special would never be able to enter my life until I decided to let it.

The past may contain many moments of hurt, but there are far less fewer regrets in those moments. I've had numerous glimpses that have given me hope and I know that in the end I'm that much better for letting the wall come down.

Never let fear stop you. Take a chance and wear your feelings on your sleeve. If nothing else you experience happiness for a little while and you are that much closer to finding something amazing.

Take it from someone that's been there...I did.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com



Airport security has become more show than security

Airport security insisted upon rifling through my bag and emptying out my toiletry case because I had committed the crime of traveling with shaving cream, deodorant and toothpaste. Apparently, these items must be stored in a clear plastic bag – something that had not been mentioned or noticed – on the three previous flights I had been on last week.

A silly policy designed to make people feel safe without actually protecting them, the plastic bag ruse exists ostensibly so as your bag passes through security, the person looking at the x-ray can see that it's just toothpaste. By violating the rule, I caused them the added inconvenience of having to open my bag and verify its harmless contents.

Once they have opened my case and spread out my belongings for various strangers to see, you would think that the security folks would simply verify that they were not, in fact, explosives and simply pack them back up. Instead, I was given the option of abandoning my items or be-

ing escorted to the other side of security where an airline would provide a plastic bag for me.

The entire point of the plastic bag – to allow them to see my items – had been rendered moot by security actually handling my stuff, but apparently my plane, neigh, the entire airport, would be in danger were I to simply put them back in my toiletry bag and head on my way. So, instead, I was forced to wait in line again and go through the entire scam again, taking my shoes off, taking my laptop out of my bag and, of course, having them once again search my bag.

Ultimately, I was allowed through security despite the fact that my deodorant violated some sort of size rule. Apparently the rules apply in some security lines and not in others, a fact that would bother me if I thought that TSA authority checks actually made planes safer.

Security checks make plane passengers feel safer. If they actually made us safer, one would consider that three ounces of plastic explosive could easily be made to look like deodorant, toothpaste or pretty much any small liquid. If these rules were actually about safety one would at least question why I can't bring shaving cream through security, but my eight-pack of three-bladed disposable razors

was perfectly permissible.

I was also not questioned about my EZ-Pass, my GPS or the container of chapped lip stuff I had in my pocket. The rules exist largely because rules and the enforcement of those rules make people feel as if the government (which must know best) is actually doing something (it isn't).

We should make it reasonably difficult for terrorists and other wackos to get on a plane with a weapon. That said, if someone wants to blow up a plane badly enough, making regular folks put their toiletries in a clear plastic bag hardly solves the problem.

Putting people through metal detectors and running our bags through X-Rays screens out the garden variety villain. These tactics, however, won't stop a determined bad guy because short of making people fly naked without luggage there's no way to guarantee safety. And, since we can't guarantee safety, I'd prefer to travel with full-size shaving cream in my toiletry bag.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in over 100 papers weekly. He can be reached at dan@notastep.com or you can see his archive at dbkline.com. You can listen to his podcast or buy his upcoming book, *Worst Ideas Ever*, at WorstIdeasEver.com.

Guns on campus gets first hearing in Texas House

AUSTIN (AP) — On her first day of class, 51-year-old Marie Kilian was talking with other students at Sam Houston State University about what to do if a gunman walked in and started shooting.

Run. Tackle him. Throw textbooks. But all of those ideas seemed unlikely to get her killed. "I am better able to protect myself in a Walmart than a college classroom," Kilian said Wednesday, testifying in support of legislation that would allow concealed handgun license holders to carry their weapons in college classrooms and buildings across Texas.

As a license holder, Kilian said she would have another alternative: shoot back.

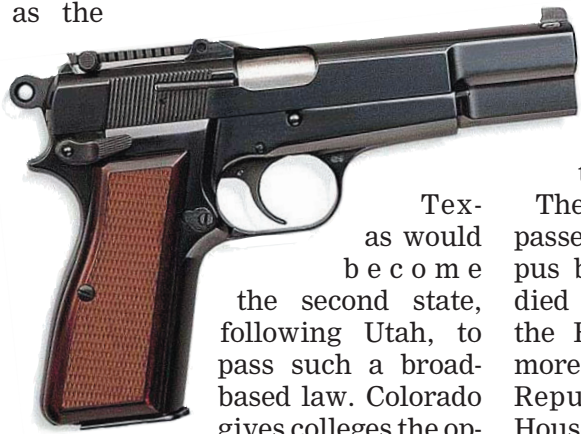
Kilian was among dozens of students, faculty and administrators who testified before the bill was approved late Wednesday by the state House Homeland Security and Public Safety committee. Split along party lines, Republicans

backed the measure on a 5-3 vote.

Supporters consider it a key gun-rights, self-defense measure to prevent violent campus crime such as the Virginia Tech shootings in 2007. Opponents, including some university and law enforcement officials, worry that students and faculty would live in fear of classmates and colleagues, not knowing who might pull a gun over a poor grade, broken romance or drunken argument.

Texas has become a prime battleground for a national campaign to open campuses to firearms because of its gun culture and the size of its university system, which includes 38 public colleges and more than 500,000 students. Similar firearms mea-

sures have been proposed in about a dozen other states, but all have faced strong opposition, especially from college leaders.



Texas would become the second state, following Utah, to pass such a broad-based law. Colorado gives colleges the option and several have allowed handguns.

Former Texas A&M University student Adrienne O'Reilly said she was assaulted by a fellow student a couple of blocks off campus. At 5-foot-2, 115-pounds, "a handgun is the only thing that gives me a fighting chance," said O'Reilly, who now has a handgun license.

"One wrong word could set off a temper," countered Mickey Gressman, a student at Colin County Commu-

nity College. "A lot of people say it's for self-defense. Let's just fire campus police if they're not doing their jobs and everybody has to start arming themselves. ... More guns is going to cause a lot more trouble."

The Texas Senate passed a guns-on-campus bill in 2009, but it died without a vote in the House. This year, more than half of the Republican-controlled House's 150 members have signed on as co-authors of one of the bills, and the issue is supported by Republican Gov. Rick Perry.

The chancellor of the University of Texas system recently wrote Perry and state lawmakers, saying school administrators do not want guns on campus, fearing a rise in suicides and violent confrontations.

