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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

APRIL 19, 2011



VOLUME 106, NUMBER 118

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

A volunteer hoses down a portion of a backyard near the intersection of Second Street and San Jacinto Monday afternoon after a structure fire spawned a number of grass fires in the area. Officials speculated the structure fire was caused by an electrical short circuit.

Fire burns home here

Firefighters keep blaze from spreading to other structures

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Firefighters with the Big Spring Fire Department and Howard County Volunteer Fire Department battled blazes around the intersection of Second Street and San Jacinto for much of Monday evening, as a structure fire ignited several grass fires in the area.

The structure fire, which was reported at approximately 5:30 p.m. at a residence located behind the Big Spring Harley Davidson dealership, destroyed much of the home, including a shed and garage

structure that housed several vehicles.

Firefighters on the scene speculated the blaze began due to a short circuit in electrical wiring.

The fire threatened several surrounding structures, including the Harley Davidson dealership, which keeps a garage area only feet from the property where the fire began.

Officials declined to put a value on the amount of damage done by the fire, but did

See **FIRE**, Page 3

Texas Senate gears up for budget fight with House

By **JIM VERTUNO**
Associated Press

AUSTIN — The Texas Senate is digging in for a budget fight with the House over spending on public education and nursing homes.

And given the Republican hold over both chambers, the duel promises to pit the wave of tea party-inspired House members against a Senate led

by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who is widely expected to run for the U.S. Senate in 2012.

Lawmakers are grappling with a shortfall estimated up to \$27 billion. A House budget passed earlier this month trims about \$23 billion in state spending with deep cuts in public education, elderly care, college grants and other programs.

The Senate version of the budget, which is expected to be voted on by the full chamber next week, would spend billions more on public education, nursing homes and Medicaid. Those are critical areas worth fighting for, Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, chairman of the Senate Finance

See **BUDGET**, Page 3

Local woman honored as childrens' advocate

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer



Townsend

The CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer appreciation banquet proved to be an emotional experience for Big Spring resident and recipient of the Dedicated and Deserving Award, Ann Townsend.

Townsend attended the March 31 banquet not expecting to receive the recognition she did. She was one of the two Howard County CASA volunteers recognized at the event.

"It was the most humbling and biggest honor of my life," Townsend said. "It was completely unexpected."

See **TOWNSEND**, Page 3

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Courtesy photo

In random order, Big Spring High School students Charles Anderson, Mindy Ralston, Jessica Rubio, Shermila Kher and Chelsey Parker have qualified for the state academic meet May 5-7 in Austin.


5 BSHS students advance

By **CLINT ADAMS**
Special to the Herald

A drop in classification and a move to a different regional site did little to deter five members of Big Spring High School's University Interscholastic League Academic Team from qualifying for the state meet.

"We were a bit concerned about this year's regional competition," Academic Coordinator Jennifer Adams said. "We knew what to expect at the 4A Regional competition, and we knew that this year was going to be a whole

See **BSHS**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Omigene Vandever



Omigene Vandever, 90, of Big Spring died Sunday, April 17, 2011, in Lubbock. Graveside services will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Randy Cotton, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, officiating.

She was born Feb. 28, 1921, in Tatum, N.M., to Clara and Thomas Burrows. She married Leonard Vandever on July 25, 1938, in Socorro, N.M. They moved to Big Spring from Andrews in 1971. Leonard preceded her in death Nov. 2, 1988. She was a homemaker, loved sewing, crossword puzzles, swimming and water aerobics.

She is survived by two granddaughters, Vicki Hall of Lubbock and Jennifer Vandever of Tacoma, Wash.; and three great-grandchildren, Ricky Hall, Stephanie Hall and Collin Hall, all of Lubbock.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her son, Richard; and nine brothers and sisters.

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

Paid obituary

Barbara Gene Merworth



Barbara Gene Merworth, 72, of Big Spring died Friday, April 15, 2011, at her residence. Memorial services were held at 3:30 p.m. Monday, April 18, 2011, at Gateway Baptist Church with the Rev. Walter McCall, Hospice Chaplain, officiating.

She was born Sept. 27, 1938, in Lamesa to Martha Louise and Samuel Huber Gayoso. She graduated from Lamesa High School.

She received her bachelor's degree from San Angelo State University and had been a resident of Big Spring most of her life.

She owned and operated Gayoso Galleries, the Treasure Chest, and was a member of Gateway Baptist Church.

She is survived by one son, Carl Merworth and wife Beatriz of Big Spring; two daughters, Martha Merworth of Big Spring and Mary Mathis of Enid, Okla.; and nine grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Hugh Merworth on Nov. 3, 2003.

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

Olivia S. Porras



Olivia S. Porras, 83, of Big Spring died Sunday, April 17, 2011, at her residence. Vigil services will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with Monsignor Bernard L. Gully officiating. Burial will follow in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born March 12, 1928, in Big Spring to Luz and Juan Subia. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring. She married Pascual Porras in 1948 and he preceded her in death in 2006. She was a homemaker and a Catholic.

She is survived by four daughters, Nora Porras and husband Joe Bustamante, Juanita Porras-Alexander and husband Joe Luis Alexander, Cathy Green and husband Tim and Hilda Porras, all of Big Spring; three sons, Pascual Porras Jr. and wife Janie of Big Spring, Luis Porras and wife Lisa of Coahoma and Larry Porras and wife Peggy of Big Spring; four brothers, Lalo Subia of Modesto, Calif., Johnny Subia of Big Spring, Sisto Subia and Raymond Subia, both of Austin; four sisters, Helen Martinez of Big Spring, Cruz Barera of Lubbock, Concho DeLeon of Big Spring and Anselma Mata of Fort Worth; 25 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one great-grandson, Jashawn Smith; and two sisters, Trine Faulkner and Tota Hernandez.

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

Travis N. Rushing



Travis N. Rushing, 71, of Big Spring died Friday, April 15, 2011, in a local hospital. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 20, 2011, at the Salvation Army, located at 811 W. Fifth St.

He was born April 3, 1940, in Coahoma and married Jackie Bernice Wallace on May 9, 1963, in Big Spring.

Travis worked as a janitor for Big Spring Independent School District, YMCA and the truck stop. He sold fruits and vegetables on a part-time basis to the community.

He was a member of the Salvation Army.

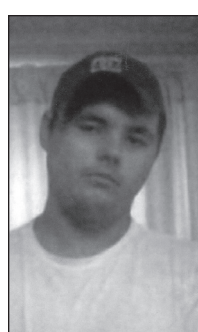
Survivors include his wife, Jackie Rushing of Big Spring; and his son, Keith Rushing of Sweetwater.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jessie and Anis Rushing; three sisters, Patsy McNew, JoAnn Stewart and Shirley McCartney; and one brother, Jessie Eugene Rushing Jr.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., Big Spring 79720.

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

James Lee Overton



James Lee Overton, 19, of Big Spring died Friday, April 15, 2011, in Levelland. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Doug Shelley, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, officiating.

