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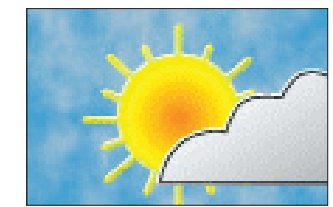


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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**

MARCH 29, 2011



VOLUME 106, NUMBER 100

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# Guerra trial begins

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

MIDLAND — Testimony was expected to begin this morning in the trial of a Big Spring man accused of possessing a "rape kit" with intent to commit aggravated kidnapping and aggravated sexual assault in Midland's 385th District Court.



Guerra

Juan Jose Guerra, 49, of 1 Courtney Place, was arrested April 28, 2010, in Midland after law enforcement officials were notified of a suspicious individual. According to officials, the area in which Guerra was arrested — the 1500 block of Idlewild — is frequented by children, with several dance and gymnastics academies nearby.

According to police officials, Guerra was taken into custody by off-duty U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement Senior Special Agent Tim Stone, who was aided by Midland Police Department officers.

Upon his arrest, Guerra was found to be in possession of a number of disturbing items, including a handgun, stun gun, a weighted metal pipe, plastic hand ties similar to the ones used by some police departments in the place of handcuffs, gloves and a condom, according to police records.

Police officials later confirmed Guerra had a permit for the handgun. A search of his apartment turned up child pornography, according to Midland law enforcement officials.

See **TRIAL**, Page 3A



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

**Howard County commissioners discuss road maintenance with Road and Bridge Administrator Eddy Jameson during the court's Monday morning meeting. Though no formal vote was taken, commissioners did indicate by way of consensus the county will move forward with efforts to develop and construct a joint law enforcement center at the county jail facility.**

# County signs off, tentatively, on joint peace officer center

*Commissioners hesitant until budget numbers known*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners gave a rather tentative nod Monday morning to move forward with a proposed joint law enforcement center that would house the sheriff's office and city police department, although several members admitted having reservations concerning the coming year's budget.

"If we are going to sit down with the city and work on this, I want some kind of considerable commitment — a real commitment



Barr

— from the (commissioners) court," County Judge Mark Barr said. "In other words, if you have a problem with it I'd like to know about it now before we sit down and hammer these details out. I know there are lots of unknowns, I realize that. But as far as the cost is concerned, right now it's steady... That's what I'm asking for, a reasonable commitment to move forward."

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

According to officials with both government entities, the proposed deal would have the city of Big Spring chipping in \$1.7 million on the project — the bulk of its funds already


See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

**Veteran of the Month reception this evening**

U.S. Army veteran Mary Beckham, Hangar 25 Air Museum's Veteran of the Month for March, will be recognized in a reception at 7 p.m. tonight in the museum's Briefing Room. The public is invited; refreshments will be served. Hangar 25 is located at 1911 Apron Drive in the McMahan-Wrinkle Airpark. For more information, call 264-1999.

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# CASA appreciation banquet Thursday; volunteers still needed for West Texas

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

MIDLAND — CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) of West Texas is hosting its annual volunteer appreciation and awards banquet Thursday.

The banquet will take place in Lynn Hall at the First Presbyterian Church in Midland at 6:30 p.m.

"This is just a formal way of showing our appreciation for our volunteers," Robin Reece, volunteer coordinator, said.

During the banquet volunteers will be treated to dinner, according to Reece. There will also be

two special guests: Chadwick Sapenter, a former CASA benefactor and Judge Dean Rucker, credited with making efforts to bring CASA to West Texas.

"Chadwick was a former CASA kid and he will be sharing his story," Reece said. "He had a CASA worker that made a big difference in his life. He is now very successful."

CASA volunteers are vital to ensuring a healthy, safe future for the children involved, said Reece, who added that through their hard work and dedication the volunteers are providing assurance that the children aren't

forgotten or lost in the social service system. Volunteers are appointed by a judge to watch over and serve as an advocate for abused or neglected children.

"This dinner is just a small token of our appreciation for all that the volunteers do," Reece said. "There is no way that it can cover all that they do for us."

According to CASA statistics, child abuse is an epidemic in the United States. In Texas, a child becomes a victim of abuse or neglect every eight minutes. Last year, 227 children died from

See **CASA**, Page 3A

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## Obituaries

### Leroy 'Lee' Hitchcock



Leroy "Lee" Howard Hitchcock, born Jan. 24, 1937, in Paint Rock, died March 26, 2011, at his residence in Era. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Florence Lavern Hitchcock of Era; three children and their spouses, Debbie Carter of Benton, La., Beth and Mark Miller of Era and Bobby and Glenda Hitchcock of Waco; 11 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sisters, Doris Mitchell of Woodson, Ada Smith of Woodson and Martha

Henry of Coahoma; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents, Jack Howard Hitchcock and Verdie Powell; brothers, Clinton Scott "Scotty" Hitchcock and William Eugene "Billy" Hitchcock; and a sister, Wilma Ruth "Ruthie" Tucker.

Lee Hitchcock lived in West Texas most of his life. He moved to Louisiana five years ago and moved to Era in 2010. He served in the U.S. Marines and received a medical discharge. He was a farmer, brick layer, truck driver and worked in the oil fields.

Services for Leroy "Lee" Howard Hitchcock will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 31, 2011, at Clement-Keel Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Mike Burnett, pastor of Era Baptist Church, officiating. Interment will follow in Valley View Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Wednesday at Clement Keel Funeral Home from 6-8 p.m.

### Rita M. Baker

Rita M. Baker, 97, of Coahoma died Monday, March 28, 2011, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

### Billie Strickland

Billie Strickland, 67, of Big Spring died Tuesday, March 29, 2011, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

### Robert F. Cathcart

Robert F. Cathcart, 76, of Big Spring died Tuesday, March 29, 2011, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

### Lee Freeze

Lee Freeze, 82, of Big Spring died Monday, March 28, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Police blotter

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

- DAKOTA JAMES LESSER, 17, of 3707 Calvin, was arrested Monday on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- HUTCHISON MCWILLIAMS, 33, of 2900 W. Highway 80 Apt. 128, was arrested Monday on two warrants from another agency.
- JANET DARLENE LUJAN, 53, of 1100 Lloyd, was arrested Monday on a charge of theft.
- ANDREA DANIELLE CROFT, 26, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 48, was arrested Monday on charges of theft – shoplifting and possession of a controlled substance.
- ABEL JAVIER PADILLA, 46, of 709 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARIBEL LUERA, 43, of 500 S. Lancaster, was arrested Monday on a charge of aggravated assault

with a deadly weapon.

- GONZALO MARTINEZ HERNANDEZ, 53, of 1002 S. Nolan, was arrested Monday on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

- ROBERT RUBEN SANCHEZ, 46, of 1023 Stadium, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- ROBERT SCOTT OCHOA, 31, of 1111 N. Goliad, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- THEFT was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported near the intersection of Ninth Street and Goliad.

- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 1200 block of Ridgeroad.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 72 inmates at the time of this report.

- CORY BLAKE PAYNE, 23, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of expired driver's license and expired registration.

- DAKOTA JAMES LESSER, 17, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention.

- HUTCHISON LYNN MCWILLIAMS, 33, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on Midland County warrants for violation of probation – theft (two counts).

- JANET DARLENE ALLRED, 53, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

- ANDREA DANIELLE CROFT, 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of theft and possession of a controlled substance.

- JAMIE RAE SMITH, 34, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of possession of a dangerous drug, violation of a promise to appear, driving while license invalid, operating an unregistered motor vehicle and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- BOBBY JOE LOPEZ, 25, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

- ARTHUR LUTHER MCKINNEY, 36, was arrested Tuesday by DPS on a charge of failure to identify – giving false information.

- ABEL JAVIER PADILLA, 46, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- GONZALO M. HERNANDEZ, 53, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

- JESUS CERVANTES JR., 29, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.

- ROBERT RUBEN SANCHEZ, 46, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge

## 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. 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.

of public intoxication with three prior convictions.

- ROBERT SCOTT OCHOA, 31, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- MARIBEL LUERA, 43, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

- JOHN THOMAS BAKER, 40, was arrested Tuesday by DPS on a charge of failure to appear – failure to identify.

## Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of E. 16<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Albrook. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Wood. Service refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Banks. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 700 block of E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Service refused.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 3700 block of Connally. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

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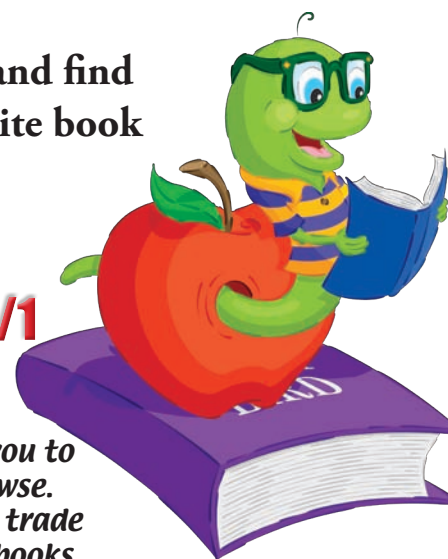
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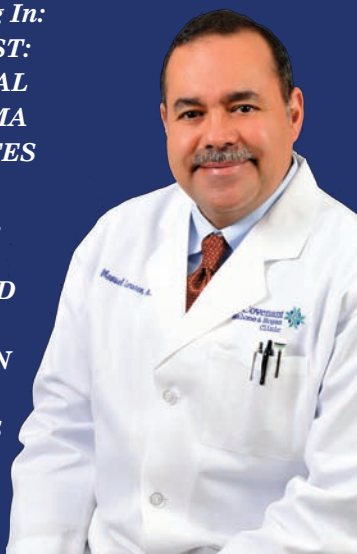
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**► Take Note**

• The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from high school students who are graduating this May and have been accepted at Texas A&M University for fall 2011. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. Deadline for applications is April 15. More information and the application may be found on the club website: [www.westexags.com](http://www.westexags.com)

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

• The HCV Section 8 waiting list for the Big Spring Housing Authority is open. The authority is accepting new applications. The office is located at 201 NE Seventh in Big Spring.

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

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

• A fund has been established at Citizen's Credit Union for the Lupe Chavarria family, which lost all of its possessions in a house fire. For more information, contact the credit union at 267-6373.

• Do you have a minute? An hour? How about

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

• Big Spring Band Boosters meet the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the BSHS Band Hall. All band parents are welcome.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We currently have 55 children in foster care without a volunteer. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering please contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit [www.BecomeaCASA.org](http://www.BecomeaCASA.org) or [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org).

• Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915 or the local ACS office at 432-683-6375.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call (877) 277-1618, the High Plains American Cancer Group Report Center. Anyone wishing to volunteer to drive in this program should call Sherry Hodnett, president of the Big Spring ACS Board, at 264-7599 at her office at Home Hospice.

• Christ Community Fellowship is collecting infant car seats and carriers to be given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

**TRIAL**

Continued from Page 1A

Guerra was arrested on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon, unlawful use of criminal instruments, possession and promotion of child pornography and possession of a dangerous drug.

A search of the suspect's

home later turned up an M-1 rifle, rope, ski masks, computer hard drives and thumb drives, a digital camera and a map used to mark the location of a number of Midland churches. Child pornography was also found at the home, according to police reports.