Alice Tripp, lobbyist for the Texas State Rifle Association, which supports the bill, called college campuses "predator magnets" where violent crimes such as rape are underreported.

Until the Virginia Tech killings, the worst college shooting in U.S. history occurred at the University of Texas at Austin, when sniper

Charles Whitman went to the top of the administration tower in 1966 and killed 16 people and wounded dozens. Last September, a University of Texas student fired shots from an assault rifle on a campus street before killing himself.

Texas enacted its concealed handgun law in 1995, allowing people 21 or older to carry weapons if they pass a training course and a background check. The state had 461,724 license holders as of Dec. 31, according to the state Department of Public Safety.

Rep. Joe Driver, R-Garland, author of House Bill 750, said the issue applies mostly to faculty, staff and parents because most students would be too young to qualify for a license. In 2010, only 7 percent of license holders in 2010 were between the ages of 21 and 25, Driver said.

"We're not talking about every student getting a gun," Driver said. "I did not file this bill so (license holders) could be heroes in mass-shooting situations. I filed this bill to allow (them) to be able to protect themselves."

But some lawmakers on the committee noted that students are staying in school longer and getting older, raising the

percentage of students who would qualify for licenses.

A University of Texas at Austin student, Katherine Merriweather, said she was nearby when a student carried an assault rifle into a campus library and killed himself last year. The gunman was the only casualty.

"If another student had opened fire as a vigilante, I think the matter would have been worse with so many students in the library," she said.

Austin Police Chief Art Acevedo testified against the bill, citing the potential for chaos if someone does begin shooting on campus.

"When you think about 21-year-olds, responsibility is the last thing they are thinking about," Acevedo said. "Common sense says to me that guns on campus, like in bars, is not the right environment."

Driver's bill would keep a ban on guns in bars, churches, hospitals or athletic events on college campuses. It also would apply to private universities, but gives give them the option to ban concealed handguns after consulting with students, faculty, parents and law enforcement.

Defense tries to save dad convicted of killing son

GALVESTON (AP) — Attorneys for a Southeast Texas man convicted of capital murder in the 2008 death of his 3-month-old son are trying to demonstrate he was the product of an extremely dysfunctional family background rife with neglect and sexual abuse in an effort to spare him from the Texas death chamber.

Galveston County prosecutors are seeking the death penalty against Travis James Mullis, 24, of Alvin for the sexual assault and stomping death of his son, Alijah. Jurors' only alternative is life imprisonment without parole.

Mullis was convicted Friday. Passers-by found the child's diaper-clad body on a remote berm near Galveston's East Beach. Mullis had fled to the East Coast, where he surrendered to Philadelphia police.

Defense attorneys began calling witnesses Wednesday, and they were expected to pres-

ent more witnesses on Thursday. Court-appointed defense investigator Gina Vitale told jurors Wednesday that Mullis' mother neglected him, visiting him only 10 times in the first 71 days after his birth, until he was adopted upon her death by her half-brother. That uncle later went to prison for sexually molesting Mullis when he was 6.

Vitale told the jury of five men and seven women that from the age of 4, Travis Mullis was treated for homicidal and suicidal behavior. By the time the molestation by his uncle was discovered, Vitale was 13 and sent to a Maryland school for troubled juveniles until he was 17.

Before the defense began presenting its case, prosecution witnesses completed their portrait of Mullis as a twisted, violent man.

Police have said Mullis admitted to stomping on his son's head to stop the

baby from crying. Test samples taken from the baby's body showed the child had been sexually assaulted first, Texas Department of Public Safety DNA analyst Tanya Dean testified.

Prosecutors showed jurors pictures Tuesday of jail cell writings that included a list of the initials of 62 people they said Mullis felt had mistreated him. Galveston County jail officials also told of a suicide attempt Mullis said was bred of desperation to get out of jail.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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Question: Don't most people die at home?
Answer: 70-80% of Americans die in facilities. Hospice patients get their wish to die at home.

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

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

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

Question: Isn't Hospice only for Cancer patients?
Answer: Hospice services are available for anyone who has a life-limiting illness.

Question: Is Hospice care expensive?
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HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring catcher Angelina Castillo catches a pop fly off the bat of San Angelo Central's Mikayla Mullen, right, during their game Wednesday. The Lady Steers defeated Central, 3-1.

Back to basics

Lady Steers stress pitching, defense in win over Central

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Big Spring High School Softball Coach John Sparks said the Lady Steers will have to rely on pitching and defense for any success they have this season.

A prime example of Sparks' comments came Wednesday. Big Spring managed only three hits against San Angelo Central, but received sterling performances from pitcher Logan Yarbar in particular and the Lady Steers' defense in general en route to a 3-1 victory over San Angelo Central at the BSHS Softball Complex.

Yarbar's performance wasn't particularly overpowering, but she was able to keep the Lady Bobcats off-balance by mixing her pitch speeds and locations. And, except for a sixth-inning hiccup, Big Spring's defense was immaculate.

For the team's offense, meanwhile, the word of the day was "opportunistic." The Lady Steers took advantage of almost every gift San Angelo gave them, and mixed in a couple of timely hits to provide all the scoring Yarbar and the defense needed.

The team's effort was all part of the plan, Sparks said.

"They stayed focused the

whole game," he said. "That's what we've been working on ... We still need to work on our confidence at the plate. If we can do that, we'll be OK."

For her part, Yarbar was happy to get the win, but believed she could have done more in the pitching circle.

"I told the girls that what I was most proud of was their focus. We had those two errors (in the sixth inning, which led to San Angelo's only run), but they didn't let that get them down."

John Sparks
BSHS coach

"I don't think I did all that well," she said. "I only had two strikeouts and I usually have more. I thought I pitched good, but I didn't get the strikeouts ... but the defense played really well. I feel a lot more confident out there when they're on their game."

The pitching-defense combination kept Central off-balance — the Lady Steers didn't

allow a runner past second base through five innings — until the offense found its bearings in the middle innings.

Big Spring scored its first run in the fourth inning. Angelina Castillo led off with a strikeout, but a passed ball allowed her to advance to first base. Castillo then advanced to second on consecutive wild pitches from San Angelo's Ashley Segler.