He was born Nov. 21, 1991, in Big Spring to Susan and Raymond Overton. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring, except for living two years in Oregon, where he worked in a lumber mill. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his mother, Susan Overton and husband Johnnie of Big Spring; father, Raymond Overton of Levelland; six brothers, Eddie Glenn Overton, Wesley Earl Overton and Preston Savell, all of Big Spring, Pat Savell of Lubbock, Raymond Overton Jr. of Sand Springs and Steven Savell of Levelland; four sisters, Desiree Savell, Susan E. Overton and Rebecca Overton, all of Big Spring, and Shawnta Savell of Levelland; maternal grandparents, Joyce and Larry Allen of Grape Creek; paternal grandmother, Fannie Overton of Big Spring; two uncles; one aunt; and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Raymond Overton; and one uncle.

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

JoAnne Trevino

JoAnne Trevino, 60, of Big Spring died Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

• Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerriroosenbaum9488@msn.com

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Deanie Burdette



Deanie Burdette, 62, of Big Spring died Sunday, April 17, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Mike Moates officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Oct. 28, 1948, in Big Spring to Esther and Merritt Barnes. She worked 29 years for Farm Bureau as an office manager. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and a Baptist.

She is survived by two daughters, Kerry Rodriguez and husband Freddy and Sherry Burchett and husband J. C., all of Big Spring; two brothers, Buster Barnes and wife Dawnie of Tyler and Curtis Barnes of Houston; five grandchildren; one great-grandson; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one sister, Joetta Graham.

The family suggests memorials to Relay for Life, c/o Sandy Griffin, 1217 E. 17th St., Big Spring 79720; or Texas Oncology Research, 400 N. Garfield St., Suite 100, Midland 79701.

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

Police blotter

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

• MICHAEL NEAL ROBERTS, 39, of 2500 Cheyenne, was arrested Monday on a warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.

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.

• MICHAEL NEAL ROBERTS, 39, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• SHAWNA GAIL ELLISON, 29, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft of property.

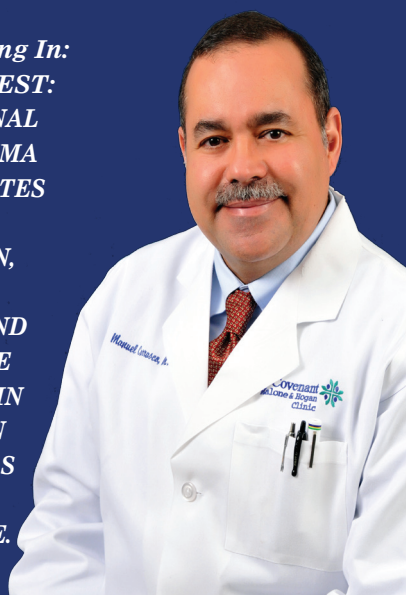
• DAVID SILVA JR., 28, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a Parker County warrant for driving

See **SHERIFF**, Page 3

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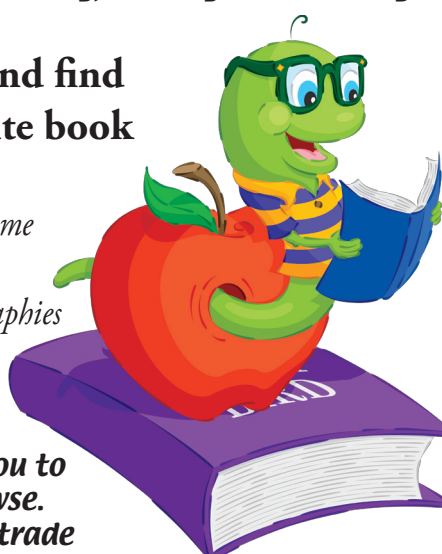
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BUDGET

Continued from Page 1

Committee, said. "That budget saves education. It saves the nursing home industry

in Texas. It takes care of Medicaid patients in Texas," Ogden said, without offering specifics. "The House budget does not. We know how to balance this budget. The debate is whether

you want to save public education, want to save nursing homes or not. I think we're right and we're going to fight for it."

Critics of the House version have said proposed cuts could force tens of thousands of elderly residents out of nursing homes. Dewhurst on Monday repeated his stance that the Senate won't let that happen.

"Some (50,000) or 60,000 grandmas and grandpas pushed out on the street?" Dewhurst said. "That's not Texas."

The House version passed earlier this month underfunds schools by almost \$8 billion less than state law requires be spent. It also underfunds Medicaid by more than \$4 billion.

The proposed cuts have led to several Capitol rallies by teachers who fear massive layoffs and health care workers and patients who worry services for the needy will be slashed.

Republican leaders in both chambers have resisted calls for raising taxes.

SHERIFF

Continued from Page 2

while intoxicated - bond insufficient.

• **MOSHAE D. HURRINGTON**, 22, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.

• **DANIELLE MARIE RAWLS**, 28, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a Pardon and Parole Division warrant for parole violation - delivery of a controlled substance (two counts).

FIRE

Continued from Page 1

say several structures at the home were destroyed and the home suffered extensive smoke and fire damage during the blaze.

Unfortunately, the fire was not contained to just one area, as the acreage between Second Street and the Union Pacific railroad tracks provided plenty of fuel for grass fires, which raged east for several blocks.

Firefighters with the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department - aided by numerous volunteers from the community, including firefighters from the Alon USA Big Spring Refinery - battled the grass fire, which made its way east toward a number

of structures, including a city-run facility that contained several petroleum storage tanks, according to officials.

Monday's fire was just one of many that have occurred in Howard County and surrounding counties during the past several months. Dry conditions, coupled with large amounts of dried grass and brush, have turned West Texas into a tinder box.

According to Tommy Sullivan, HCVFD chief, much-needed rain is the only thing that will slow down the number of grass and brush fires.

"We don't get a lot of sleep or rest this time of year, anyway. With the dry conditions, however, it just keeps getting worse," said an obviously exhausted Sullivan.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Olivia Porras, 83, died Sunday. Vigil Services will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Thomas Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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Deanie Burdette, 62, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

James Lee Overton, 19, died Friday. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Robert Paul Gomez, 26, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

JoAnne Trevino, 60, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

TOWNSEND

Continued from Page 1

Townsend has been a CASA volunteer since September 2009. Robin Reece, CASA volunteer coordinator, said Townsend works closely with everyone involved in her assigned case to ensure her CASA child is provided the tools necessary to promote change.

"It's a decision I made after turning the calendar one day and reading the scripture at the bottom, 'Speak up for those who cannot speak for them-

selves,'" Townsend said. "The idea of being a volunteer has always tugged at my heart-strings."

She said anyone with a heart for children should take the step and be a CASA volunteer. It's a chance to not only build a relationship with a child but to speak up for the best interest and make a difference in a child's life.

"It's something that takes a commitment of about a year, a few hours a month and gives such a rewarding feeling," Townsend said. "It truly is rewarding to see a successful outcome and there is such a

big need."

Statistics at the end of March showed CASA serves 304 children throughout six counties and has 112 volunteers. In Howard County, 67 children are served through CASA.

"There are overwhelming odds when looking at the big numbers, but if you work one-on-one with the kids then you make a difference to that one," Townsend said. "They need volunteers to help make that difference."

In the past year and a half that she has been a CASA volunteer, she has become more sensitive to the needs of chil-

dren and more open-eyed to the levels of abuse and neglect to children.

"It's worth it, though, to see the successful outcome and to have that child you're serving come up to you and hug you," Townsend said.

To find out more about CASA of West Texas, contact Reece at robin@casawtx.org or visit the CASA website at www.casawtx.org

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

BSHS

Continued from Page 1

different situation."