Guerra has remained in the custody of the Midland County Central Detention Cen-

ter since his arrest. The Big Spring man was indicted by a Midland Grand Jury May 19 on four counts of possession of a criminal instrument with the intent to commit aggravated kidnapping and aggravated sexual assault, according to records filed with the 385th District Court.

Guerra — who is being represented by Midland attorney

Wayne Frost — maintains the confiscated items were used for shooting, according to police records. According to court officials, his bond was set at approximately \$626,000 soon after his arrest. Opening arguments in the case were completed Monday, with witness testimony expected to begin this morning.

Guerra, originally from Co-

lombia, South America, and a naturalized American citizen, is a petroleum engineer, according to police reports, and had lived in California and Kansas prior to moving to Big Spring.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@big-springherald.com](mailto:citydesk@big-springherald.com)

**COUNTY**

Continued from Page 1A

designated for renovation or replacement of the Troy Hogue Law Enforcement Center — with the county picking up the balance, estimated by project architect Jeff Heffelfinger at approximately \$1 million.

Commissioners continued to offer their support for the project during Monday's meeting, but most were hesitant to take any kind of formal vote on the matter.

"Like I've said, I'm for it. Until we have the details," Commissioner Donnie Baker said before Barr stepped in to address his concerns.

Commissioner John Cline, who, along with Baker, is serving his first term on the court,

also showed support for the project, but not without reservations.

"I'm in favor of the jail, but I don't want to sign on the dotted line until we're sure what's coming from Austin," Cline said, referring to state changes aimed at mineral values that could effect Howard County's taxable value.

Barr continued to explain to commissioners he wasn't asking for a final agreement on the project, but simply a "reasonable commitment" to the plan as it's currently proposed.

"I think we need to proceed. If we keep putting it off, it (costs) can change," Barr said. "Talking to the mayor (Tommy Duncan), I think it's pretty evident they are committed to \$1.7 million."

Commissioner Jim-

mie Long echoed concerns regarding the county's fiscal situation for the coming year, as well.

"Judge, I'm for continuing negotiations," Long said.

"But Jimmie, you all haven't given me a good, solid recommendation," Barr fired back.

Long didn't back down, however, saying he doesn't want the county to make a mistake that could have a negative impact on county coffers in the long run.

"I'm not willing to commit the county to \$1 million until I see our budget for next year because I do not want our reserves... I don't want to make a mistake or a miscalculation of our budget for the next two or three years," Long said. "Until we see what's going to hap-

pen with our mineral values, we won't know. We'll have a pretty good handle on it by the end of May."

Talks between the two government agencies have been ongoing for some time, with Sheriff Stan Parker and Police Chief Lonnie Smith heading-up the efforts.

Both Parker and Smith have 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.

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.

Although commissioners did not take an official vote during Monday's meeting, they did manage to reach a consensus on the matter, with all four commissioners and Barr moving forward with what the judge described as a "reasonable commitment" to the project.

Contact Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

**CASA**

Continued from Page 1A

abuse or neglect. There were nearly 67,000 children confirmed as victims of abuse and neglect in 2010 and 43,000 placed in the care and custody of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

"We are always in

need of volunteers," Reece said. "Especially in the Big Spring area. Volunteers can really make a difference in the life of a child. If you have a heart for a child, we encourage you to get in touch with us and sign up as a volunteer."

Last year, there were 123 volunteers for CASA of West Texas. They served 311 children in the foster care system.

The Big Spring training begins April 11 for those wanting to become a volunteer. Applications will be accepted until April 4.

For more information about becoming a CASA volunteer, contact Reece at 432-683-1114 or e-mail her at [robinr@casawtx.org](mailto:robinr@casawtx.org).

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

<b>Bill McClellan</b> Managing Editor	<b>Ron Midkiff</b> Publisher	<b>Steve Reagan</b> Staff Writer
<b>Amanda Moreno</b> Staff Writer	<b>Thomas Jenkins</b> Staff Writer	

## OUR VIEWS

# Cars, Stars and Handlebars is looking for you

What better way to raise funds for the Big Spring State Hospital than to provide an opportunity to go home with a new set of wheels.

It doesn't matter if you prefer two wheels or four, the opportunity is there for your dream to come true.

This year, \$100 gains you the opportunity to drive away on a 2011 Harley Davidson FLHX 103 Street Glide motorcycle, in a 2011 Silverado 1500 Extended cab pickup LS or a 2011 Ford Fusion SE.

Those attending the fifth annual Cars, Stars and Handlebars fund-raiser will experience a hors d'oeuvres dinner, musical entertainment and an evening of fun on the Big Spring County Club patio.

This year, the funds raised will go toward the construction of a Family Visitation Center. The center will allow families to have an ideal area to sit and enjoy their visits at the state hospital.

Family involvement and support is believed to be a major contribution to a customer's recovery.

The completion of this project is just one more way to ensure the customers are getting the most out of the family visits, in order to help them along the road to recovery.

Cars, Stars and Handlebars may just be one night, but it's a night that will support a worthwhile cause.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the event, but don't forget there is a limited amount of space. The evening full of fun and entertainment is limited to 750 tickets.

Contact any of the committee members to find out more information or to find out how to take part in this activity filled night.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:newsdesk@bigspringherald.com)

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Now is the best time to come to You,  
Lord, through prayer.

Amen

# Obama's Libya madness does have 'good intentions'

President Obama's decision to bomb Libya is not even so multilateral as President George W. Bush's decision to attack Iraq. Nor is it ultimately driven by humanitarian concerns — and certainly not by any vital U.S. national interest.

Despite Obama's vilification of Bush for his alleged unilateralism, "Obama's coalition of the willing," according to foreign policy reporter Josh Rogin, "is smaller than any major multilateral operation since the end of the Cold War." Obama's Libyan intervention is more unilateral than Dubya's in another respect, as well: Obama has brazenly refused even to consult Congress, much less seek its blessing.

As I argued in my most recent column, this is just the foreign policy outworking of Obama's campaign to fundamentally transform America. Notice the common thread. He is using domestic policies to effectuate "economic justice" at home, trying to cut "wealthy" Americans down to size. Now he is using foreign policy to diminish America's role and stature in the international community to cut wealthy, imperialistic America down to size.

I don't want to get bogged down here in a discussion of whether his motive is thus to sabotage America. In my view, that's the effect of his policies, but I suppose that in his view, America will be a better nation if it uses government coercion to come closer to equalizing everyone's share of the pie — even if it results in the pie's shrinking — and if America operates less in its own self-interest in foreign affairs. It's a bizarre mindset and one that most Americans probably don't understand — so bizarre that they don't believe it despite the proof in front of their faces.

Think about it. Obama's secretary of defense, Robert Gates,

admitted on national television Sunday that Libya poses no actual or imminent threat to the United States and that it is not a vital national security interest. This was no gaffe. Surely, Obama's team is not so incompetent and undisciplined that it didn't anticipate this question and carefully prepare the answer.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton damaged the administration's credibility even more by opining that as long as international bodies approved of America's kinetic military action, the president didn't even need to pick up the phone to call Congress. Consider what that reveals concerning the administration's mindset about America's sovereignty and prerogatives.

In terms of philosophy, ideology and motivations, the administration's approach to foreign policy can further be understood by Obama's position from the outset.

He has been adamant that America is seen as imperialistic by foreign nations, especially Arab and Muslim nations, and must radically reset its image to ingratiate itself to the world community. He believes terrorism is in large part fomented by the world's negative perception of the United States — a perception he shares to some extent and one he is obsessed with changing.

That's why he went on his world apology tour, threatened (recklessly and unrealistically) to dismantle multiple components of Bush's anti-terror policies (later reneging) and promised to negotiate with dictators on even terms — "engagement." If you doubt this, then explain Gates' assertions that America's chief interest in Libya is "the engagement of the Arabs, the engagement of the Europeans" and, he threw in, "the general humanitarian question."

There's more. In trying to distinguish between the Libyan and Syrian situations, Clinton said the Syrian situation isn't as severe yet.

Then she got to the crux of it: "But in Libya, when a leader

says 'spare nothing, show no mercy' and calls out air force attacks on his own people, that crosses a line that people in the world had decided they could not tolerate."

As liberal writer William Saletan points out, "the key phrase isn't no mercy or air force. It's they could not tolerate. Not we but they. We're outsourcing our standards for intervention." But Saletan noted it is "worse than outsourcing." Outsourcing is hiring someone to do your bidding, but in Libya, "we're hiring ourselves out to do what somebody abroad wants." Indeed, one might consider our military the new mercenaries for foreign governments.

If you understand Obama's thinking, it all makes sense. He obviously believes it is in our interests to act in ways that don't fit the conventional definition of national self-interest. In his worldview, our conventional self-interest is selfish and imperialistic.

For too long, America has looked out for its own interests and has exploited the world, its people and its resources.

With these unrelenting overtures denying our self-interest, Obama hopes to show the world that the new America — Obama's America — is different and moral.

In the meantime, we may very well be propping up coalitions of jihadists in both Egypt and Libya and who knows where else, but that's OK because Obama and his fellow liberals have "good intentions."

*David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His new book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his website at [www.DavidLimbaugh.com](http://www.DavidLimbaugh.com). To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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# When government was a bear

Are conservatives right that our government has become overbearing? Is it true that the rights of the individual, enshrined at the dawn of the Republic and cried over by Glenn Beck, are being smashed by the modern state?

One doesn't have to be a conservative to list offensive government interventions. (I don't think the feds have any business ripping up a marijuana plant in a homeowner's yard.) But this idea that the Founders oversaw a golden age of individual rights and that we've since become serfs of an all-devouring government is a fantasy. Consider the creation of Manhattan's street grid, now "celebrating" its 200th anniversary.

In 1811, the "father" of the Constitution James Madison was president. While the Constitution protected property rights, it also let government take private property for public uses (whether or not the owners thought the compensation fair) — which New York City did in spades.

The city's commissions fully backed a master plan to stuff Manhattan's forests, farms and country homes into neat rectangular blocks with numbers for names. It obliterated winding roads, filled swamps and leveled hills.

Two years earlier, New York lawmakers had already empowered surveyors to "cut down

trees and do other damage" necessary to achieve the goal. (The only streets to get a reprieve north of the old downtown were Broadway, originally an Indian path that diagonally crossed Manhattan, and those in Greenwich Village, which was already highly developed.)

This would be akin to taking an exurban county and telling residents that their familiar drives were about to be wiped off the map according to a grand plan. If the blueprint shows an avenue going through your swimming pool, the avenue is going through your swimming pool. As for the hill your house sits on, that's history.

Cable TV's cup would runneth over with enraged citizens, yet 200 years ago in New York City, sensitivity to the rights of the individual was not high on the agenda. The commissioners determined that Manhattan Island was "to be composed principally of the habitations of men, and that straight-sided and right-angled houses are the most cheap to build and the most convenient to live in." Forget cow pastures, New Yorkers. Henceforth, you will be living in walk-ups.

Though deed-holders were compensated for seized property, many did not go quietly into the night. Some threw cabbages at the plan's chief engineer, John Randel Jr., and set their hounds on him.