The Lady Steers increased their lead to 3-0 in the fifth in-

See **BASICS**, Page 12

UTSA, VCU move on

Teams advance to 2nd round of NCAA tourney

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — The individual best performance in the "First Four" came from a guard who insists he's in a shooting slump.

Melvin Johnson III scored a career-high 29 points during Texas-San Antonio's 70-61 win over Alabama State. He outscored the Hornets 25-21 in the first half, hitting one open shot after another while wearing bright orange shoes with "SWISH" scribbled on the sides.

"It seems like the last four or five games, I can't make a shot," Johnson said. "I have 'SWISH' on the side of my shoes because I used to make shots. I might have to black it out for now."

Might as well leave it there for the trip to Cleveland, where the Roadrunners (20-13) will play top-seeded Ohio State on Friday fresh off the first NCAA tournament win in their school's history.

"If it gets any bigger than this, I'm not sure I'll be able to handle it," freshman Jeromie Hill said.

Virginia Commonwealth sure proved it could handle it.

After hearing almost every basketball expert question whether they had any business being in the field of 68, the Rams went out and made their case on the court.

"You guys think Jay Bilas watched that game?" VCU coach Shaka Smart said with a wide grin, referring to the ESPN analyst, after the Rams beat fellow 11-seed Southern California 59-46 in a bruising, physical, foul-plagued nightcap.

Jamie Skeen scored 16 points and VCU more than held its own inside against the bigger and stronger Trojans.

"It feels really good because a lot of people were doubting us," Skeen said. "We were able to come out and prove some people

wrong. Instead of just talking about it, we just came out here and played."

The Rams (24-11) pulled away down the stretch to set up a game against sixth-seeded Georgetown (21-10) on Friday in Chicago.

Joey Rodriguez had eight points and five assists for VCU, but was one of many standouts for the Rams.

Even though the Trojans started two 6-foot-10 wide bodies inside, the Rams held a 40-31 edge in rebounding.

"We really followed the game plan in terms of what we were trying to do to stop USC," said Smart, the second-youngest coach in the NCAA field at 33. "They obviously have a lot of weapons. Our guys did a really good job for 40 minutes on the defensive end. This is as good as we've played defensively. Early

See **NCAA**, Page 12

Sports calendar

TODAY

Baseball — Big Spring at Seminole, 7 p.m.
Softball — Howard College vs. Illinois Central at Coolidge, Ariz., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

FRIDAY

Baseball — Coahoma at Slaton, 7 p.m.
Baseball — Denver City at Forsan, 4 p.m.
Softball — Howard College at Central Arizona CC tournament.
Softball — Sweetwater at Big Spring, 7 p.m. (approx.)
Softball — Howard College at Central Arizona CC tournament.
Track — Big Spring girls at Bluebonnet Relays, Brownwood.

SATURDAY

Track — Big Spring girls at Bluebonnet Relays, Brownwood.
Softball — Howard College at Central Arizona CC tournament.

To submit a calendar item, call 263-7331, ext. 235.

In brief

Ragball tourney in Snyder

SNYDER — The St. Elizabeth Youth Group will host a ragball tournament here March 25-26.

Registration fee is \$10 per person with a maximum of 15 people per team.

All proceeds benefit the youth group, which is raising money to finance a trip to a World Youth Day event in Spain.

For more information, call Melissa Chavez at (325) 207-0016.

Mavs stage huge rally to down G-State

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks are moving up in the Western Conference, just in time to make another Texas-sized showdown even bigger.

Dirk Nowitzki had 34 points and 13 rebounds, and the Mavericks rallied from 18 points down to beat the Golden State Warriors 112-106 on Wednesday night.

The victory moved Dallas (48-20) into a tie with the Los Angeles Lakers for second place in the Western Conference, setting up a home matchup against the NBA-best and rival San Antonio Spurs on

Friday night.

"It's tremendous. Everybody's going to talk about how it's just another game. Not for this team. Not for us," Mavericks forward Jason Terry said of the Spurs. "We've struggled since the break against teams that are right there in contention for championships. It's a measuring stick for us. How far have we come? They're playing great."

"So it's going to be on us to see what we can do."

Terry finished with 19 points and Rodrigue Beaubois had 18 to help the Mavericks score 15 consecutive points in the

fourth quarter and pull away for the victory.

Monta Ellis had 26 points and 11 assists, and David Lee scored 22 in another disappointing defeat for a Warriors team seemingly headed for the draft lottery. They built a big lead with an incredible shooting start but couldn't keep pace late.

"It was tough. We should have had that game. I'll take the blame," Ellis said. "Made some mistakes at the end, turned the ball over, I didn't get the shots that I needed to. I waited too late to get everyone involved."

Dallas came back from big deficits over and over in this one.

It was big turnaround from a night earlier, when the Mavericks lost at Portland despite shooting 59 percent from the floor. They withstood everything Golden State threw at them offensively, including one final stand.

Ellis and Dorell Wright hit consecutive 3-pointers to put the Warriors ahead 96-89 about halfway through the fourth quarter. Then it all fell apart.

See **MAVS**, Page 12

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Garage Sales

BIG INSIDE Sale: 305 West 6th, Couch & love seat with built in recliners, tires, lots of misc. Friday & Saturday 9-2. No Early Birds.

ESTATE SALE: Friday and Saturday 10am-4pm (NO EARLY BIRDS), 3607 Connelly Street. Everything Must Go!!! CASH ONLY.

YARD SALE

Friday & Saturday 8am-12pm. More added on Saturday. Plus size clothing. Too much to mention. 4001 Wasson Rd.

GARAGE SALE: 1809 Lancaster, Saturday 8:00-5:00. Lots of great stuff. No Early Birds Please.

GARAGE SALE: 2408 Robb Drive (Kentwood area), Saturday 8-2. Cleaning out storage building. Lots of kids items, books, toys, home deco.. Too much to list. Good items. Come See.

GARAGE SALE: 2707 Central, Saturday 8am-? Futon, TV, clothing, games & more..

GARAGE SALE: 815 Angela Rd (Tubbs Addition), Saturday 8:00-4:00.

GARAGE SALE: Friday and Saturday 8:00am-??????? 1307 Colby Ave. Books, DVD's, clothes, life jackets, sleeping bags, golf bag, picture frames, 2 wedding dresses, toys.... a little bit of everything! Come see us!