The change in situation didn't stop Jessica Rubio from doing what she has done for the past two years in placing first in Persuasive Extemporaneous speaking. Jessica also placed first in Lincoln-Douglas debate.

"I'm hoping that the third time at state is the charm," Jessica said. "I would love to punctuate

my senior year with two state championships."

Closing out the final round of Lincoln-Douglas Debate was junior Shermila Kher.

"Having placed first and second at district, and first and second at regionals, we are hoping for the same result at state," Adams said.

This is the first time that BSHS has had the top two placers in LD Debate at the regional competition, she added.

First-time state qualifier Mindy Ralston

placed first in Headline Writing. Ralston was surprised that she won, saying she "... didn't even use a pun in my headline." Joining Rubio, Kher, and Ralston in Austin are sophomores Charles Anderson and Chelsey Parker.

Anderson placed third in Computer Applications and Parker placed third in Informative Speaking. "These two students make us excited for next year and the years to come," Adams said "Making the state meet

is no small task, and making the state meet as a sophomore is a huge accomplishment."

The University Interscholastic League State meet will be held May 5-7 on the University of Texas campus.

Big Spring results: Charles Anderson, 3rd place Computer Applications.

Mindy Ralston, 1st place Headline Writing. Jessica Rubio, 1st Place Persuasive Speaking, 1st Place Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Shermila Kher, 2nd Place Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Chelsey Parker, 3rd Place Informative Speaking.

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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.

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

OUR VIEWS

Earth Day 2011: One day for Mother Earth

One day, one goal: A billion acts of green! Earth Day Network is aiming to have a billion acts of environmental service take place, throughout the world.

With recent drought situations and oil being a big issue, it only make sense for us to take the time and pay a little more attention to our planet.

There are resources on this Earth that help sustain human and animal life. Some of those resources can be generated by man, but there are those which we rely on that can't; water is one of those resources.

There has been a lot of talk about conserving water and what better day to start practicing that change than Friday, Earth Day. There's no need to wait for an order to be put in place. There are plenty of ways to start saving water and maintaining Mother Earth's important resources.

It doesn't take a lot to save a lot.

Turn off the water in the morning while brushing your teeth and take a shorter shower at the end of the day. Those are just a couple of ways to save some water.

Saving water outside can be just as simple: while you sit and enjoy the sunset, water your lawn. The temperatures are cooler around sunset than they are at mid-day. Make sure your sprinklers and sprinkler systems are working properly and aren't broken and leaking water to an undesired area.

Of course, water conservation is only one step that can be taken to sustain all that Earth has to offer.

Take the time to start a compost at home; you can make it a fun project with the family and decorate a compost bin. Purchase a cheap trash can and decorate the outside. To save a little money go ahead and just use a basket or plastic bin you already have at home. Once you have decorated the outside, line it with soil and commence to throw in your vegetables, fruits and leaves. For more information on composting look on the web.

One more way to observe Earth Day is to take the time and turn off a light. Save electricity and only use lights when needed. if you are not in a room there is no need to have the light on.

Every little act could be the start of a change and even bigger impact. Every small action will eventually add up to make a big difference.

It only takes one person to spark a change.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we're overburdened, Lord, may we give everything to You.

Amen

There was a time when French food didn't have to advertise

"The gastronomical meal of the French" has landed on the UNESCO world heritage list for "intangible" cultural treasures. That was great news for French President Nicolas Sarkozy. He's been pushing this for two years. But is it good news for French food?

There was a time when French cuisine didn't have to broadcast its virtues through international awards. It was the undisputed standard for fancy dining, from Chicago to Moscow. And in Washington, D.C. — especially Washington, D.C.

No first couple today would dare turn the White House kitchen into the temple to French cuisine that Jackie and John Kennedy did. The recent death of their Vendee-born chef Rene Verdon has revived memories of an era when Americans hoisted French cooking above their own.

Fifty years ago this month, Verdon presented his first official White House meal, a lunch for British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan. The menu listed such items as beef filet au jus and a dessert called "Desire d'Avril," which translates to "April Desire."

When Princess Grace came over to dine in 1961, the menu included spring lamb a la broche primeurs, petits fours secs and demi-tasse. And the heck with California wines. The wine list started with Puligny-Montrachet

and ended with Dom Perignon Champagne.

Right before the Kennedys it was canned vegetables and iceberg lettuce. For a 1955 dinner honoring the king and queen of Greece, Mamie and Dwight Eisenhower served shrimp cocktail, coleslaw, Boston brown bread sandwiches and toasted Triscuits.

After the Kennedys came Lady Bird and Lyndon Johnson, who hired a "food coordinator" from Texas. He told Verdon to make garbanzo bean puree.

Of course, Kennedy was hardly the first American president to hire a French chef. Thomas Jefferson famously turned his Executive Mansion into a center for classic French dining. Patrick Henry thought this un-American, and grumbled that Jefferson had "abjured his native victuals."

John Quincy Adams expressed some reservations about the experience after dining at the mansion.

"There was, as usual, the dissertation upon wines, not very edifying," Adams wrote. (As president, Jefferson spent more than \$2,500 for wine, David McCullough recounts in his book "John Adams.")

State dinners turned steadily less French after Jefferson. But other presidents continued to admire the cuisine. Even the "man of the people" from Tennessee, Andrew Jackson, kept a French chef in the White House.

Today's presidents would not exalt French cuisine for danger of seeming too fancy-pants, and in some parts of the country, not adequately American. In response perhaps to all that silly

questioning of Barack's American birth, the Obamas kept on George W. Bush's chef, Cristeta Comerford. (It happens that she was born in the Philippines.) But the White House has also employed a highly visible No. 2 chef, a Chicago boy named Sam Kass.

The Obama White House kitchen seems to favor domestically grown and organic victuals, nowadays the leading theme among America's culinary pundits. One could not imagine the Obamas' putting something called "Desire d'Avril" on their menu.

French cuisine has become just another great culinary tradition, alongside Italian, Chinese and Mexican. The loss of dominance may explain France's wish to see its gastronomy honored by UNESCO — alongside the Croatian carnival bell ringers' pageant.

Even in this victory, however, supporters of French cooking are toning down their claims of culinary superiority. "We have the best gastronomy in the world," Sarkozy said, quickly adding a politically correct disclaimer, "at least from our point of view."

There was a time when the French would have laughed off the notion of seeking official recognition of its gastronomic might. Apparently no more. But good French cuisine remains darn magnifique nonetheless.

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.

Incorrigible and a debt menace

In my book "Crimes Against Liberty," I described President Obama as dishonest, hyper-partisan, a bully, a narcissist and a hard-core left-wing ideologue. Anyone who thinks my description is exaggerated or too harsh didn't hear his Wednesday speech on the budget.

One might have expected that a newly elected president who had "inherited" such a disturbingly high deficit, a growing national debt, and a forecast of unfunded entitlements soon to explode because of baby boomer demographics alone would roll up his sleeves and tackle this deficit and debt problem.

Instead, Obama saw that \$1.3 trillion deficit, licked his Marxist chops, and used it as an excuse to double down on the profligate spending that was driving our budgetary problems in the first place. He proposed — and secured — an \$800 billion "stimulus" package.