Clement Clarke Moore, author of "A Visit From St. Nicholas," complained, "Nothing is to be left unmolested which does not coincide with the street commissioner's plummet and level." He called the authorities "men who

would have cut down the seven hills of Rome." And they would have.

Not only did the city run roughshod over property owners, it raised their taxes to pay for the new streets. Furthermore, the plan unleashed squads of speculators and corrupt officials bent on making a killing in Manhattan real estate.

Speaking of which, the grid has been credited with turning Manhattan into the financial and commercial powerhouse it is today — and its land into gold. For all his complaints, Moore reportedly did very well marketing bits of his own Manhattan holdings. And the heirs of the farmer who did not sell in disgust after a numbered street ran right through his woodshed could have become fabulously rich.

Today, a city's attempt to condemn a used-car lot for economic development would be subject to angry debate and perhaps a Supreme Court challenge. Yet the iron-fisted, wholesale makeover of most of Manhattan took part in the alleged golden era of small government.

Progress? Yes.  
Pretty? No.  
Fair? You decide.

*To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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DAVID LIMBAUGH



FROMA HARROP



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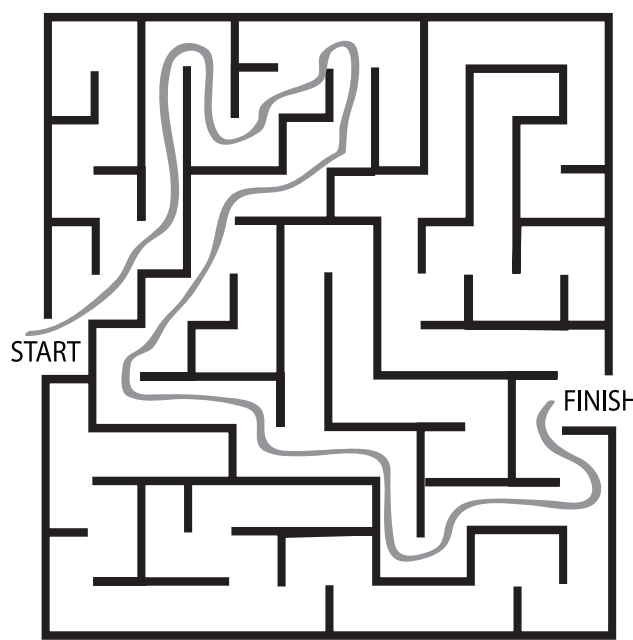
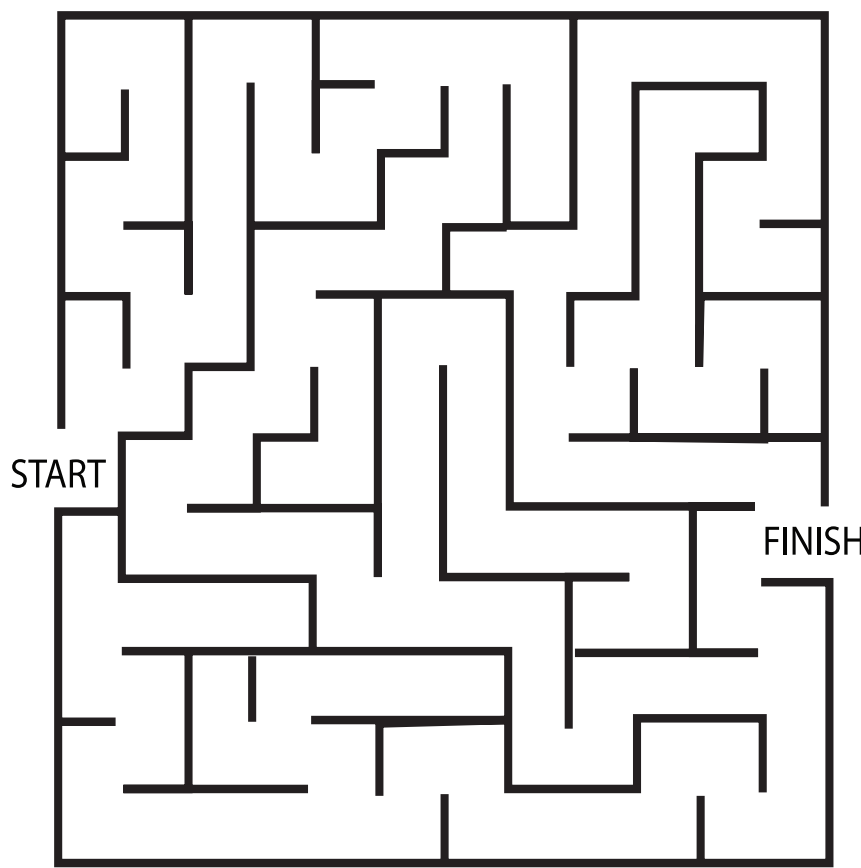
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**THIS DAY IN...**



**HISTORY**

- 1842: ANESTHESIA IS USED FOR THE FIRST TIME DURING AN OPERATION.
- 1909: QUEENS AND MANHATTAN ARE LINKED WITH THE OPENING OF THE QUEENSBORO BRIDGE.
- 1981: AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT IS MADE ON U.S. PRESIDENT RONALD REGAN.



UMBRELLAS ARE SO OLD THAT THEIR TRUE ORIGINS CANNOT BE TRACED. THE TERM UMBRELLA COMES FROM THE LATIN WORD "UMBRA," WHICH MEANS WHAT?

ANSWER: SHADE



**torrent**

strong and fast-moving stream of water

**How they SAY that in...**

**ENGLISH:** Rain

**SPANISH:** Lluvia

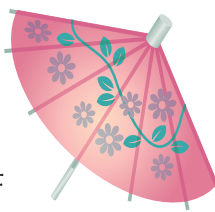
**ITALIAN:** Pioggia

**FRENCH:** Pluie

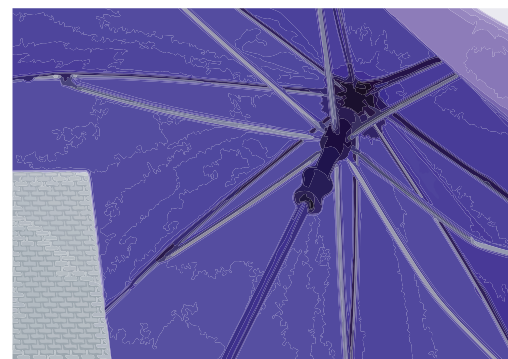
**GERMAN:** Regen

**Did You Know?**

THE FIRST UMBRELLAS WERE USED ONLY TO PROVIDE SHADE. IT WAS NOT UNTIL 300 YEARS AGO THAT WATERPROOF UMBRELLAS WERE USED.



**GET THE PICTURE?**



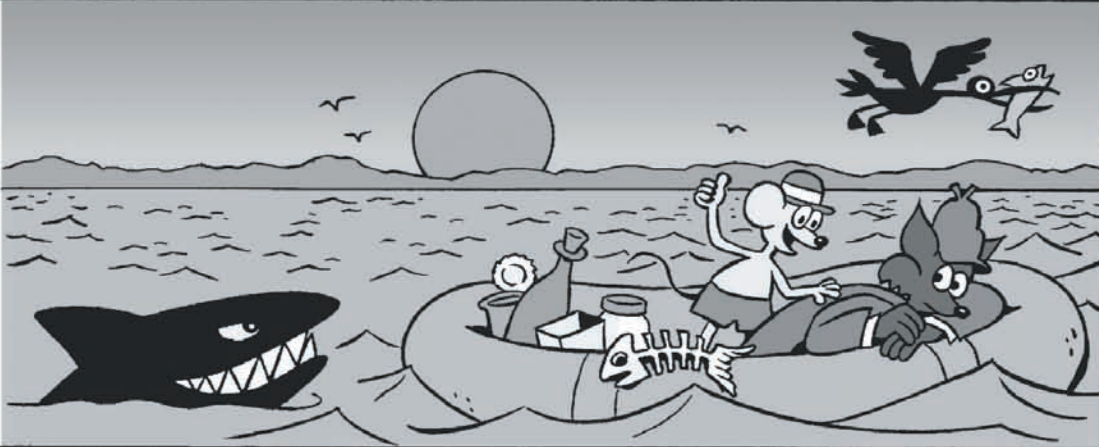
Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: UMBRELLA

**SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS**

**BY BOB WEBER JR.**

Slylock Fox and Max Mouse have been lost at sea for days. When Max awoke this morning, he spotted land. Max thinks they have reached the east coast of Australia. But Slylock Fox disagrees. Why?



**HOW TO DRAW a donkey**

WEBER 3-27



**YOUR DRAWING**

Today's terrific artist is Tracey Wilson, age 13, of Provo, UT



Submit your drawings at www.kidcartoonists.com

The scrambled words are things found in a pet store. How many can you unscramble?

- 1) RAUMAUI
- 2) LHOFGIDS
- 3) BIGLRE

Answer -- 1) Aquarium 2) Goldfish 3) Gerbil

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



# Learning about sandhill cranes the hard way

In the last few weeks, he hadn't seen any. His mornings seemed rather drab without the long, undulating lines passing over his truck. Sitting on the side of the road, he'd roll down the window and listen to their bugling calls as they headed north and east.

Flock after flock, from November through February, entertained anyone who would stop to enjoy them. At times, he thought they resembled huge snakes slithering in the sky, their outlines enhanced by the morning sun or a vivid sunset.

"Guess they're gone 'til fall," he thought as he headed east from Lenorah. His weekly trip to the hardware store in Big Spring would offer other wildlife until his favorites returned.

Occasionally during March he saw a "bunch of stragglers" heading north from One Mile Lake. Soon he figured they would all be "gone for good."

April 13 arrived and once again he made his weekly trip. On the way home, he noticed some plowing of the

cotton fields. Other acreage had been returned to grassland. The newly turned soil appeared dark and receptive to the farmers' endeavors. Spotty rains had blessed some while ignoring others.

As many times as he had driven this road, both east and west, he had never tired of looking at the frame homesteads that long ago had been abandoned. He wondered about the families and their life on the flat, seemingly endless plains.

Still standing were the trees and shrubs they had planted. Once they had thrived, but now appeared as forsaken as the homes. The leafless, broken branches from West Texas winds, and their lifeless trunks matched the gray of the weathered clapboard on the sides of the buildings. The holes in the roofs just added to the derelict scenes from the highway.

Glancing at yet another structure, he noticed movement near the corner of a house. By the time he could stop and turn around, he hoped it would still



Courtesy photo

**Dependent upon location for its food during migration, the sandhill crane is a land bird that readily eats mice, frogs, lizards and snakes. In our area, it feasts on grain sorghum, wheat, peanuts, and some corn. Plowed acreage offers worms and grubs, and as our weather becomes warmer, grasshoppers and other insects.**

be there.

In the dormant grasses that hugged the foundation stood the silhouette of what looked like a sandhill crane. Leaving his truck and crossing the road, the man expected the bird to take flight at any moment.

When it remained erect but unaware of his presence, he sensed something was wrong. From his past experiences of nearing the wary birds as they stood in a stock pond for the night, he knew at the slightest movement it might leap

upward and fly away from danger. Either that or stand its ground and use its long pointed bill to disable any adversary.