HUGE YARD Sale: 102 Carey off West 3rd Street. Lots of misc. Friday & Saturday 8-?

INSIDE SALE: 604 West 16th, Friday Only 9:00-? Furniture, knick-knacks, TV's, and lots of goodies.

MOVING/ MULTI Family Sale: 2706 Cindy Lane, Saturday 7-12. Twin size bed with mattress and box springs, 2 head boards twin size, night stand, dining room table with chairs, kids toys, clothing, home deco. and lots more.

MULTI FAMILY Garage Sale: 505 South First Street (Coahoma), Saturday 8-? Lots of misc. items.

SATURDAY ONLY!! 8am-Noon. AAA Mini Storage (FM 700). Need to empty a full storage unit!! Seasonal & home decor, kitchen items, and tons of misc.

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CHILD CAREGIVER-

6:30p.m. until 9:00p.m. at Jack & Jill Child Care. Later hours also available. Apply in person at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.

CITY OF BIG SPRING

Utility Service Worker

Communications Officer

Water Treatment-Plant Operator

Animal Control Warden

Golf Course Assistant-Superintendent

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

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*1 year verifiable tractor/trailer experience

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Help Wanted

CROSSROADS HOSPICE is hiring for the position of CNA - PRN. Bilingual preferred. Come by 421 South Main Street to apply. Ask for Sheryl Spinks. (EOE)

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Professional Transportation, Inc. is seeking local drivers for 7-passenger mini-vans in the Big Spring, TX area. Drug screen, driving record and criminal background check required. 1-800-471-2440. Reference 237.

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Find out why our average length of driver employment is 9 years. Reagent Chemical, a family owned company is dedicated to providing great service to our customers and taking care of our employees, is currently hiring professional drivers in Stanton, Texas. Requirements include Class A CDL with Tank and Hazmat endorsements. Minimum of 2 years driving or 1 year tanker experience. Paid weekly by check or direct deposit. Benefits include family health & dental insurance with no premium contribution by the employee. 401K with company match plus profit sharing. Company paid life insurance, short and long term disability, additional life and disability is available thru group coverage. Up to 10 days vacation starting first year plus 10 paid holidays. Uniforms provided. Call 432-458-3446 or 432-661-4079.

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Card Company needs part-time Greeting Card Clerk. For the Big Spring Area. Must have on phone and transportation. Send resume to agmerchandisers@yahoo.com

NATURAL GAS

processing plant NE of Big Spring, TX is seeking experienced high-speed engine and compressor mechanic. Salary DOE. Excellent benefits. Paid vacation, 401k and paid medical insurance. Send resume to Supervisor, 11703 E FM 846, or fax 432-399-4290 or email mwcol@wtggas.com



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Help Wanted

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THE COLORADO

River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following position.

Operations Maintenance Technician

Responsible for maintaining the District's raw water pipelines, pump stations, and wells in the Big Spring Area. Entry to Intermediate level position. CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave. Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432) 267-6341 or our website www.crmwd.org

POLLARD CHEVROLET

is taking applications for experienced Painter. Must have on tools. Benefits: Health & Life insurance, 401(k). Apply in person- 1501 East 4th.

PUMP REPAIR

person needed for D & W Pump Company. Must be able to lift 70 lbs. Drug free, high school diploma or GED, good driving record, background check. Mail resume or fax to 432-267-5421, PO Box 1710 Big Spring TX,79721. Call 432-267-5422.

RUSTY'S OILFIELD

Service In Stanton has immediate openings for CDL Driver, roustabout pushers and helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W 120 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

SECURITY OFFICERS

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Physical Requirements:

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

Other Requirements:

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

Experience Requirements:

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St. Patrick's Day fun: Be a little bit Irish today



Mix It Up
With Jenny
Jenny Harper

It's true - the kitchen is the heart of the home. Ever notice how people always gather there? Whether baking treats, making dinner or spending time with family and friends, the kitchen is my favorite place to be.

Since my day job is Consumer Test Kitchen Project Manager for the Nestlé Test Kitchens, you can bet I love to stir things up. This column lets me pass along to you some of my best recipes, tips and baking secrets.



St. Patrick's Day Fun

(Family Features) — Everybody's a little bit Irish on St. Patrick's Day, right? This year, join in the fun of celebrating all things Irish with these simple ideas:

- For the table, have the kids make some shamrock napkin rings and Irish flag placemats out of construction paper. Sprinkle some green confetti on the table and use a potted shamrock plant as a centerpiece.
- Have a traditional Irish dinner with Irish Stew and Soda Bread, a Shepherd's Pie or, of course, Corned Beef and Cabbage.
- For dessert try this festive "Lucky You" Mint Pie. The creamy

combination of mint and chocolate is so good that it's bound to become the newest tradition around your St. Patrick's Day table.

- Write out some traditional Irish blessings on slips of paper and tuck them into treat bags of mini shamrock cookies to send home with your guests. Here's one that I like:

May you always have walls for the winds, a roof for the rain, tea beside the fire, laughter to cheer you, those you love near you, and all your heart might desire.

For more ways to cook up some Irish fun, visit www.VeryBestBaking.com.

"Lucky You" Mint Pie

Prep Time: 15 minutes
Chilling Time: 2 hours 20 minutes
Makes 8 servings

- 1 cup (6 ounces) Nestlé Toll House Semi-Sweet Chocolate Mini Morsels
- 1 can (12 fluid ounces) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated



courtesy of Nestlé

- Milk, divided
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 prepared 9-inch (6 ounces) chocolate crumb crust
- 1 pkg. (3.4 ounces) vanilla instant pudding and pie filling mix
- 1/3 cup water
- 1 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 3 to 4 drops green food coloring (optional)
- 1 container (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed, divided
- Additional Nestlé Toll House Semi-Sweet Chocolate Mini Morsels, fresh mint sprigs (optional)

MICROWAVE 1 cup morsels and 1/3 cup

evaporated milk in medium, uncovered, microwave-safe bowl on HIGH (100 percent) power for 45 seconds; stir until smooth. Stir in butter; pour into crust. Refrigerate for 20 minutes or until cool to the touch.