With messianic winds at his back, Obama proceeded to implement the plan, which couldn't have even qualified as a bona fide stimulus measure in the eyes of an avowed Keynesian. It was a combination of political paybacks, pork and unprecedented waste, with millions going to phantom ZIP codes under the watchful eye of Obama's stimulus cop, ol' sleeping Joe Biden. Adding insult to the sham claim that this money was designed to stimulate, just a fraction of the money was spent in the first year.

Hindsight confirms what many of us predicted: The stimulus did not stimulate. Unemployment became much worse, and the debt continued to explode. Obama's solution was to ignore the entitlements issue and devise new ways to bankrupt the nation, from cap and trade to Obamacare to reversing welfare reform.

Finally, everyone started to recognize our impending na-

tional financial crisis, thanks to the alternative media and the tea party. Obama went through the motions of establishing a "bipartisan" deficit commission, but when it recommended remedial action, he shelved it. He then presented his 10-year budget plan, which he said wouldn't add a penny to the debt but in fact would add some \$8 trillion. Then he was AWOL, pretending to be above the "childish" partisan fray occurring in Congress over continuing resolutions.

Next, Rep. Paul Ryan produced his "Path to Prosperity," which boldly addressed entitlements, other spending issues and the oft-forgotten component of balancing budgets, economic growth. Obama was forced out of hiding to give us yet another speech on the budget.

His speech was insulting, misleading, reckless and disgraceful. Instead of offering serious, specific proposals, he gave us generalities and partisan and class warfare.

In the words of Ryan in an interview with radio host Mark Levin, Obama basically accused Ryan and other Republicans of being un-American — of "pitting children with autism or Down syndrome against millionaires." Ryan said he'd never seen a president give a speech that stooped to this level of partisanship, demagoguery and distortion. Obama's "poisoning the well."

Instead of tackling the spending issue head-on, Obama said the problem is that the rich don't pay enough. And, I kid you not, he suggested setting up another bogus commission.

As Ryan pointed out, this is not a tax problem; Americans, especially the wealthy, are taxed enough. The top 1 percent of earners pay about 38 percent, and the top 10 percent almost 70 percent. Hiking their taxes would decrease, not increase, revenues.

Just as he did with the health care summit, Obama lured the Republicans to this meeting with overtures of bipartisanship, reconciliation and compromise. But

as Ryan related, Obama didn't even offer to meet Republicans halfway. He sneered at them in full campaign mode, defiantly promising more of his failed, reckless solutions.

He offered not the slightest acknowledgment that his policies have contributed to this crisis. Rather than concede that we can't continue on this destructive path, he lectured us on how we must continue on this path.

The America of Obama's dreams is not the one of self-reliance and entrepreneurship to which he paid phony lip service at the beginning of his speech. It is an America in which the government, rather than the private sector, creates wealth and leads ignorant, helpless people by the nose from cradle to grave from preschool to the academy, with the caveat that if they succeed too much, they will make themselves enemies of the state and targets for punitive action. Obama's new American dream is an American nightmare.

Just as Obama refused to hear the American people on his dastardly Obamacare and insisted that they "take another look" at his plan — a 55th look, to be precise — he is now insisting that we continue to bankrupt America, because he refuses to abandon his Marxist determination to confiscate and redistribute private property and consummate his grandiose vision of transforming America from a land of equal opportunity to one of equal outcomes — depressed outcomes.

He is an incorrigible, militant statist who will not stop of his own volition, so he must be defeated. If this latest performance doesn't awaken the lingering Obama apologists to the full extent of his aversion to solving America's problems, nothing will, and they must be defeated, too.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.



FROMA HARROP



DAVID LIMBAUGH

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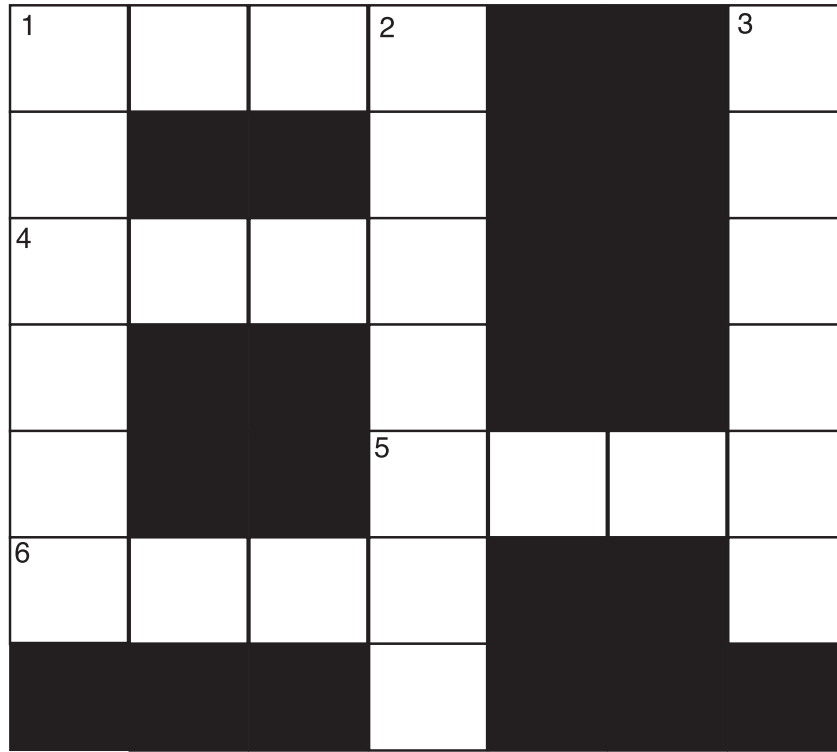
A-Bob's Bail Bonds

Burrito Express I & II

Troy Tompkins,
CMFC Financial Planner
The Prudential Insurance
Company Of America



Crossword Puzzle



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

• **1653:** OLIVER CROMWELL DISSOLVES THE RUMP PARLIAMENT.

• **1902:** MARIE AND PIERRE CURIE REFINE RADIUM CHLORIDE.

• **1999:** THE COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL TRAGEDY TAKES PLACE.

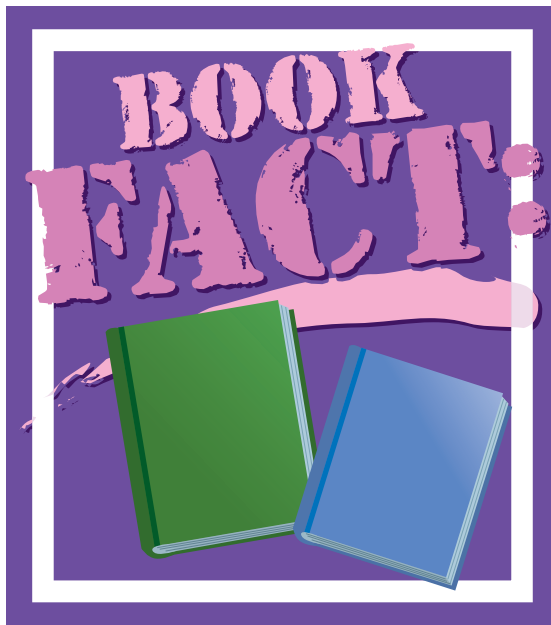
ACROSS

- 1. Laid by a chicken
- 4. In the night sky
- 5. Anything that conceals
- 6. Move from a lower position to a higher one

DOWN

- 1. Spring holiday
- 2. Make effort to achieve
- 3. Relatives

Answers:
ACROSS
1. eggs 4. star 5. veil 6. risen
DOWN
1. Easter 2. strives 3. family



THIS BOOK FEATURES THE SCRIPTURES THAT SERVE AS THE FOUNDATION FOR THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.