Giving it a wide berth, the man turned and walked around the house. To approach the crane from the rear might give him an advantage.

Looking around the back corner of the structure, he noted that the bird had not moved. Since it might have been hit or dazed by a passing truck, he felt it needed help. Removing his jacket, he took a

step and then stopped. Continuing this careful approach, the man neared the crane.

Extending his arms, he quickly placed the denim material over the bird's head and upper body while pressing his hands against its wings. After positioning it against his leg, he used his right hand to grab its bill.

As he carried it back to the truck, he learned how formidable the crane's feet could be. With legs in a frenzied peddling motion, the sharp-clawed toes flailed at whatever was trying to contain it. "I thought that bird was gonna rip my jeans off," he exclaimed when he called about an hour later. After he had placed the sandhill in a large cardboard box provided by his wife, he delivered the crane that afternoon.

Upon opening the container, we could see the red skin of its forehead. A sign of maturity, the patch meant the bird was at least two, maybe more, years old.

While I held its bill and supported its head and neck, Art pressed its wings to its body. After asking the man if he were ready, Art lifted the crane from the box as the man held its legs.

No injuries were evident on its white cheeks and chin, nor on its long neck and legs. After extending its wings, we were delighted to find every feather in place and no broken bones.

With a probable wingspan of six to seven feet, it was obvious how

## BIRD POOP

By BEBE McCASLAND



easily it could fly forty or more miles a day in search of food. We could appreciate even more the crane's endurance during lengthy, soaring, migratory flights.

Finding no wounds, we did notice that it weighed much less than others we had handled. Nearly four feet high, the bird was striking in its layered coat of gray feathers.

After we took it to the wildlife sanctuary in Midland, a call shared concern and optimism. A veterinarian who examined the sandhill said he felt it had not flown because it was weak from starvation. Placed with other recovering cranes, the bird would have a chance to regain its weight and strength.

Its yearly visit from Canada, Siberia, or perhaps Alaska had been interrupted. For whatever reason, it had been unable to sustain itself. Because of the efforts of a man from Lenorah, the graceful creature would have an opportunity once again to trumpet the announcement of another coming winter.

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

## 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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

## Habits to live (longer) by

Some people believe aging is inevitable and that to stay young forever is impossible; however, the science of aging is continually advancing and we are gradually learning what can be done to stay young, or at least

age more slowly.

Research has discovered that the best recipe for a long life is up to us, by our choices, our behaviors and the environment in which we live.

I recently read some survival strategies that you might find interest-

ing:

Maintain a healthy weight. Avoid coronary heart disease and other killer conditions associated with being overweight by controlling your weight.

Eat fruits and vegetables and limit your intake of fat and

## PARENT'S CORNER

By DARRELL RYAN



calories. And work out regularly, being sure to combine stretching for flexibility, aerobics for endurance and weight training for strength.

Don't smoke; quitting reduces your risk of heart disease almost immediately, and over the years also reduces your chance of getting lung diseases, including cancer.

Protect yourself from the sun's deadly rays. As we age we realize that aging is a risk factor for skin cancer, which is sometimes a deadly condition that is diagnosed in more than a million Americans each year. To lower your risk, try to avoid unnecessary sun exposure, especially between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. And when you are outdoors, wear a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15.

Don't drink to excess; studies have shown that too much alcohol can damage almost every organ in the body and weaken the immune system.

Keep a healthy mindset; a positive attitude is essential to stay

## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### Structural Visualization

South dealer.

East-West vulnerable.

**NORTH**

♠ 8 6 3

♥ K Q 4

♦ K Q 7 5

♣ J 10 8

**WEST**

♠ Q 10 4 2

♥ 10 5

♦ J 9 6 3

♣ 6 5 2

**EAST**

♠ A K J 9 5

♥ J 9 7 2

♦ A 10 4

♣ 3

**SOUTH**

♠ 7

♥ A 8 6 3

♦ 8 2

♣ A K Q 9 7 4

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♦ 1 ♠

2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass

5 ♣

Opening lead — two of spades.

Assume you're declarer at five clubs. West leads a spade, and you ruff the spade continuation. How would you play the hand?

Aside from the ace of diamonds, the only other potential loser is your fourth heart. But if West has the diamond ace, a parking place for the heart can be developed by leading twice toward dummy's diamond honors.

The actual declarer therefore led a diamond to the king at trick three, but when East produced the ace and

returned a spade, another plan was needed. So after ruffing the spade, South cashed the A-K of trumps, hoping the missing clubs were divided 2-2.

When East showed out on the second trump, declarer tried the K-Q-A of hearts in hopes that the opposing hearts were divided 3-3, or that West, who had the third club, had the heart length. Unfortunately, West ruffed the third heart for down one.

Though declarer gave himself several chances to get home safely, he overlooked an approach that didn't require a favorable break in either trumps or hearts. After the diamond ace proves to be offside and declarer trumps the spade return, he should cash the A-K of trumps, lead a diamond to the queen and ruff a diamond. A heart to the queen is followed by another diamond ruff.

At this point, declarer has the A-8-6 of hearts while dummy has the jack of clubs and K-4 of hearts. A low heart is led to dummy, and the jack of clubs is played, extracting West's last trump as South discards his heart loser. Declarer then takes the last trick with the ace of hearts.

In this way, declarer nullifies the location of the diamond ace and the uneven divisions in clubs and hearts. In all, he scores three club tricks, four ruffs in his hand, three hearts and a diamond for a total of 11 tricks.

Tomorrow: The logic of good defense.

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## Compass Hospice Guiding You on Your Final Journey

### 10 Things You Need to Know About Hospice

**Question:** Isn't Hospice a place?

**Answer:** No. Hospice is a service that brings care into your own home.

**Question:** What does Hospice provide?

**Answer:** Medication, equipment (such as oxygen) and supplies.

**Question:** When do you qualify for Hospice Care?

**Answer:** Most people get hospice care too late. **You can qualify as much as 6 months earlier!**

**Question:** Don't most people die at home?

**Answer:** 70-80% of Americans die in facilities. Hospice patients get their wish to die at home.

**Question:** Can Hospice patients die in a hospital?

**Answer:** **If the patient chooses to, the hospice staff will make the arrangements.**

**Question:** Will entering a Hospice make you die sooner?

**Answer:** Statistical studies show that **Morphine eases pain but does NOT shorten life.**

**Question:** Do patients admitted to hospice ever improve?

**Answer:** **Yes, some patients actually improve and in time, are discharged from hospice.**

**Question:** Isn't Hospice only for Cancer patients?

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

**Question:** Is Hospice care expensive?

**Answer:** **Medicare and most Medicaid insurances cover hospice at 100%.**

*Hospice care is a necessary service that many people never receive.*

There are myths about hospice that keep people from getting this specialized and compassionate care when they need it most.

Compass Hospice will guide you through this journey.

For any additional info or questions, please contact us.

**Compass Hospice \* 1003 E. FM 700 \* 432.263.5999**

219824



# U.S. seeks united front against Gadhafi

BRADLEY KLAPPER

Associated Press

LONDON — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton implored the world on Tuesday to speak with a single voice and tell Moammar Gadhafi to leave power, as the Obama administration looked to expand ties with Libyan rebel leaders seeking an end to four decades of dictatorship.

Clinton told an international conference on Libya's future that countries must work together so that the North African country "belongs not to a dictator, but to its people," promising to ratchet up the pressure on the Libyan government in the hope of convincing Gadhafi's remaining loyalists to abandon the regime.

Addressing officials from more than three dozen countries, Clinton told the gathering in London that military means alone won't force Gadhafi out after 42 years in power, and that further sanc-

tions and diplomatic pressure ought to be applied. Her comments come at a key turning point in the international military action in Libya, as the United States steps back from its lead role and transfers authority for the whole mission to NATO.

"All of us must continue to increase the pressure on and deepen the isolation of the Gadhafi regime through other means as well," she said. "All of us seated around this table must speak with one voice in support of a transition that leads to a brighter future for Libya."

Clinton spoke after meeting on the sidelines with Mahmoud Jibril, a representative of the Libyan opposition fighting Gadhafi, "to talk about the path forward."

Meanwhile, a senior administration official said the U.S. will soon send an envoy to Libya to deepen relations with leaders of the rebels seeking to overthrow Gadhafi.

Chris Stevens, who was until recently the deputy chief of mission at the now-shuttered U.S. Embassy in Tripoli, will make the trip in the coming days. The move doesn't constitute formal recognition of the opposition, stressed the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal planning.

The London gathering comes a day after President Barack Obama vigorously defended the U.S.-led campaign against Gadhafi's troops in Libya, declaring that action was necessary to prevent a slaughter of civilians. A massacre would have stained the world's conscience and "been a betrayal of who we are" as Americans, Obama said.

Yet the president ruled out targeting Gadhafi, warning that trying to oust him militarily would be a mistake as costly as the war in Iraq, and said he would keep his pledge to get the U.S. out of the military lead fast.

Susan Rice, the U.S. ambas-

sador to the United Nations, said Tuesday "there are non-military means at our disposal" to force Gadhafi out, including economic and diplomatic pressure.

She said on CBS's "The Early Show" that the overriding aim of the American military intervention in Libya was to protect civilians and establish a no-fly zone. Rice acknowledged that Gadhafi's ouster "may not happen overnight."

Appearing on the same show, Arizona Sen. John McCain said "I don't think it's possible" in the short-term to get Gadhafi out without employing military force.

"Gadhafi in power is unacceptable," he said. "We should use any means to bring him down."

In the British capital, world powers will address some of the questions that have been raised since the international strikes against Gadhafi began, from possible endgame scenarios for the regime to

plans for the country's post-dictatorship future.

The senior administration official said three practical outcomes were expected: recognition beyond NATO of the alliance's new leadership in protecting Libyan civilians; the creation of a "contact group" to lead enforcement of U.N. sanctions and other political efforts against the Gadhafi regime; and a second trip to the country by U.N. special envoy Abdelilah al-Khatib, a former Jordanian foreign minister.

The official suggested that al-Khatib's mission would be to negotiate the international community's terms for a graceful exit for Gadhafi to spare further bloodshed in Libya. But the official rejected the idea that the Libyan leader of 42 years could escape accountability and a possible war crimes trial as part of an agreement for him to go into exile — an idea floated by some in the coalition.

# Texas House takes up taxing Internet sales

AUSTIN (AP) — The House Ways and Means Committee heard testimony Monday on a bill that would require Internet retailers to collect state sales tax if the company has a connection to Texas.

Supporters say the bill could bring in millions of dollars in new sales taxes at a time when the state is facing a \$23 billion budget shortfall. State Rep. Elliott Naishtat, D-Austin, introduced one version of the bill, explaining that local retailers complain that customers frequently try out a product in their stores but then buy it online to avoid the sales tax. The state sales tax in Texas is 6.25 percent, and many local governments add more.

"This bill is about fairness, it is about leveling the playing field," Naishtat said. "The bills are about removing the unfair competitive advantage that out-of-state e-retailers have over Texas retailers who comply with the law."

A U.S. Supreme Court ruling requires that for a state to require a company to collect and pay sales tax, the state must prove that the company in some way has a physical presence in Texas. Naishtat's bill, which is based on a New York law, would clarify that if the company uses a Texas-based web site to market products, then that would qualify as having a physical presence in Texas.