MEANWHILE, BEAT remaining evaporated milk, pudding mix, water, peppermint extract and 3 drops food coloring in medium bowl until combined. Gently stir in 2 cups whipped topping and additional drop of food coloring, if desired. Spoon over chocolate layer.

REFRIGERATE for 2 hours or until set. Sprinkle with addition-

al morsels. Spoon remaining whipped topping in center of pie. Garnish with fresh mint.

Nutrition Information per serving: 400 calories; 180 calories from fat; 21g total fat; 13g saturated fat; 1.5g trans fat; 20mg cholesterol; 280mg sodium; 50g carbohydrate; 2g fiber; 36g sugars; 5g protein; 0% DV vitamin A; 0% DV vitamin C; 10% DV calcium; 6% DV iron

Jenny Harper is Consumer Test Kitchen Project Manager for the Nestlé Test Kitchens and VeryBestBaking.com.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Some believe that Saint Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland. Others believe the "snakes" were actually druids. Regardless of your beliefs, the revelry of the day will be a show under the Leo moon.

Take turns being the audience and the performer. The moon transiting into Virgo will have a sobering effect, boding well for temperance.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You won't say some of the things you are thinking, and later you'll be happy you were so judicious. You'll earn the trust of

someone who does not give it very often.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you take time for planning, you'll make a perfect plan. It's perfect because it's so flexible, allowing you to follow your whims and still accomplish what you set out to do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Because you are such a fantastic listener, you will understand even those who communicate poorly. You will find a way to either help them or profit from them — or both.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today is a puzzle that can only be solved through trial and error. You will not be able to figure out this maze by thinking ahead. It must be managed through experience.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are affectionate toward loved ones. Others are secretly envious of the attention you lavish on your nearest and dearest and may even make a play for your interest.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There is an element of intrigue, or perhaps even scandal, to the day's events. There are always two sides to a story, and you can relate to both people involved, which makes it all the more interesting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Status is important to you, but it's not your highest priority, not by a long shot. You're more concerned with the welfare of your loved ones than anything else, which is reflected in today's activities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be in a position to appoint another person. This may not be official, and yet it is undeniably so. When you give the word, another person is either "in" or "out."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will get the apology you have wanted to hear for some time now. Though this makes you feel better, ultimately, it will be deeds and not words that will bring this situation back into balance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your perspective may be off. Look at the big picture because it's much lovelier than the small one. There's too much focus being given to a minor, ugly detail that really doesn't matter.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll overturn a verdict you made long ago. Things are different from what you thought they were, and the more you experience the better you understand the difficulties of your past.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have the ability to control your emotions intelligently. Those who have less control will envy you. Tonight brings a romantic situation in which you'll play your cards exactly right.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 17). You don't need to change anything, and yet you will change things this year and have a terrific time in the process. You'll be a huge influence on others in April and could even be the

reason someone turns his or her life around. There's a memorable wedding in May. June features a reunion. October brings justice. Leo and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 14, 24, 28 and 18.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Soulful Pisces Adam Levine is known for his sensual dance moves and smooth sound. He's also famous for dating models, and he's been known to drop his clothes for the camera to promote cancer awareness. The Maroon 5 singer/songwriter and guitarist was born under a sultry Scorpio moon, and his natal Uranus was in the intense realm of Scorpio, as well.

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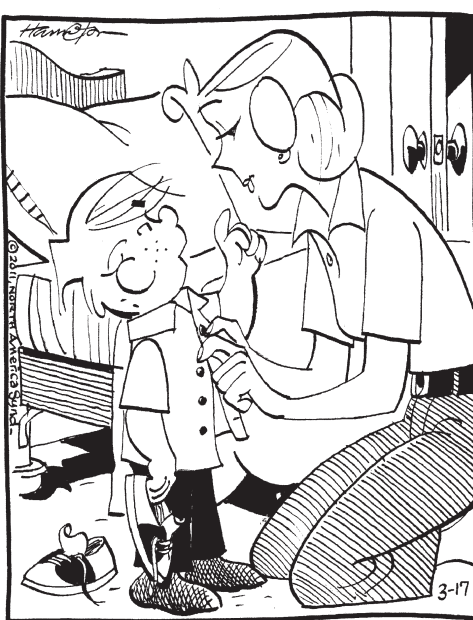
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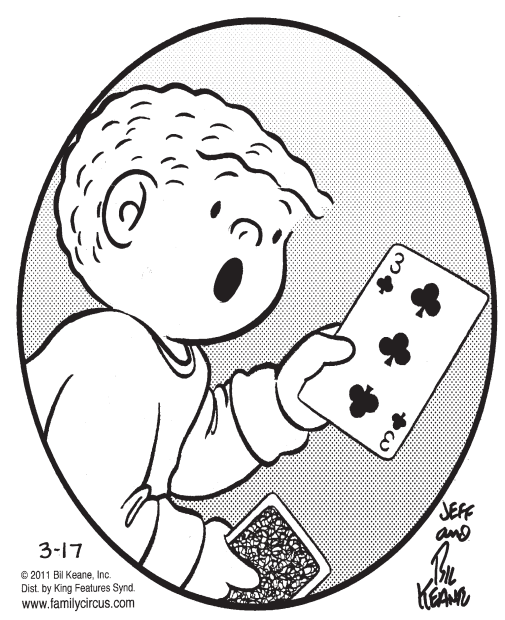
TV schedule table with columns for station (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWTT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and program details including time, title, and description.