ANSWER: HOLY BIBLE



holy

dedicated for a religious purpose

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Rabbit

SPANISH: Conejo

ITALIAN: Coniglio

FRENCH: Lapin

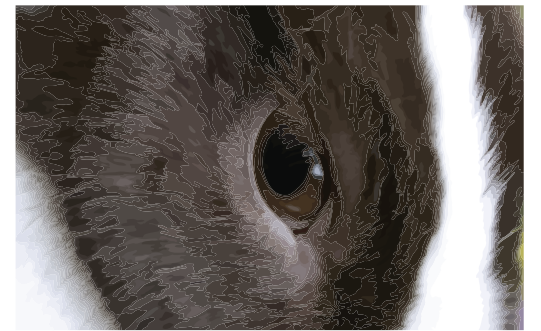
GERMAN: Kaninchen

Did You Know?

IN MANY RELIGIONS, AN EGG IS A SYMBOL OF NEW LIFE. THIS IS WHY THEY ARE GIVEN AT EASTER.



GET THE PICTURE?



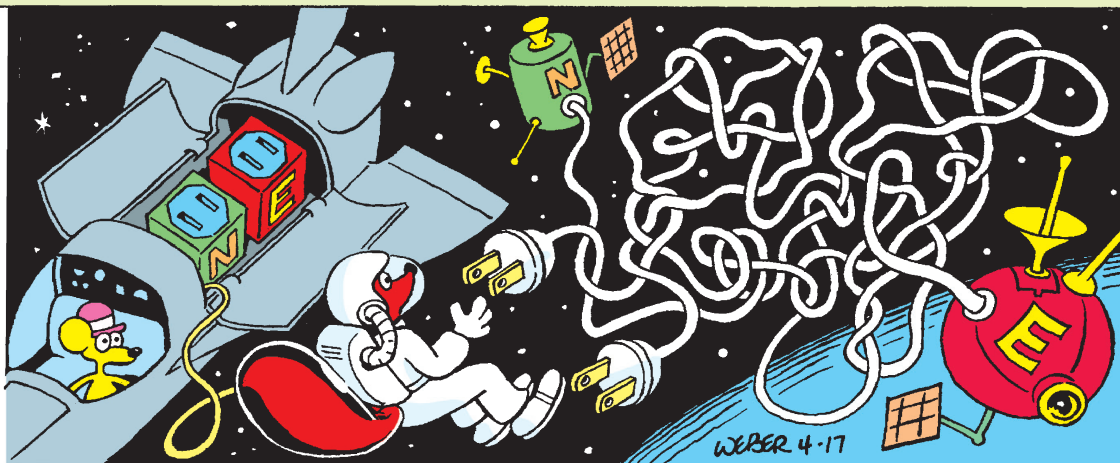
Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: RABBIT

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

Both of these important communications satellites are losing power at an alarming rate. Slylock Fox and Max Mouse are on a mission to save them. The satellites must be plugged into the correct chargers within the next thirty seconds or they will die. Quick, help Slylock!



HOW TO DRAW a boy and buzzing bee



YOUR DRAWING



Today's terrific artist is Megan, age 14

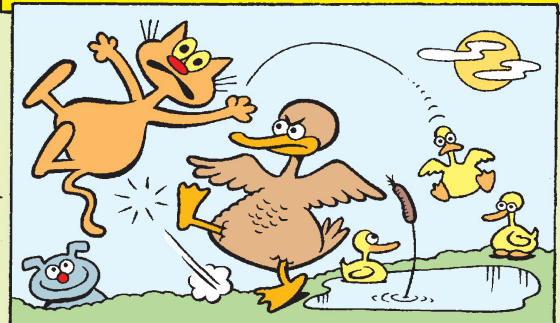
Submit your drawings at www.kidcartoonists.com

Which of the following is no longer considered a planet?

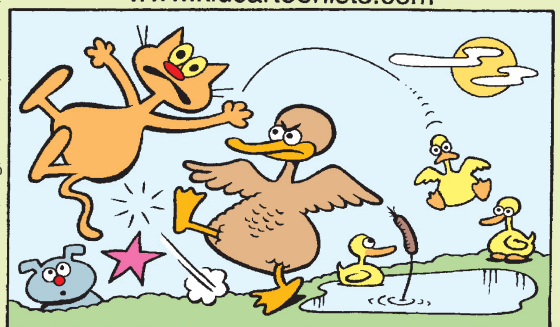
- a) Mercury
- b) Pluto
- c) Uranus
- d) Jupiter
- e) Earth

Answer -- a) Scientists now call Pluto a dwarf planet.

Find six differences between these panels.



www.kidcartoonists.com



Answer -- Star, dog, whiskers, feathers, cloud and cattail plant.

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

Spring migration takes a detour

As the late March winds ruffled its feathers, the raptor stood stoically in the grass as smaller birds fussed noisily in a nearby tree. As if taunting the hunter by their constant chatter, they almost seemed celebratory of its plight.

Looking out her front window, the homeowner had also noticed the medium sized bird of prey. Finally, as it decided to take flight, she learned why there was such a ruckus in her yard.

The predator was having difficulty rising into the air. Making a desperate effort to fly, the bird could only lift itself a foot or so off the ground. Unable to sustain this effort, it would glide back to the lawn.

Realizing that it must be injured, the woman notified someone she felt would know what to do. Soon her call resulted in the bird being delivered to the San Angelo Nature Center.

Although not licensed to rehabilitate wild, migratory birds, the manager of the regional museum and learning center promptly called Diane Tracy. Listed

as a sub-permittee by Texas Parks & Wildlife, she has helped us numerous times by rescuing, sustaining, and transporting raptors for delivery to South Plains in Lubbock.

At the nature center, Diane identified the raptor as a Cooper's hawk. Since it needed an x-ray to determine the extent of any damage, she took the hawk to veterinarian, Dave Sheen. Previously, he had graciously examined and administered euthanasia to severely injured raptors that she had received.

Hoping that in the future he would have the opportunity to treat and successfully be involved in an ultimate release, the doctor willingly x-rayed the Cooper's. After showing her the results, Dr. Sheen said that although there were no breaks, the bird had sustained a soft tissue injury near its shoulder.

Even though the hawk had held its wings equally when she first saw it, Diane had noticed the tufts of feathers that had been disturbed on the upper part of the wing. Care-



Courtesy photo

Hiding among foliage and dense junipers while awaiting prey, the Cooper's hawk quickly flaps its wings, glides, and maneuvers around and through trees in pursuit of small birds. To thin overabundant populations, the accipiter is nature's way of providing sustenance for this specie while at the same time, control of another.

fully removing them to examine the wound, Dr. Sheen exposed a slight cut in the skin.

After cleansing it thoroughly, he administered both anti-inflammatory and antibiotic medications. With the bird back in a carrier, the veterinarian said he felt that this one had an excellent chance at making it.