Several business people, whose web sites market products for Internet businesses, said the bill would drive them out of business. Scott Hazard, who owns the Mineola-based online marketing

firm BrightSide Media, said his customers would hire other marketing companies to avoid being required to collect Texas sales tax.

"Ten companies make up about 60 percent of my income, and I've confirmed with six of those that if this bill passes, I'm gone," Hazard said. "That's a hard one for me to swallow."

Amazon recently announced it was shutting down a warehouse in Texas to avoid having to pay sales tax levied by the state comptroller. New York, Illinois, North Carolina and Rhode Island have similar laws.

The Ways and Means Committee heard hours of testimony on Naishtat's bill, and a similar one introduced by Republican state Rep. John Otto of Dayton, which had less stringent language about what constituted a physical presence in Texas. Lawmakers left the bills pending in committee, where they will likely be revised before coming up for a vote.

## Texans could get to vote on expanding gambling

AUSTIN (AP) — Texans could get to vote on a constitutional amendment to expand gambling.

The House Licensing and Administrative Procedures Committee is hearing testimony on a number of measures to allow casinos and slot machines. The Texas Gaming Association is backing a measure that would license eight casinos and slot ma-

chines at eight racetracks. Other measures would allow gambling on Indian reservations or slot machines at bingo halls.

The Texas Gaming Association says its proposal could bring in \$1.2 billion a year in gaming taxes alone. But opponents warn that gambling could bring more trouble than it's worth.

Tilman Fertitta, who runs Landry's Inc. says he could have a casino up and running in Galveston in a matter of weeks, if the bill passes.

## Hard landing in Texas Panhandle leaves 4 hurt

CANADIAN (AP) — Four people have been slightly hurt in the hard landing of a small plane which blew a tire when touching down at an airport in the Texas Panhandle.

The Department of Public Safety says the victims sustained minor injuries in the accident Monday at Hemphill County Airport at Canadian.

DPS says a 1981 Cessna flown by 66-year-old Ronald David Rouse of Hotchkiss, Colo., blew a tire,

See TEXAS, Page 8A

## RYAN

Continued from Page 6A

ing young. Negative thoughts and undue worrying reduce pleasure and raise stress levels, resulting in our performing poorly in life. Psychologists believe that it is our thoughts, and not external events, that determine our moods; it is how we respond to what happens, rather

than what happens itself, that determines how we feel.

If something can be changed, change it. If it cannot be changed, then change the way you look at it. We can learn to do this first by noticing our negative thoughts and substituting them with more useful and positive ones.

By following some simple rules and looking on the bright side of life we can create

success, happiness and a healthier mind and body.

Aging does not have to be painful. And feeling youthful certainly does not have to be difficult nor expensive. So prepare yourself for a youthful existence. All it takes is a consistent habit of healthy living, water, exercise, laughs and a positive attitude.

*Darrell Ryan is the director of federal programs for the Big*

*Spring Independent School District.*

## sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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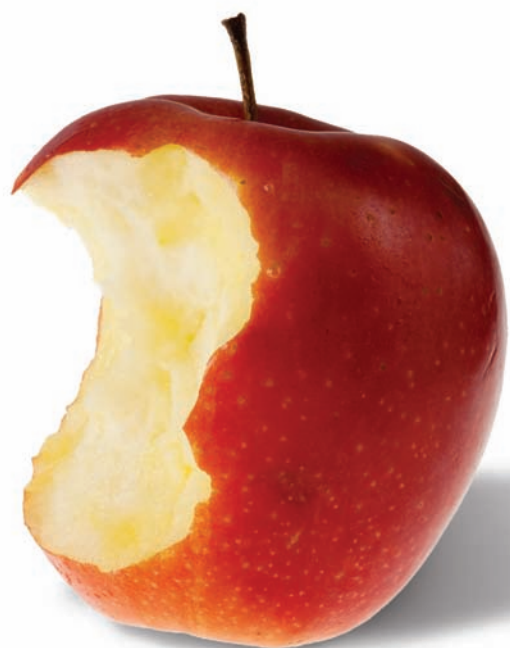


**202 SCURRY**

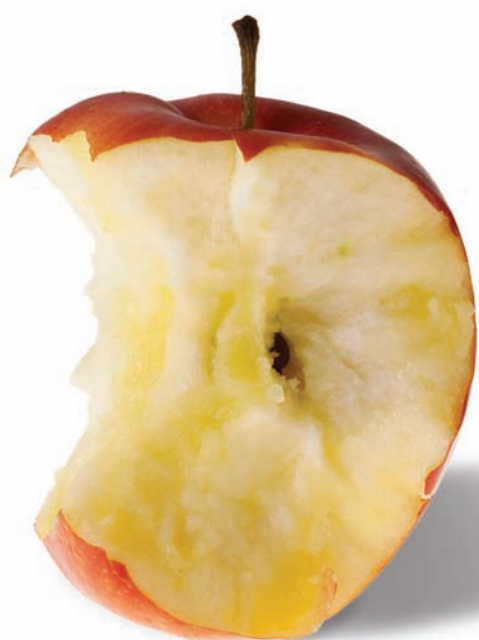


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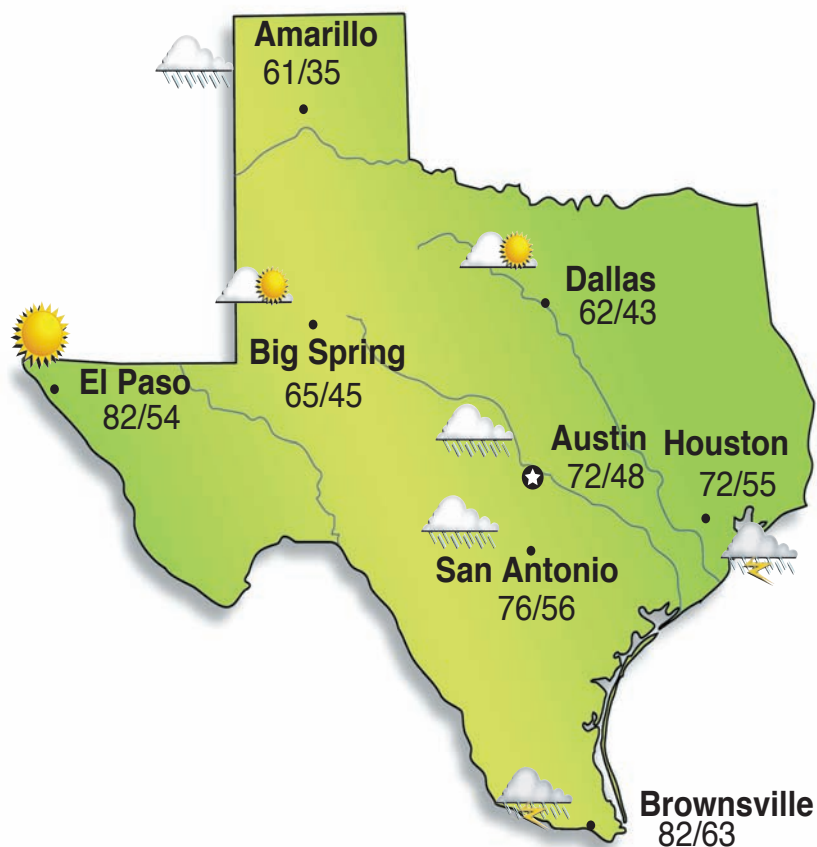
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McNulty, Sheila. "Texans learn harsh reality of cutbacks." *Financial Times*. 10 Mar. 2011, U.S.A. ed.: 2. Print.

**Today's Weather**

**Local 5-Day Forecast**

Wed 3/30	Thu 3/31	Fri 4/1	Sat 4/2	Sun 4/3
65/45	83/52	84/56	92/60	95/57
Partly to mostly cloudy. High around 65F. Winds E at 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	Sunny. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	Sunshine. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.	Sunshine. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the upper 50s.
Sunrise 7:37 AM Sunset 8:04 PM	Sunrise 7:36 AM Sunset 8:05 PM	Sunrise 7:35 AM Sunset 8:06 PM	Sunrise 7:33 AM Sunset 8:06 PM	Sunrise 7:32 AM Sunset 8:07 PM

**Texas At A Glance**



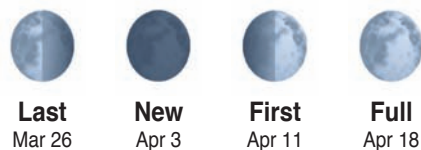
**Area Cities**

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	58	42	pt sunny	El Paso	82	54	sunny	Midland	67	47	pt sunny
Amarillo	61	35	drizzle	Fort Stockton	71	50	pt sunny	Raymondville	81	62	t-storm
Austin	72	48	rain	Gainesville	59	39	cloudy	Rosenberg	72	54	t-storm
Beaumont	71	54	t-storm	Greenville	59	42	cloudy	San Antonio	76	56	rain
Brownsville	82	63	t-storm	Houston	72	55	t-storm	San Marcos	72	50	rain
Brownwood	65	44	cloudy	Kingsville	76	60	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	59	45	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	73	60	t-storm	Livingston	70	48	t-storm	Sweetwater	60	42	pt sunny
Corsicana	60	45	cloudy	Longview	65	46	cloudy	Tyler	65	45	cloudy
Dallas	62	43	pt sunny	Lubbock	63	36	drizzle	Weatherford	62	40	cloudy
Del Rio	79	60	rain	Lufkin	66	48	rain	Wichita Falls	61	39	pt sunny

**National Cities**

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	62	46	rain	Houston	72	55	t-storm	Phoenix	85	59	mst sunny
Boston	51	33	sunny	Los Angeles	79	58	pt sunny	San Francisco	72	58	mst sunny
Chicago	46	30	pt sunny	Miami	88	71	t-storm	Seattle	54	48	rain
Dallas	62	43	pt sunny	Minneapolis	46	32	mst sunny	St. Louis	55	39	pt sunny
Denver	63	43	pt sunny	New York	50	39	mst sunny	Washington, DC	48	38	mixed

**Moon Phases**



**UV Index**

Wed 3/30	Thu 3/31	Fri 4/1	Sat 4/2	Sun 4/3
9	9	9	9	9
Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

The UV Index is measured on a 0-11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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**TEXAS**

Continued from Page 7A

the plane became airborne again, then it made a hard landing on the runway and ended up in a field.

Authorities say seven people were on board. Four passengers were transported to Hemphill County Hospital, as a precaution.

Canadian is 90 miles

northeast of Amarillo.

**Dallas doctor accused over smoking near car**

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas physician is accused of trying to run over someone he allegedly saw smoking near his car.

Police say 54-year-old Dr. Jeffrey Reed Thompson faces a felony charge of aggravated assault with a vehicle.

Friday's incident began in a medical office parking garage.

The 48-year-old smoker, Donald Zuelly of Rowlett, told police that Thompson told him he couldn't smoke in the garage, yanked the cigarette from his mouth, threw it down and stepped on it. Police say Zuelly told the doctor not to touch him and threw down a soft drink can. Some liquid splashed onto the doctor's pants.

Zuelly says Thompson then hopped into his car and drove at him. Zuelly scraped his arm trying to flee.