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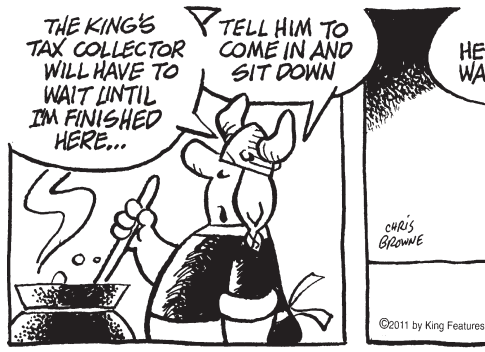
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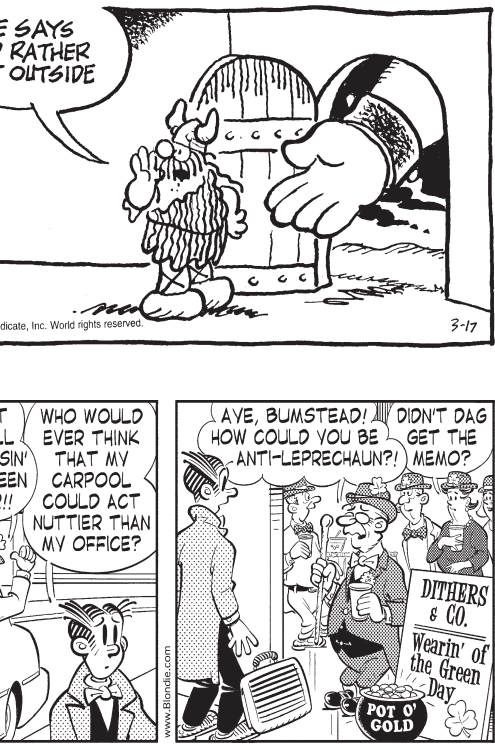
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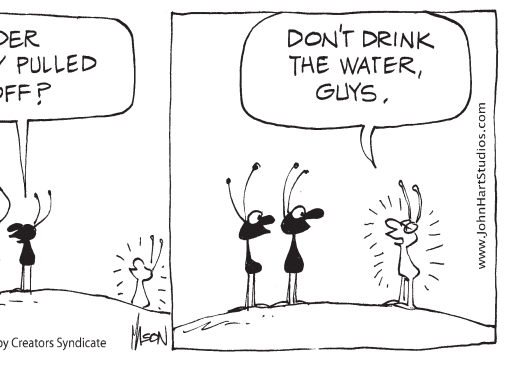
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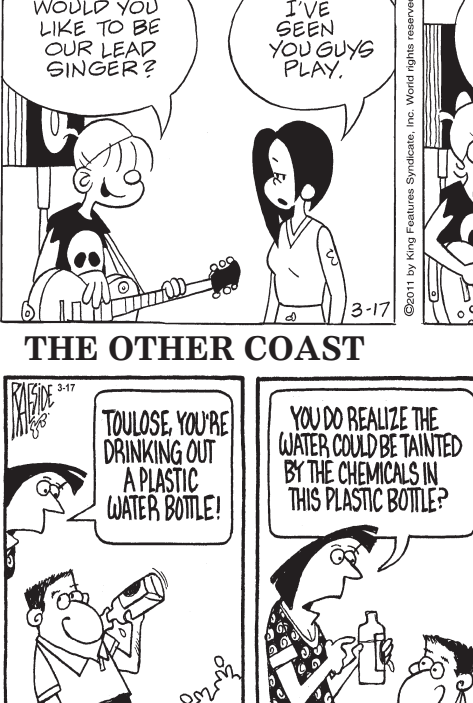
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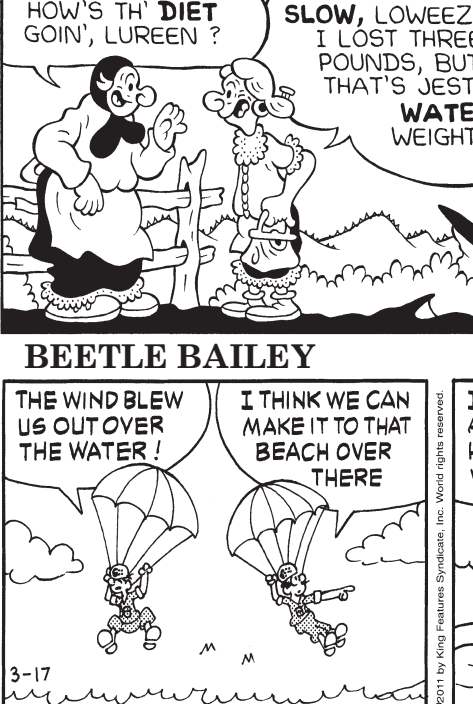
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This Date In History

Today is Thursday, March 17, the 76th day of 2011. There are 289 days left in the year. This is St. Patrick's Day.

Today's Highlight in History: On March 17, 1861, Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed the first king of a united Italy. On this date: In A.D. 461 (or A.D. 493, depending on sources), St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, died in Saul. In 1762, New York's first St. Patrick's Day parade took place. In 1776, British forces evacuated Boston during the Revolutionary War. In 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt first likened crusading journalists to a man with "the muckrake in his hand" in a speech to the Gridiron Club in Washington. In 1910, the Camp Fire Girls organization was formed. (It was formally presented to the public on this date two years later.)

The U.S. National Museum, a precursor to the National Museum of Natural History, opened in Washington, D.C. In 1941, the National Gallery of Art opened in Washington, D.C. In 1950, scientists at the University of California at Berkeley announced they had created a new radioactive element, "californium." In 1966, a U.S. midget submarine located a missing hydrogen bomb which had fallen from an American bomber into the Mediterranean off Spain. In 1970, the United States cast its first veto in the U.N. Security Council. (The U.S. killed a resolution that would have condemned Britain for failure to use force to overthrow the white-ruled government of Rhodesia.) In 1992, 29 people were killed in the truck bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Today's Birthdays: Jazz/New Age musician Paul Horn is 81. The former national chairwoman of the NAACP, Myrlie Evers-Williams, is 78. Rock musician Paul Kantner is 70. Singer-songwriter Jim Weatherly is 68.

Singer-songwriter John Sebastian (The Lovin' Spoonful) is 67. Rock musician Harold Brown (War; Lowrider Band) is 65. Actor Patrick Duffy is 62. Actor Kurt Russell is 60. Country singer Susie Allanson is 59. Actress Lesley-Anne Down is 57. Country singer Paul Overstreet is 56. Actor Gary Sinise is 56. Actor Christian Clemenson is 53. Former basketball and baseball player Danny Ainge is 52. Actress Vicki Lewis is 51. Actor Casey Siemaszko (sheh-MA-zshko) is 50. Writer-director Rob Sitch is 49. Actor Rob Lowe is 47. Rock singer Billy Corgan is 44. Rock musician Van Conner (Screaming Trees) is 44.