With the afternoon forecast for winds and blowing dust, Diane and I decided to wait until the following

morning for a transfer. We'd meet in Sterling City. Then Art and I would drive to Lubbock.

Later that evening, Diane called. She and her husband, Dale, would deliver the Cooper's to Big Spring the next morning in order to shorten our driving day.

When they arrived, Diane and I took the carrier into the garage to transfer the hawk to our container. Notorious for evasive actions,

especially when it comes to humans, the specie can quickly escape. If it did, at least I would only have to chase it around a room rather than the neighborhood.

With a choice of accessing it from the top or side, I chose the latter. To stick my hand in the top would give the bird too much of a chance to slip beside and up my arm. Although it dodged my hands briefly, I was able to catch it.

At the wildlife center, the Cooper's was predictable. Escaping the carrier, it briefly flew a few feet, and disappeared as soon as it landed on the floor. Before it would succumb to capture, it had a volunteer, Gail Barnes, on "all fours" moving laundry baskets and other items to catch it.

Weighed, the bird had excellent body fat. After looking at the x-rays sent by Dr. Sheen, Gail showed us the digital pictures. With continued medications, she also felt the Cooper's hawk would be releasable.

Four days later, Gail called. Since the bird

BIRD POOP

By BEBE McCASLAND



was doing so well, she anticipated placing it in the flight cage. With additional room to exercise, the raptor mastered the long facility with ease the first day.

The following morning, a volunteer released the Cooper's. The slender, blue-gray hawk, so handsome with its creamy chest and belly accented with tawny barring, took with it the aspirations of a thoughtful veterinarian and volunteers.

Although its spring migration had taken a detour, the raptor had been fortunate. Since it was destined to spend a breeding season much further north, the traveler had been escorted nearly 200 miles without beating a wing.

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

Education is opportunity at our fingertips

Over the last 40 years, the United States has seen a remarkable change in the academic success of boys and girls. Forty years ago, 58 percent

of college graduates were young men; now close to 60 percent of college graduates are women, and this gender gap continues to grow. There will always be boys who will thrive in

school, but more and more, it is girls who do well academically and boys who are losing ground.

Boys are more likely to receive poor grades or drop out before finishing high school. Girls score higher in both reading and writing than boys do. On average, girls outperform boys in elementary school, middle school, high school, college and graduate school. So the question is: How can we motivate boys to do better in school?

It has been said that the vast majority of boys who get poor grades in school are not underachieving; they

are making their best effort and are struggling academically because they are of average or below average intelligence and the work is extremely difficult for them, or they are in a school district with very high expectations. For them it is humiliating and frustrating to struggle with academics that other boys find easy.

These struggling students need continued encouragement to stay motivated and they need to see the relevance of their school subjects. I read where an expert in learning disabilities said that one-third of boys have

special brains; boys have more variable brains than girls do, and that this affects their school performance.

Two-thirds of children in special education are boys. Many of these boys have real learning disabilities. They are not stupid or lazy; their brains just do not work as well as others and it is very demoralizing.

Many boys often feel that school is difficult and uninteresting and there are other things more interesting such as girls, sports, a part-time job, cars, etc. or outside interests that are so compelling that school can no longer hold their interest.

The satisfaction, and applause that talented, athletic boys receive playing sports or the sense of usefulness that other boys get from paying jobs, editing the school newspaper, being part of a band, etc. are far greater than anything mere grades can offer them.

It's exciting when a boy discovers a passion he wants to pursue, but it can present many challenges to parents. There are also those who seem to be allergic to the school environment. Some boys for whom the physical experience of being in a class all day, the psy-

PARENT'S CORNER

By DARRELL RYAN



chological experience of having a teacher controlling everything, the frustrations of having to sit still, the humiliation of grades or any one of a thousand annoying things about the school environment are simply intolerable.

If your boy is allergic to school in this way, it is going to be a struggle to keep him going until he finishes. Understanding teachers and parents must motivate and encourage these boys to help them understand why they need school and what an education can do for them. We live in challenging times; the need of an education is more important than ever and an education is an opportunity that is at our finger tips.

As William James once said, "He who refuses to embrace an opportunity loses the prize as surely as if he had failed."

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Percentages Aren't Always Right

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 8 6 4
♥ 8 5 2
♦ A K J
♣ K Q 10 6

WEST
♠ A Q 9 3 2
♥ —
♦ 7 6 5 4
♣ 9 5 4 2

EAST
♠ 10 7
♥ A Q J 10 9 6
♦ 8 2
♣ J 8 3

SOUTH
♠ K J 5
♥ K 7 4 3
♦ Q 10 9 3
♣ A 7

The bidding:
West Pass North 1♣ East 2♥ South 3NT
Opening lead — three of spades.

Sometimes a play favored by the percentages should not be made because declarer has a sure thing if he goes against the odds. This seeming paradox arose in today's deal where South wound up in three notrump after a pre-emptive heart overall by East. West led the three of spades, and two things were immediately apparent: First, it was clear that West had no hearts. Second, West was almost surely leading from a five-card spade suit (he could have only one card lower than the three, assuming he was leading fourth-best).

After digesting this information,

Tomorrow: The Curse of Scotland.
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declarer won East's ten with the jack and mullied over the situation. The easiest way to gain a ninth trick would be to lead a heart from dummy toward his hand. But this was not feasible, since East would rise with the ace and return a spade through the K-5 to sink the contract.

Declarer therefore decided that his best chance for a ninth trick was to score a trick with dummy's ten of clubs. Before broaching that suit, though, he first cashed four diamond tricks, discarding a heart from dummy as East discarded two hearts.

The play of the diamonds revealed that West had started with four of them, marking him with four clubs as well (and East with three). The odds thus became 4-to-3 that West held the jack of clubs, so a finesse of the ten on the second round seemed in order. As can be seen, this would not have met with great success.

However, South realized that if he simply cashed the A-K-Q of clubs instead of finessing, he had a sure thing regardless of who had the club jack. Accordingly, he took the three top clubs, dropped East's jack and so made the contract.

And what if West had held the jack? In that case, declarer would next have played the ten of clubs from dummy. West would win with the jack but would then be forced to lead a spade, handing South the king of spades as his game-going trick.

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GCCHS girls 3rd at regionals

Herald Staff Report

ABILENE — The Garden City High School girls' golf team is in the hunt for a spot in the state high school tournament, but it has some catching up to do.

The Lady Bearkats shot a team total 382, good enough for third place, during first-day action at the Region II-1A golf tournament Monday. That score leaves Garden City 18 strokes behind Robert Lee.

The top two teams at the regional level qualify for the University Interscholas-

tic League state high school tournament, scheduled for May in Austin.

Britni Cook fired an 87 to lead the Garden City girls, followed by Katelyn Hoelscher with an 88, Ashley Halfmann with a 99 and Rachel Hirt and Katy Multer, who shot 108 and 118, respectively.

The Garden City boys' squad shot a team total 344 to end the first day of the tournament in seventh place.

Hayden Halfmann and Austin Hoelscher posted identical scores of 80, while Brian Hirt fired an 82, Colton Belew posted a 102 and Corbin Davis scored 115.

The Region II-1A tournament concludes today at the Shady Oaks Golf Course in Baird.

Guinn ends 1st day with an 89

LUBBOCK — Big Spring High School's Kelsie Guinn shot an 89 during first-day action at the Region I-3A girls' golf tournament Monday.