**3 found dead in plane crash**

DICKENS (AP) — Three are dead in a fiery South Plains crash of a vintage airplane.

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Lynn Lunsford said Monday the accident in Dickens County killed the pilot and his parents.

The Texas Department of Public Safety identified the dead as the 40-year-old pilot, Jake Jenkins of Lubbock, and 71-year-old Kirby Dan Jenkins and 68-year-old Dorothy Jenkins, both of Rockdale.

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HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring shortstop Jacob Acosta scoops up a grounder during a recent game. The Steers return to action tonight when they host Abilene Wylie at Steer Park. Game time is 7 p.m.

# Golfers in first

## BSHS boys take 10-stroke lead at 5-3A tournament

Herald Staff Report

BROWNWOOD — The Big Spring High School boys' golf team has claimed the early edge in District 5-3A competition.

Paced by Blake Bromman's 4-under-par 68, the Steers shot a team total 308 to lead the district by 10 strokes after first-round play Monday in Brownwood.

Abilene Wylie was second at 318, while Sweetwater held the third spot with a

See GOLF, Page 2B

# Bulldogs break out the bats, blast D-City

Herald Staff Report

COAHOMA — When the Coahoma Bulldogs break out of an offensive slump, they don't fool around.

The Bulldogs exploded for 20 hits en route to a 21-6 rout of Denver City in District 3-2A baseball action Monday.

Just about everybody got in on the act offensively for Coahoma.

Aaron Gonzales was 3-for-4 with a triple and double, Dakota Griffith and Adrian Grant each had grand slam home runs, Tanner Ruiz was 2-for-4 with two RBI and four runs scored and Keith Martin

and Josh Castilaw each went 3-for-4 at the plate.

The beneficiary of this offensive largesse was Kaleb McAdams, who earned the win on the mound for the Bulldogs.

"It was good that we finally broke out of our hitting slump," Coahoma Coach Shane Fuller said.

"The kids did a really good job hitting with runners on base. And we got solid defense and solid pitching, also," Fuller added.

The Bulldogs (11-7 overall, 3-2 in district play) return to action Friday at Post. Game time is 7 p.m.

## Bulldogettes blank Denver City

COAHOMA — The Coahoma Bulldogettes evened their District 3-2A record at 3-3 by blasting Denver City, 15-0, Monday evening.

The Bulldogettes were firing on all cylinders in the game. In the pitcher's circle, not allowing a hit and striking out nine. Offensively, Coahoma rapped out 12 hits against two Denver City pitchers. Leading the way were Jennifer Castilaw, who was 2-for-2 with a triple, Kara Fuentes, who added a triple as well, and Brittne Cortez, Jo Anna

Gonzales and Savannah Neff, who each had a pair of hits.

The Bulldogettes improved to 10-18 overall with the win.

That victory came on the heels of an 11-0 defeat at the hands of Colorado City Saturday afternoon.

Coahoma returns to action Saturday when they travel to Post. First pitch is scheduled for noon.

## Lady Buffs blast Roosevelt

LUBBOCK — The Forsan Lady Buffs set up a District 3-2A showdown by pasting Lubbock Roosevelt, 18-3, in

softball action Monday.

"We hit the ball really well," Forsan Coach Shanna Taylor said. "We had 15 hits and Ambra Hill had a home run."

Ashley Buzbee recorded five strikeouts in picking up the victory.

On top of their 15-0 victory over Slaton Saturday, the Lady Buffs will bring a 5-1 district record into Friday's showdown against league leader Colorado City.

"I think the girls have really started to come together," Taylor said of her team. "They're feeling more confi-

See BUFFS, Page 2B

# Sports calendar

TODAY

Golf — Big Spring girls at District 3-5A tournament, Sweetwater.

Softball — Abilene Wylie at Big Spring, 5 p.m.

Baseball — Abilene Wylie at Big Spring, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Golf — Coahoma and Forsan at Coahoma HS Invitational, Comanche Trail Golf Course, Big Spring.

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

# Siggins earns all-around title

Special to the Herald

Josh Siggins once again earned the All-Around Cowboy title for the weekend and led the Howard College men to a first place team finish this past weekend at the Odessa College rodeo in Odessa.

Siggins brought home the sixth place finish in the average for calf roping and partnered with teammate Cullen Teller to bring home second in the average for team roping.

The duo performed well for the second rodeo this spring with a 7.4 time in the long round and 6.0 in the short.

"Our men's team has kicked off this spring season with some strong efforts and it's paying off for

*"The men's team scores are some of the highest I've seen since I've been with Howard College."*

Greg Kernick  
Howard College Rodeo Coach

them," said Greg Kernick, Howard College rodeo coach. "The men's team scores are some of the highest I've seen since I've been with Howard College."

Also stepping up to the plate for the men's team were team ropers Chase Sullivan and Clinton Teller who tapped in with a 7.9 in the long round and 7.3 in the short which was enough for a fourth place finish in the average.

In steer wrestling, Ryan

Viva and K.C. Fryer represented well. Fryer pulled down a third place finish in the average with his 5.0 and 6.20 runs while Viva came home with the fourth place finish in the average after his 5.9 and 7.6 times.

The standout for the women's team was Kaci Smith, as she came home with the first place finish in barrel racing. Smith clocked in with 15.79 in the long round for second in the round and 15.48 in her

short go which was plenty for first in the round and in the average.

"I'm very pleased with Kaci's performance this weekend. She went in there and did her job and was able to finish it out for the first place finish," said Kernick.

In other events, Katie Shaw, Justin Anderson and Dayton Adams all made strong showings for Hawk rodeo, but were unable to finish up in the top spots.

Hawk rodeo will be in action again this coming weekend in Snyder at the Western Texas College Rodeo Thursday through Saturday.

Howard will host its rodeo April 14-16 at the rodeo bowl in Big Spring.

# Fredette leads AP All-American hoops team

By JIM O'CONNELL

AP Basketball Writer

Seniors dominated The Associated Press All-American team for the first time in five years.

Jimmer Fredette of BYU, Nolan Smith of Duke and Juan Johnson of Purdue, all seniors, were joined on the team Monday by junior Kemba Walker of Connecticut and freshman Jared Sullinger of Ohio State.

It's the most seniors since four made the 2006 team.

Fredette led the nation in scoring at 28.5 points per

game while shooting 40.4 percent from 3-point range, a number more impressive because of the shots he lets fly from well behind the line.

He received all but one vote from the 65-member national media panel that selects the weekly Top 25. The voting was done before the NCAA tournament.

Fredette became one of the most popular players in recent memory as teams that lost to BYU were "jimmered."

"I think that it's a great accomplishment. Unbelievable," BYU coach Dave Rose said. "It shows how good his

work ethic is. He's a player who has worked his way into an All-American. What he's meant to our program over the last four years — it's really kind of immeasurable."

He is BYU's first All-American since Danny Ainge in 1981.

"If you go out and play your game and have confidence in yourself, you can accomplish great things," Fredette said. "That's what I've always said in my head, and it's worked out."

Smith, who received 61 votes, averaged 21.3 points, 4.6 rebounds and 5.2 assists in

leading the Blue Devils to the top of the polls for 10 weeks this season. He assumed most of the ball-handling for Duke after star freshman Kyrie Irving went down early in the season with a toe injury and was responsible for defending the other team's top perimeter player.

"It's been a long process for me, just getting better each year and improving," Smith said. "That's something I hope to share with younger kids coming up. If you put the time in and get better and better and then by the time your senior year hits, you'll start

to accomplish some of those individual goals, and that's something that I've done."

Smith is the fifth Duke player to be an All-American since 2000; two of them — Jason Williams and J.J. Redick — were selected twice.

Sullinger burst into the national scene by averaging 17.2 points and 10.1 rebounds while shooting 53.6 percent. The 6-foot-9 Sullinger, the seventh freshman All-American over the last five years, received 58 votes.

"I felt he was going to have

See AP, Page 2B



# Top-seeded Lady Vols fall to Notre Dame

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — Moments before they climbed the blue stepladder to cut down the net, Skylar Diggins and her Notre Dame teammates joined arms, formed a circle and did a jig at the free-throw line.

There's a little history in that step.

The Fighting Irish began kicking up their heels during the 1999-2000 season, turning it into a pregame ritual. They danced all the way to the national title the following year, good reason to turn the ritual into a tradition.

Ten years later, they're high-stepping it back to the Final Four.

Diggins scored a season-high 24 points with her clutch left-handed shot, steadying the Fighting Irish through the tough moments of their 73-59 victory over Tennessee for the regional champion-

ship on Monday night.

Notre Dame (30-7) will play either Big East rival Connecticut or Duke in the semifinals. No question who they prefer.

"We're definitely cheering for the Big East," coach Muffet McGraw said. "We'd like to have two Final Four teams from the Big East."

UConn beat them 79-76 at Notre Dame and 78-57 at home during the regular season, then again 73-64 in the conference tournament. Given what happened on Monday night, the Fighting Irish figure the math is on their side.

The second-seeded Irish were 0-20 all time against top-seeded Tennessee (34-3), taking 28 years of beatings. They seemed to be pretty even teams with contrasting styles heading into game No. 21 in their one-sided series — the Lady Vols with muscle

upfront and young guards, while the Fighting Irish do it with hustle on defense and a fast-paced attack.

Notre Dame had the best guard on the floor, one who likes to play disc jockey in her spare time. Diggins sure was a hit in the regional.

The sophomore point guard had a career-high 12 assists in a semifinal win over Oklahoma, distributing the ball to open shooters. With the Lady Vols clamping down, Diggins asserted herself and kept Notre Dame ahead most of the way — Tennessee led for only 2 minutes, 43 seconds in the first half.

"In a way, I'm just living my dream," said Diggins, a South Bend native who became only the second Notre Dame player to reach 1,000 points in her second season.

The Fighting Irish weren't sure whether they'd have se-

nior forward Becca Bruszewski, the team's emotional leader who sprained her left knee during the semifinal win over Oklahoma. She played 37 minutes wearing a brace, scored 13 points and had a team-high eight rebounds, then danced the jig on her bum knee.

"This is an unreal feeling," Bruszewski said.

For Tennessee, too.

The Lady Vols had won their past 25 games, the second-longest streak in school history. They hadn't lost since falling at Baylor on Dec. 14, but were off their game in Dayton. Coach Pat Summitt had to yell at them at halftime of a close win over Ohio State.

She fumed on the sideline Monday with arms crossed as her young players tightened up and her team unraveled.

"Obviously I'm very upset, I'm very disappointed in our basketball team," Summitt

said. "I don't think we came here with the focus. Don't ask me why. I'm kind of at a loss for words."

"We've got a ways to go, obviously. We were exposed today."

Freshman guard Meighan Simmons went 1 for 11 from the field and finished with two points. Tennessee shot 33 percent from the field and had 19 turnovers.

"There were times we got so overanxious," Summitt said. "Being at this point and trying to get to a Final Four was probably too much for the younger players."

Not for Diggins, who didn't hesitate to shoot whenever Tennessee tried to make a comeback.

"No question Skylar Diggins was the player that made them go, and we don't have a guard that plays that way," Summitt said.