Crossword puzzle grid with letters filled in.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 Over, 6 Relaxation locations, 10 Biting, as wit, 14 Glove material, 15 Not at all clear, 16 Cut back, 17 Prefix meaning "culture", 18 Memo abbr., 19 Related, 20 Quick reference, 22 Musical marking, 23 Brightened, 24 Online activity, 26 Mystery! network, 29 Buys for hibachis, 32 Stage success, 36 Give __ (care), 38 Supporting, 39 Break of a sort, 40 Source of comfort, 43 Fossil source, 44 CPO's assent, 45 Trident feature, 46 Skillful, 47 Gets away, 49 Show agreement, 50 Mitigate, 52 Invigorate, with "up", 54 Abrasive material, 57 Incongruous miscellany, 63 Rich supply, 64 Talented, 65 Loosen, in a way, 66 Olympic blade, 67 Finishes with, 68 Cybermemo, 69 Around the corner, 70 Fairly quick pace, 71 Harplike instruments. DOWN: 1 30 Rock name, 2 Big loss, so to speak, 3 Will-__-wisp, 4 Easily bribed, 5 Strikingly strange, 6 Onetime Mideast ruler, 7 Top of the head, 8 Montezuma's subjects, 9 Electronic instrument, familiarly, 10 The Odd Couple setting, 11 Soap unit, 12 Bearded bloom, 13 Bit of progress, 21 "Cut that out!", 25 About 30% of the world's land, 26 Source of carbs, 27 Toasting candidate, 28 "__ bleu!", 30 Works on walls, 31 Faithful, 33 Invite to enter, 34 Courtroom worker, 35 Extremely unpopular, 37 Jim Henson, notably, 39 Brother of Bashful, 41 Poet Dove, 42 "See ya!", 47 Show Boat author, 48 Follow-up film, 51 Barely enough, 53 Utilizing wordplay, 54 Secluded valley, 55 Climbing gear, 56 Intangible spark, 58 Voice range, 59 Enthusiasm, 60 "Like __ not . . .", 61 Lo-cal, 62 Summer tops.

COVER STORY by Billie Truitt Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-62.

NCAA tournament notebook

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Riding back from the Mountain West Conference tournament last week, San Diego State's players learned coach Steve Fisher had a copy of the new documentary about Michigan's famous Fab Five recruiting class.

Most of them didn't know much about the team Fisher coached to consecutive national title games, so they asked him to pop it in on the bus trip home.

"They enjoyed it," Fisher said Wednesday. "I do think that they heard a lot about it, but most of them weren't born when the Fab Five were playing. But they still had fun with it. They ribbed both myself and (assistant coach) Brian Dutcher about how we looked then and how we look now, and all that stuff. So it was fun."

The 1991 freshman class of Chris Webber, Jalen Rose, Juwan Howard, Ray Jackson and Jimmy King was one of

the most heralded in college basketball history and had a good run in Ann Arbor.

The fivesome's legacy, though, was overshadowed by scandal after prosecutors said now-deceased booster Ed Martin gave Webber, Maurice Taylor, Robert Traylor and Louis Bullock more than \$600,000 while they were student-athletes.

The film, produced by Rose and aired on ESPN, looked at what happened to the Fab Five both on and off the court.

Fisher said he got a copy of the movie last week before playing in the MWC tournament and had no problem with it.

"I smiled. It brought back a lot of memories," Fisher said Thursday. "I enjoyed it. I thought it was a good portrayal of who they were, what happened."

As for his players, it was a nice insight into the life Fisher had before arriving in San Diego.

"Before the movie, I didn't know too much about the Fab Five," San Diego State's Kawhi Leonard said. "I just knew they were all freshmen and they went far in a tournament. But after seeing the movie, I learned a lot about them and Coach Fisher, and it's inspirational for us on the team."

BIG EAST BLUSTER: Yes, you go through a lot when you play in the Big East.

Does it translate to success in the NCAA tournament?

Louisville coach Rick Pitino isn't so sure.

"It's not as significant as you may think," he said.

Over the last four seasons, the Big East has gone 43-29 during March Madness and placed four teams in the Final Four.

This year, the conference placed a record 11 teams in the tournament, a sign as much about the conference's strength as its size. It means

there's a pretty good chance that any Big East team will have seen at least some version of its NCAA opponent at some point during conference play.

"The team we're playing reminds me of a hybrid of Villanova and Marquette," Pitino said of the second-round matchup against Morehead State.

The Cardinals lost to Connecticut in the final of the Big East tournament Saturday. UConn played five games in five days. Louisville, because it was seeded higher, only had to play three times, but all games were late starts. That kind of grueling schedule is proof, Pitino said, that playing deep into the conference tournament isn't necessarily a benefit.

"Wouldn't surprise me to see everybody advance, wouldn't surprise me to see three or four teams lose," Pitino said. "I hope we're not one of them."

GENIUS AT WORK: Bucknell senior guard G.W. Boon is a long shot to make it in the NBA, but work as a biomedical engineer should provide him with a comfortable living after his college days are over.

Boon spent last summer doing research with Geisinger Medical Center to design a special pacifier that can be used to extract DNA from babies.

His focus this week, however, is to milk a couple more games out of a career in which he has averaged 20 minutes and 7.5 points.

Boon and Bucknell open against Big East champion Connecticut, no small task for the Patriot League winners.

"It's a very big challenge for us, definitely," Boon said. "They had a great run in their conference tournament, and congratulations to them for that."

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MAVS

Continued from Page 6

Jason Kidd made a 3-pointer. Beaubois and Terry followed with easy layups. And Nowitzki, just as he's done so many times, scored the final six points in a 15-0 Dallas run — going ahead 104-96 on a crisp and cool jumper to seal it.

"Well, we're never going to panic but we certainly weren't happy," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. "When something like that happens you've got to stick together and get motivated, and that's what our guys did."

In what has historically been a high-scoring matchup, the Warriors made 15 of their first 17 shots to take a 32-14 lead late in the first quarter. It was as strong an offensive display as they've shown all season, and it still wasn't enough to guarantee a runaway.

The slow-footed Mavericks twice sliced the lead under double digits in the second quarter, despite sloppy defense and erratic shooting that led to a poor transition game. All it took to come back was the smallest amount of defense and a little shooting spark.

Dallas did just enough of both. By the time the halftime buzzer sounded, a once-commanding Warriors lead was whittled down to six. The Mavericks took their first lead, 73-72, on Nowitzki's free throws with 3:12 left in the third quarter and never looked back.