Guinn's total puts her 13 strokes behind first-day leader Sarah Moore of Burkburnett in medalist competition at the tournament.

In team play, Andrews, Snyder and Burkburnett are in

a tight race for the two state tournament spots. Andrews is currently first after shooting 328, while Snyder is two strokes back at 330 and Burkburnett is third with a team total of 332.

The girls' tournament concludes today at Meadowbrook Golf Course in Lubbock.

Stanton golfers compete at regional

ODESSA — Stanton High School's Eric Garza is eight strokes back of the leader after first-day medalist play at the Region I-2A golf tournament Monday.

Garza posted a score of 78, which puts him eight shots back of leader Logan Dert of Bangs.

Wall currently leads the team standings with a total score of 302, followed by Jim Ned at 319 and Spearman and Sonora, which are tied for third at 324.

In girls' competition, Stanton's Kendra Graham shot a first-day 85 and is eight strokes behind Elizabeth Chavarria of Sonora in the individual standings.

Sonora leads the team competition with a total of 354, followed by Jim Ned (355) and Kermit (359).

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Baseball — Andrews at Big Spring, 7 p.m.

Baseball — Colorado City at Coahoma, 7 p.m.

Baseball — Slaton at Forsan, 7 p.m.

Softball — Colorado City at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.

Softball — Slaton at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.

Golf — Big Spring, Stanton, Garden City, stands at regional tournaments.

WEDNESDAY

Golf — Big Spring boys at Region I-3A golf tournament, Meadowbrook GC, Lubbock.

Tennis — Forsan and Coahoma at Region I-2A tournament, Ector Co. ISD Tennis Complex, Odessa.

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



Big Spring's Jarred Doporto fields a grounder in baseball action earlier this year. The Steers face Andrews in non-district baseball action tonight at 7 p.m. at Steer Park.

Wilson strong as Rangers roll

ARLINGTON (AP) — C.J. Wilson is starting to feel like himself again. So are the top two hitters in the Texas Rangers' lineup.

Wilson struck out nine in seven strong innings while Ian Kinsler and Elvis Andrus both snapped out of extended slumps as the Rangers returned home with a 7-1 victory over the AL West rival Los Angeles Angels on Monday night.

"He made pitches when he had to, kept them off balance," manager Ron Washington said about Wilson, before really breaking out a smile when asked about the duo at the top of the batting order.

"They're pretty good players. We love them when they're doing well. We have to stick with them when things aren't going right," he added. "It's only April. In two or three days, those numbers you see can change pretty drastically." Kinsler, who entered hitting .170, snapped an 0-for-18 slide with a pair of extra-base hits before scoring on a suicide squeeze by Andrus, who was hitting .176 and in a 4-for-39 slide before his three hits.

"It was definitely a good night," Kinsler said.

Adrian Beltre homered for the second straight night and Mitch Moreland

"I felt a little bit more myself. I still don't feel like I'm all the way back to where I want to be yet. I ended up throwing a ton of pitches. ... I was getting ahead of a lot of guys, but not able to put away everybody."

C.J. Wilson
Texas Rangers' pitcher

drove in three runs for the Rangers, who were back from a nine-game road trip after losing four of five. They have started a season with seven consecutive home victories for the first time.

The Angels had won five in a row with some solid pitching performances to enter the three-game series tied with Texas atop the division at 10-5. Then Ervin Santana (0-2) ran into a little bit of trouble.

run single in the fourth, put the Rangers ahead to stay. Texas added four runs in the fifth, including Beltre's three-run homer to straightaway center.

Kinsler started the fifth with a triple into the left-field corner that ricocheted past Vernon Wells. Andrus then bunted with Kinsler charging home and was credited with a single

when Santana threw late and high to first base.

"I kind of slowed down a little bit heading into second base, saw he was having trouble with the ball and I was able to pick it back up and get into third base," Kinsler said. "Elvis is such a good bunter, he does such a good job getting the bat on the ball somehow. It makes Wash very confident to be able to put that play on and it worked well."

Michael Young followed with a single before Beltre's fifth home run of the season chased Santana.

Angels pitchers allowed only 10 runs during the five-game winning streak, a span when the starters had a 1.98 ERA.

Santana struck out three and walked two while giving up 10 hits in four-plus innings. He is 11-8 in 22 career starts against the

Rangers, his most against any team.

"I don't think overall he was locked in, but he wasn't far off," Scioscia said. "Those guys beat us today. We didn't execute some things on the mound and at the plate, but we're not that far off."

Wilson (2-0) was already over 100 pitches when he gave up three consecutive two-out singles in the seventh, the last to Howie Kendrick for the Angels' only run. The crafty left-hander got a rousing ovation from the crowd when walking to the dugout after he got Bobby Abreu on an inning-ending flyball.

Wilson scattered nine hits. His only walk was to Abreu in the first before Torii Hunter grounded into a double play.

"I felt a little bit more myself. I still don't feel like I'm all the way back to where I want to be yet," Wilson said. "I ended up throwing a ton of pitches. ... I was getting ahead of a lot of guys, but not able to put away everybody."

NOTES: Beltre has four homers in his nine-game hitting streak. He also had his fourth game this season with at least three RBIs. ... Kinsler got his first hit in a week with a two-out double in the third.

In brief

Howard to hold cheerleader tryouts

The Howard College Cheerleading Squad will hold tryouts Saturday, April 30 at 9 a.m. in the Harold Davis Fitness Center on the Howard College campus.

A clinic will be held for applicants to learn all try-out material Thursday, April 28 and Friday, April 29 from 4-6 p.m. in the fitness center.

All interested persons need to fill out the online application, found on the Howard College athletic website (www.hchawk.com).

For more information, please see the website, or contact Hollie Allred at 432-264-8538.

Volleyball showcase May 21 in San Angelo

Registration is now open for the West Texas Volleyball Showcase, scheduled for May 21 in San Angelo.

The tournament will be officiated by TASO-approved officials.

Registration fee is \$225 per team. Registration deadline is May 15.

Play will be held in two divisions — big school (Class 3A and 2A) and small school (Class 1A and 2A, as well as junior varsity). There is a 20-team limit.

San Angelo will be the site for a volleyball summer league, which runs from June 7 until June 28, officials announced.

Registration fee is \$25 per player. Players can sign up as individuals to be placed on a team.

For more information, contact Chris Cardenas at (325) 374-2910.

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AMERICAN STATE bank is seeking a self-motivated employee with excellent sales, communications, and customer service skills to work a flexible part-time teller schedule. Credit and criminal checks are part of our application process. Apply at 1411 Gregg Street.

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BARGAIN MART is seeking a cashier, experience preferred, dependable and must be available on SATURDAYS. APPLY IN PERSON ONLY AT 403 RUNNELS.

MATURE CHRISTIAN Person to work in Child Care Center full-time or part-time positions available. Apply at 118 Cedar Rd.

Help Wanted

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

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for information

PARKS METHODIST RETIREMENT VILLAGE MDS Coordinator needed- Must be LVN or RN with current Texas license. MDS experience required; familiarity with MDS 3.0 preferred. 1 year of long-term care experience preferred. Send resume with salary history by fax or e-mail to: Sandy Underwood, HR Director Parks Methodist Retirement Village 111 Parks Village Drive Odessa, TX 79765 Fax 432-563-0430.