# Stanford ends Gonzaga's Cinderella journey

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Facing a deafening, unfriendly crowd in a hostile — and perhaps unfair setting — along with the little blond point guard who had yet to be stopped, the Stanford Cardinal emphatically showed they're still the powers of the West Coast.

A fourth straight Final Four makes that point impossible to debate.

Nnemkadi Ogwumike

dominated the inside with 23 points and 11 rebounds, sister Chiney chipped in 18 points and 15 boards, and the top-seeded Cardinal ended the surprising run of Courtney Vandersloot and Gonzaga 83-60 in the Spokane Regional final on Monday night.

After two years of playing with her sister in the stands watching, Nneka's now bringing Chiney along to the na-

tional semifinals after the duo overwhelmed and overpowered the 11th-seeded Bulldogs, who were playing about a mile and a half from their campus.

"This whole weekend she's just been talking about, 'Nneka, I don't know what it really feels like because the last two times I went I was in the stands,' Nneka Ogwumike said. "I was just trying to help her just

let her know how exciting it was. ... I think she has so much fight in her that she was just determined to take this team as far as they could."

The Ogwumikes were relentless from the start when Nneka powered through the Gonzaga defense for a layup on the opening possession. When Chiney missed, Nneka was there to clean it up, and visa versa. The size and strength

of Stanford was simply too much for the Bulldogs, and their more than 11,000 hometown fans, to overcome on this night.

"They're just a unique combination of strength, obviously skill, but the quickness with which they attack the ball on the boards is phenomenal," Gonzaga coach Kelly Graves said. "We're not there yet to be able to matchup with

these kinds of teams that just have that kind of strength and athleticism inside."

For Stanford's Jeanette Pohlen and Kayla Pedersen, Monday night's victory completes a perfect career in reaching the Final Four in every season of their time at Stanford, a run that began by winning the 2008 Spokane Regional final behind Candice Wiggins.

## AP

Continued from Page 1B

a great impact not just on our program but on college basketball. The productivity he's had throughout the course of the season has really been incredible," Buckeyes coach Thad Matta said. "He so much fun to coach. As I've said, if I was starting a team, I'd select him to be our first player."

Walker had a strong start to the season and then capped it with an incredible performance in leading the Huskies to five wins in as many days to win the Big East tournament. He averaged 23.5 points, 5.3 rebounds and 4.3 assists and was the leader of one of the youngest teams in the country.

"It feels good, especially because I wasn't a preseason All-American," said Walker, who received 51 votes. "I just

wanted to come into the season and try to win as many games as we could. From winning, it really helped me be a better player and just get more recognition."

Huskies coach Jim Calhoun said the 6-1 Walker, Connecticut's first All-America since Emeka Okafor in 2004, was "without a doubt the most important player to his team this season. I can't imagine where we would be without him."

The 6-10 Johnson was Purdue's inside presence, averaging 20.5 points, 8.2 rebounds and 2.3 blocks. He was the first Boilermaker chosen to the first team since Glenn Robinson in 1994. Johnson returned to Purdue after considering leaving for the NBA.

"Your senior year, you don't want to leave anything out there, and I definitely have no regrets. It worked out," he said. "The only thing I wanted to do that we didn't

get done was go to the Final Four. Other than that, we got it all done."

Marcus Morris of Kansas led the second team and was joined by Derrick Williams of Arizona, Ben Hansbrough of Notre Dame, Jordan Taylor of Wisconsin and Kawhi Leonard of San Diego State.

Fredette and Johnson were both on the preseason All-America team, along with Kyle Singler of Duke and Jacob Pullen of Kansas State.

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## BUFFS

Continued from Page 1B

dent in their roles and they're hitting the ball well. Friday will tell the tale."

Game time Friday is 6:30 p.m. in Forsan.

## Hernandez 9<sup>th</sup> at state powerlifting meet

Big Spring High School powerlifter Zach Hernandez finished ninth in the 123-pound

weight class at the Texas High School Powerlifting Association state meet, held Saturday in Abilene.

Hernandez lifted a total weight of 870 pounds at the meet, which was held at the Taylor County Expo Center.

"That was a personal-best total," BSHS Coach Reg McConnell said. "I'm super-proud of him."

## Buffaloes fall to Roosevelt

LUBBOCK — The Forsan Buffaloes came out

on the short end of a 9-7 decision against Lubbock Roosevelt in District 3-2A baseball action Monday evening.

The Buffs were led offensively by Bryson Phillips and Zane Herin, who each had two hits. Phillips and Foster Burchett each had two hits.

Peyton Parker was tagged with the loss.

"We played one of our better all-around games, actually," Forsan Coach Jason Phillips said. "(Roosevelt) just hit the ball really well."

Monday's result marked the second straight defeat for the Buffs, who lost to district-leading Slaton by a 6-3 score.

Dylan Lowery took the loss for Forsan, striking out eight and allowing two earned runs in 5 2/3 innings of work. At the plate, he hit two home runs. Also performing well offensively was Patrick Robles (2-for-3 with a double and triple).

The Buffaloes return to action Friday when they host Colorado City at 7 p.m.

## GOLF

Continued from Page 1B

team total of 324.

Brorman's performance gave him a five-stroke advantage in the medalist competition, while teammate An-

drew Fillinghim was third with a 74. Other BSHS scores included Devin Roberson with an 82, Tate Kennedy with an 84 and Ryan Pollard with an 85.

Big Spring's B team, consisting of Jason Guevara, Nolan Beal, Stormy Emery, Tayler

Hester and Matt Davila, stood in eighth place after Monday's first round.

"The guys did everything we wanted them to do, especially with the tournament coming to our place for the second round," BSHS Coach Chris Joslin said. "We

wanted to stay close to the leaders, and we did even better than that."

The Steers host the second round of the 5-3A tournament, tentatively scheduled for Monday at Big Spring Country Club. Joslin said district coaches would finalize the schedule today.

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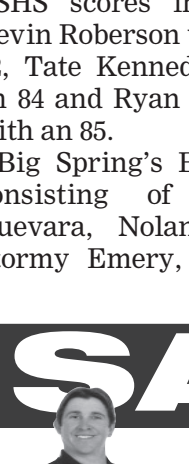
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**THE HOWARD** County Sheriff's Office is currently accepting applications for projected Detention Officer vacancies. Applications may be picked up and returned to the Sheriff's Administration office 1st floor Courthouse 300 S. Main.

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The Big Spring Herald has an opportunity for the right person. We seek a sports minded person to join our editorial department. The perfect candidate should possess a very strong interest in High School sports and knowledge of sports in general. This position requires some travel including a personal vehicle along with a working knowledge of Macintosh computers. The candidate should also have experience with Quark and InDesign computer programs.

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Howard College will be holding a one (1) day silent, public auction. The auction will be held on the Howard College campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720 in the Don McKinney Center (formerly the Occupational Building). The public may bid on items between 8:00 AM and 12:00 PM on Monday, April 4, 2011. Bids shall be evaluated between 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM. Winning bidders shall pick up items between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM. Any unclaimed items remaining at 4:00 PM on Monday, April 5, 2011 will not be sold and will be returned to Howard College surplus.

Items include Fitness Equipment, Miscellaneous Furniture and Equipment, Miscellaneous Classroom Equipment, 1993 Dodge 2500 Diesel and Miscellaneous Electronic Equipment.

All items are sold "as is", no warranty or guarantees. Items should be inspected before bid upon. Howard College makes no warranty expressed or implied as to condition, suitability for any purpose, or serviceability of any item. The District assumes no liability to the user or purchaser of any items offered for sale. Individuals are not allowed to move or substitute components on any unit. No refunds will be given. There will be no reserves or minimum bids. All merchandise must be paid for and picked up no later than 4:00 PM on the day of the auction, Monday, April 5, 2011. Payment will be accepted in the form of cash, check, or money order.

All questions should be directed to Jason Mims, Director or Business Services, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, e-mail [jmims@howardcollege.edu](mailto:jmims@howardcollege.edu) (432)264-5167. #6931 March 27 & 29, and April 3, 2011

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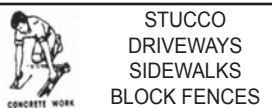
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Aquarius moon will offer inspiration. With the sun burning through high-energy Aries, we have the fuel to carry out the ambitious mission that the Aquarius moon demands, even if said mission happens to be delightfully impractical or hopelessly idealistic. Make a list and check it off as you go. Pen and paper make miracles happen.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Your leisure moments will be magical. You will get swept up into a brilliant piece of entertainment. The pettiness and worries of daily life will disappear as you thoroughly enjoy yourself.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). There is nothing wrong with keeping score. If you didn't, there would be no game. However, you realize that there are times (like today) when it is better to throw out the scorecard and start fresh.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Like the god your guiding planet Mercury was named for, you will make your next moves with speedy assurance, defying laws of gravity as though there were wings on your shoes.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). There's a competition on the horizon. You will give your best and most focused attention to preparing for this event. As you apply all you know, you will be a magnet for the new information you need to succeed.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You set the kind of goals that will challenge you but won't be so difficult that you are likely to be overwhelmed by the enormity and seeming impossibility of the task.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You put people first and consider the feelings of others at every turn. When it's your turn to get in the game, though, you play to win. The thrill of victory will be one of the things you enjoy most about today.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You thought you knew your own priorities, but you will be surprised by your reaction to the day's events. This indicates that something or someone is more important to you than you previously thought.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are curious about what is going on in the lives of others, but you are not nosy. You respect the boundaries of privacy. As you show interest in others without the crossing the line, you'll teach through your example.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You realize that there is no way to accomplish the day's work without a fair dose of teamwork. That's why you will downplay the "I" and give your emphasis to the "we."

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You will put yourself in the other person's shoes. It's not hard to do this, but it takes a special person to make the effort — a person who is willing to let go of his or her own egoistic needs.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's something you are trying to do despite the fact that, given your current situation, it seems highly improbable that you will succeed at the task. Give everything you have, and you will turn the odds in your favor.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You may feel like you are being picked on. Just keep in mind that sometimes the very thing you think of as rejection or bad luck is actually the luckiest thing that could happen to you.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (March 29). Family celebrates you. New friends enter your world over the next 10 weeks and will continue to be a source of variety and spice. Thrilling challenges arise in May. You will study a new culture or profession in April. June brings your favorite kind of distraction. Invest in July for a return that will come in three years. Leo and Scorpio people adore you.

Your lucky numbers are: 11, 20, 4, 31 and 18.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I'm having a problem at work. I work at a company where the men outnumber the women 7 to 1. I have been at the same job for five years and have been overlooked for promotions (that went to men) twice. It has often happened that in meetings I will voice an idea and no one says anything. Ten minutes or so later, one of my male colleagues will state the idea as though it was his and get a (usually favorable) response. The first time this happened, I was shocked. Now I'm just used to it. My question is, should I move on to a new company? I'm a Scorpio."

No, you should not. You will have the same problem at a new company unless you learn the lesson that this unfortunate situation is teaching you. It is not acceptable that you let others take credit, or blame as the case may be, for your ideas. Scorpions can be quiet, private and introverted — qualities that do not serve you in a meeting. When you speak and do not get a response, ask for one — demand one if you have to. Make sure you are heard. Make it impossible to ignore you. Write a script for yourself about how you will handle this scenario in the future.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Aries Vince Vaughn is an actor, screenwriter, producer, comedian, and new husband and father. This recent turn in Vaughn's personal life will give new dimension to his professional life, as well. Vaughn's sun, Mercury and Venus all burn brightly in the fire sign of Aries, suggesting he's a risk taker, a quick thinker and a self-made man. His Sagittarius moon reflects a stellar sense of humor.