"We probably got a little stagnant," Warriors coach Keith Smart said. "I think it was just a combination of not getting what we wanted at the time that we wanted it."

NOTES: Ellis had seven assists in the first quarter, the most for any Golden State player in any quarter this season. ... Warriors C Andris Biedrins sprained his left ankle in the third quarter and did not return. The team said he will be evaluated Thursday. ... Dallas' Brendan Haywood (lower back stiffness) did not play. ... Golden State hosted its first-ever "Bollywood Night." Festivities included traditional Indian dancing, music, food and attire before the game and during timeouts.

Rep retracts bill comment

LUBBOCK (AP) — A freshman lawmaker suggested Wednesday that a fellow Texas House member stood to benefit financially by proposing legislation that would allow fired Texas Tech coach Mike Leach to sue the state, before apologizing hours later.

Rep. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock, told KFYO-AM of Lubbock that Rep. Craig Eiland's reason's for filing the bill last week "must be financial."

He told The Associated Press later Wednesday that the remark was "one of those on-the-fly comments" and that he had apologized to Eiland, who sits behind him in the House chamber.

"I apologized if there was any misunderstanding," Perry said. "It was not mean-spirited and not intended to be."

The resolution filed March 11 would allow Leach's wrongful dismissal lawsuit against the school to proceed. In the radio interview, Perry said he doesn't think the bill will pass.

Leach's lawsuit against Texas Tech was thrown out when the university claimed immunity as a state institution, a decision upheld in January by the state's 7th Court of Appeals.

Perry admitted he'd made a "freshman mistake," said Eiland, who accepted that that's what the comment was. He said he gained nothing by filing the bill.

"I have no financial interest, I don't want a financial interest, don't need a financial interest," Eiland said. "He's got good lawyers. He doesn't need me."

Eiland filed the proposal on the last possible day that House rules allow for the introduction of new legislation. The resolution would allow Leach's wrongful dismissal

lawsuit against the school to proceed.

The school fired Leach Dec. 30, 2009, two days after he was suspended amid allegations that he mistreated a player with a concussion. Leach has denied mistreating Adam James, the son of ESPN analyst Craig James, and has said he suspects the real reason he was fired was because he was due to be paid an \$800,000 bonus the next day.

Leach's lawsuit against Texas Tech was thrown out when the university claimed immunity as a state institution, a decision upheld in January by the state's 7th Court of Appeals. The appeals court ruling allows Leach to try to show Texas Tech's reasons for firing him were wrong, but without the prospect of winning monetary relief.

Leach has appealed that decision to the Texas Supreme Court, but the Legislature could also specifically authorize Leach to sue for damages.

BASICS

Continued from Page 6

ning. Laura Herrera led off with a walk, advanced on a wild pitch, then came home on a one-out single by Valerie Ross. Ross advanced to third on a throwing error, then scored on an infield single by Yarbar.

With the win, Big Spring finished the non-district portion of its schedule with an 11-13 record, and will host Sweetwater Friday to begin league play.

Sparks said the team will need more efforts like Wednesday's to have success in district action.

"I told the girls that

what I was most proud of was their focus," he said. "We had those two errors (in the sixth inning, which led to San Angelo's only run), but they didn't let that get them down. And we're going to have to stay focused from now on, because any team in this district can beat anyone else. If we can

stay focused, we'll have a chance."

San Angelo 000 001 0 - 1 3 2
Big Spring 000 120 x - 3 3 2
W - Yarbar; L - Contreras; LOB - San Angelo 7, Big Spring 6; SB - Big Spring (Gomez, Yarbar); SAC - San Angelo (Moreno, Yara); HBP - by Contreras (Sotelo).

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

NCAA

Continued from Page 6

on offensively we were a little jittery. But our guys really settled down and we made more than

enough shots as the game wore on."

Jio Fontan had 14 points and Nikola Vucevic 11 for USC (19-15), which had just one field goal over the final 9 minutes.

After trailing by as many as five points in the first half, the Rams broke free in the second half with their 3-point shooting, building an eight-point lead. Skeen hit a 3 to open

the second-half scoring and Rodriguez — scoreless to that point — hit two 3s for a 28-24 lead. After Maurice Jones countered by hitting USC's first 3 of the game, VCU's Brandon Rozzell hit another shot behind the arc on the left wing to push the lead to 34-27 at the 14:25 mark.

The Rams did not give up the lead.

USC pulled as close as 44-43, but then VCU pulled away again.

With the shot clock running down, Rodriguez passed up a shot and flipped the ball to Ed Nixon, who hit the 3 from the left wing —

his only field goal of the game. The Rams then added two foul shots by Bradford Burgess and a shot off glass in traffic by Rodriguez for a 51-43 lead.

Fontan, the linchpin of the USC offense, then fouled out on a drive with 3:54 left, crippling the Trojans' attack.

The Rams padded their lead the rest of the way.

UTSA's brightest star for one night, Johnson won't get nearly so many open shots against the Buckeyes, who will be playing only two hours from campus in an arena packed with their

fans. The 16th-seeded Roadrunners will be trying to pull off an unprecedented upset of a No. 1 seed.

The Roadrunners left town with a little history already in the books. No Texas-San Antonio team had ever won an NCAA tournament game in any sport.

"We're very proud to be in this moment," coach Brooks Thompson said.

Might as well let Johnson decide where to put the banner in their 4,080-seat UTSA Convocation Center. The sophomore's scintillating first half set it all up.

The 6-foot-5 guard went 8 of 14 from the field in the first half, making every type of shot. His eight baskets were only one fewer than all the Hornets combined, setting up a 48-21 lead. He took only four shots in the second half.

"Johnson got good look after good look, and he also made some tough shots," Hornets coach Lewis Jackson said. "He got on a roll and it trickled down to everybody else."

It'll take something sensational — and more — to keep the Roadrunners in the game in Cleveland.

"No. 31, if he's on like he was tonight, it should be a pretty good game," Alabama State guard Jeff Middlebrooks said.

Johnson knows what they're up against.

"We're going to fight just like we always do," he said. "I'm not going to guarantee a victory or say anything like that."

Spoken like a man in a shooting slump.

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