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

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The Spider

During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was the editor of a small Missouri paper.

One day, he received a letter from a subscriber stating that he had found a spider in his paper and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck.

Twain replied, "Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever after."



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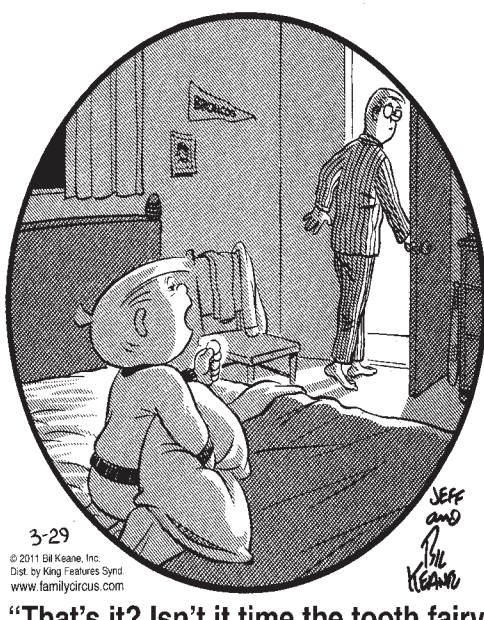
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5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Scrivner	World	70s	Cash Cab	Thomas Crown Affair, Denis Leary	Ways Die	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It	Nation	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Liena de Amor (SS)	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	King	McDonald	Business	70s Show	Cash Cab		Ways Die	Bones		Shake It	Pardon	Women's College Basketball
7:PM	Dancing With Stars	Eva Luna (SS)	Glee	NCIS (DVS)	Aurora (SS)	The Biggest Loser	Office	Chumney	Secrets of the Dead	One Tree Hill	Desert Car Kings	Movie: Eraser, Vanessa Williams	Ways Die	Bones	Together	Deck		
8:PM	Dancing With Stars	Triunfo del Amor	Raising Traffic	NCIS: Los Angeles	Herederos-Monte		Office	Light of the Southwest	Frontline	Hellcats	Desert Car Kings	Ways Die	Movie: Fool's Gold	Game	Deck	College Basketball	Women's College Basketball	
9:PM	(01) Body of Proof	Aquí y Ahora (SS)	Simpsons	The Good Wife	La Reina del Sur	Parenthood	Office		Independent Lens	Payne	Desert Car Kings	Ways Die	3 Sheets	Together	Deck			
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Brad	Roseanne	Roseanne	Desert Car Kings	Ways Die	Auction	Hawthorne	The Mo'Nique	Good	NFL Live	
11:PM	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	El Cartel	Jay Leno		Cortes	Charlie Rose	South Pk	Desert Car Kings	Ways Die	UFC Fight Night: Fight for the Troops 2.	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Hannah	SportsNation	
12:AM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night		Lopez Tonight	World (Off Air)	South Pk	Desert Car Kings	Movie: Demolition Man, Sandra Bullock	CSI: NY	Movie: Out of Time, Sanaa Lathan	Wizards	NBA	Scoreb'rd	
1:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Paid	Insider	Pagado	News		Conan	Brad	Cops	Desert Car Kings		Leverage	Wizards	NASCAR	Poker	SportsCenter	
	AM Paid	Mujer...	TMZ		Pagado	Poker After Dark		Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest	Homecoming	Overhaul'n			Suite Life	2010 Poker			

DENNIS THE MENACE



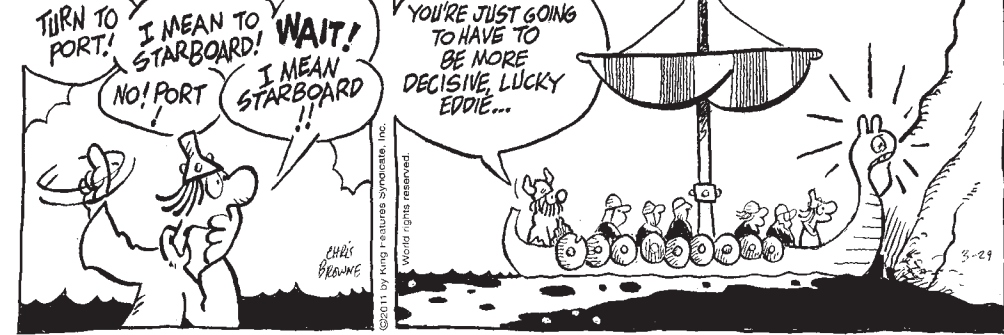
"BUT HOW CAN MR. WILSON RUN OUT OF PATIENCE WHEN HE NEVER USES ANY?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"That's it? Isn't it time the tooth fairy gave me a raise?"

HAGAR



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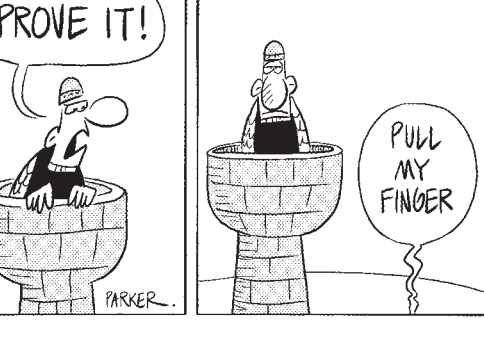
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BLONDIE



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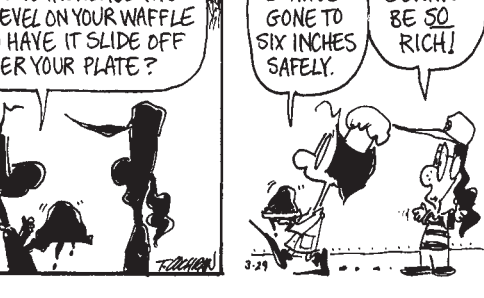
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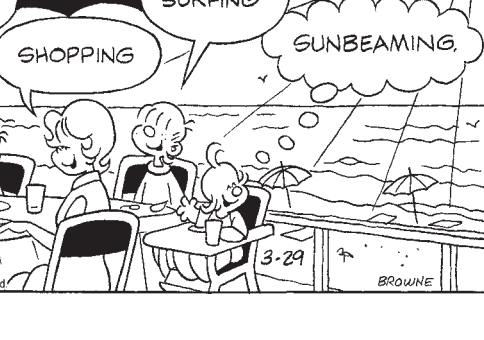
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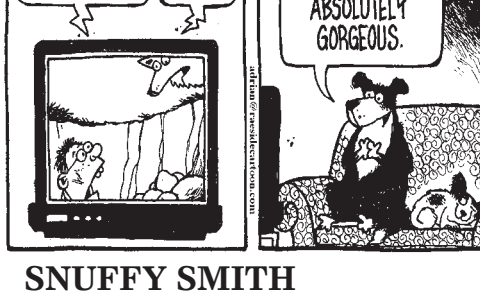
HI AND LOIS



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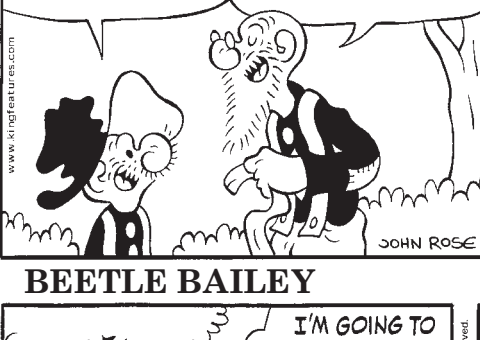
THE OTHER COAST



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This Date In History

Columbus was chartered in Connecticut.

In 1943, World War II rationing of meat, fats and cheese began.

In 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage. (They were executed in June 1953.) The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The King and I" opened on Broadway.

In 1961, the 23rd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, allowing citizens in the District of Columbia to vote in presidential elections, was ratified.

In 1971, Army Lt. William L. Calley Jr. was convicted of murdering 22 Vietnamese civilians in the My Lai (mee ly) massacre. (Calley ended up serving three years under house arrest.) A jury in Los Angeles recommended the death penalty for Charles Manson and three female followers for the 1969 Tate-La Bianca murders. (The sentences were later commuted.)

In 1973, the last United States combat troops left South Vietnam, ending America's direct military involvement in the Vietnam War.

Today's Birthdays: Political commentator John McLaughlin is 84. Author Judith Guest is 75. Former British Prime Minister Sir John Major is 68. Comedian Eric Idle is 68. Composer Vangelis is 68. Basketball Hall of Famer Walt Frazier is 66. Singer Bobby Kimball (Toto) is 64. Actor Brendan Gleeson is 56. Actor Christopher Lawford is 56. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Earl Campbell is 56. International Gymnastics Hall of Famer Kurt Thomas is 55. Actor Christopher Lambert is 54. Rock singer Perry Farrell (Porno for Pyros; Jane's Addiction) is 52. Comedian-actress Amy Sedaris is 50. Model Elle Macpherson is 48.

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Newsday Crossword

SHOE BUSINESS by Billie Truitt  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

1 Prayer enders  
6 Equips for battle  
10 Con game  
14 Occupy, as a table  
15 Plant's underground part  
16 Mona \_\_\_  
17 Radio-studio sign  
18 Mediocre  
19 Sunrise direction  
20 Seafood entree  
23 Dad's boy  
24 Fargo, North \_\_\_  
28 Fanciful idea  
32 Spinning toys  
34 Spin between sm. and lge.  
35 Tiny bit  
36 Perceived to be  
37 Ltr. holder  
38 Verbal gaffe  
42 Mag. bosses  
43 Previous  
44 Deserve to receive  
45 Ave. crossers  
46 Grow weary  
47 Beginning  
49 Needing trimming to fit  
51 Caterer's coffee pot  
52 Vulnerable spot  
59 Fundamentals  
62 "Nothing \_\_\_!" ("Easy!")  
63 Bravery  
64 Castle protection

**DOWN**

1 \_\_\_ yet (so far)  
2 Short skirt  
3 And others: Abbr.  
4 Manicurist's target  
5 Emphasize  
6 Fire setter's crime  
7 Housetop  
8 Rolling stone's lack  
9 Held one's ground  
10 Smooth and glossy  
11 Espionage org.  
12 Beast of burden  
13 Gym pad  
21 Plaything  
22 Cowboy's rope  
25 Greek alphabet enders  
26 Teacher's job security  
27 Beginning  
28 Most sensible  
29 Stick with  
30 "That's correct"  
31 Atlas page  
32 Lake near Reno  
33 One with debts  
36 Mix in  
39 Eye-related  
40 Terrify  
41 Tennis-court divider  
47 Mine product  
48 Open with a pop  
50 Moisten, as a turkey  
51 Prefix for violet  
53 Des Moines' state  
54 Tells untruths  
55 Roll-call response  
56 A Great Lake  
57 Eternally  
58 Not as much  
59 Sound booster  
60 Squeezing snake  
61 Soup container

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