TOP JOBS

INGRAM CONCRETE now hiring local CDL drivers. Please call (432)267-6348 EEO Employer.

Help Wanted

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

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TOP JOBS

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PART TIME Church Secretary Needed knowledge in computers is beneficial. Apply in person at 201 South Avenue Coahoma, TX.

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

Operations Maintenance Technician- Responsible for maintaining the District's raw water pipelines, pump stations, and wells in the Big Spring Area. Entry to Intermediate level position. CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.

Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432)267-6341 or our website www.crmwd.org

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Help Wanted

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

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

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

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

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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. This full time position includes benefits such as vacations, sick leave, and holiday pay, just to mention a few. If you feel you have the qualifications and are interested please submit a resume to Sports Editor Position, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79721 or email to editor@bigspringherald.com We are an EOE.

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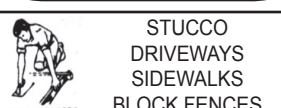
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Many people started new relationships and projects at the end of March, and this is the perfect time to assess your progress thus far. Tomorrow the sun slips into Taurus, so this is the last full day of 2011's Aries solar transit. It's the ideal time to review the past four weeks and make projections about what you'd like to accomplish by the end of May.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Be bold, and don't look back. You'll still get the lesson. Your sub-conscious mind is processing everything you've done, even when your conscious mind hasn't gotten around to it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It bothers you when you know you have yet to win someone over -- but it shouldn't. Not everyone is winnable. Concentrate on those who are responsive to you, and you will prosper.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You will play a game that looks easy but isn't at all. Talk to someone who knows this game better than you do. Also,

you are wise to respond to feedback, both verbal and nonverbal.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). This is neither the best circumstance you could have hoped for, nor the worst you've seen. Before you go to extremes, determine what is necessary. Appropriately moderate action will bring you success.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Even the very best ideas wear thin at some point. The law of diminishing returns sets in, novelty wears thin, and efforts lose their initial "wow" factor. If you know when to quit, you'll go out on top.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You will make a memorable impression when you concentrate your efforts. Do one thing better than everyone else. You already sense what "your thing" is going to be, and you're right. Follow that gut feeling.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're not an open book, but you do reveal secrets judiciously. What you share with others in confidence makes them feel important. They understand that they must be very special for you to trust them with intimate knowledge.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The meal always tastes better when you're

hungry. This principle applies to your life today in ways that are not related to food. You'll do something because you want to and for no other reason.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Pick up the phone -- it's your magic portal to the life you want. Call friends and strangers alike. Make your pitch. Talk about what you want. You'll schmooze your way into a sweet deal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You sense what's on the horizon for your group. Also, you get the feeling that you can do what others cannot. It's why you should take the lead. You're more qualified than you think.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You will be met with a completely new circumstance. This fresh challenge jolts all of your senses wide-awake. And though you may not be sure how to handle it, you'll learn as you go.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your approach may be contrary to the one that is popular, and that's precisely why you'll succeed. You'll stick out in a very positive way. You'll quickly gain mass favor.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 19). This year you'll go where you couldn't go before. A

skilled diplomat, you'll make friends in high places and enjoy exclusive and expensive arrangements. Events in June lead to advancement of your social and financial plans. You'll have an opportunity to improve the life of a friend or family member. Aquarius and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 20, 1, 24 and 19.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Taurus who has recently lost 30 pounds. It was so hard! But I'm still 30 pounds overweight, and I'm not sure I care anymore. I'm tired of counting calories and worrying about every meal. I thought I would enjoy people coming up to me and commenting on how great I look, but it turns out that the attention almost offends me. Are they saying I didn't look good before? I feel very self-conscious now. I'm also sick of the diet, and I don't want to buy the special food anymore. Do you have any advice for a middle-aged woman who's stuck between fat and thin?"

Congratulations on your choice to get healthier. Taurus is the sign of appetite, and your sign enjoys quality in all things, including the taste of food. Your

sacrifices have not been easy, and you do deserve to be commended for them. Try not to take offense when you get compliments, as none is intended. It sounds like it's time to integrate your diet with your current lifestyle. Ideally, you need a way of eating that you will enjoy whether or not you are trying to lose weight.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Kate Hudson and her rocker beau, Matthew Bellamy, are excitedly expecting their new edition. Hudson is a fiery Aries, with her sun, Mercury and Mars in the warrior sign. Aries moms are playful and find it easy to relate to the child's point of view. Hudson's Capricorn moon is a nice counterbalance to that spontaneity -- she has plenty of follow through and a strong family and work ethic.

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

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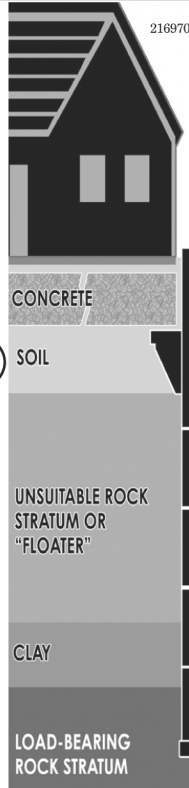
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|-------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 5:PM | News ABC | Alma Notic. | Lopez | News | Noticias | News | Seinfeld | Scrivner | World | 70s | Cash Cab | Dirty Harry, Reni Santoni | Ways Die | Law & Order | 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live | Wizards Good | NASCAR Pardon | SportsCenter |
| 6:PM | Jeopardy! | Lena de Wheel | Two Men | News | Caso Cer-rado | News | King | McDonald | PBS News-Hour | Seinfeld | Deadliest | Auction Hunters | NBA Basketball: First Round: Teams TBA. | | Deck | SportsCenter Special | E:60 | |
| 7:PM | Jamie Oliver's Food | Teresa (SS) | Glee | NCIS | Aurora (SS) | The Biggest Loser | Office | Chumney | Latin America | One Tree Hill | Deadliest Catch | Movie: Magnum Force, David Soul | Auction | | Game | Movie: Lemonade Mouth, Hayley Kiyoko | SportsNation | SportsCenter Spec. |
| 8:PM | Dancing With Stars | | Raising Traffic | NCIS: Los Angeles | Herederos-Monte | | Office | Cortes | Frontline | Hellicats | Deadliest Catch | Auction | NBA Basketball: First Round: Teams TBA. | Fa. Affair | Deck | Year/Quarterback | Baseball Tonight | |
| 9:PM | (01) Body of Proof | Triunfo del Amor | Simpsons | The Good Wife | La Reina del Sur | Parenthood | Office | | Independent Lens | Payne | Hogs Gone Wild | Movie: Magnum Force, David Soul | Auction | Fa. Affair | Deck | Year/Quarterback | Baseball Tonight | |
| 10:PM | News | Impacto | How I Met | News | Noticias | News | Conan | Brad | | Roseanne | Deadliest Catch | Charlie Rose | Ways Die | Wizards | E:60 | SportsCenter | | |
| 11:PM | Jimmy Kimmel Live | Para Volver a Amar | Law & Order: SVU | Late | Decisiones (SS) | Late Night | Lopez Tonight | Ministerio-Vida | T. Smiley (Off Air) | South Pk | Deadliest Catch | | Ways Die | Wendy Williams | Hannah | SportsNation | Baseball NFL Live | |
| 12:AM | Extra | Destilando Amor | Paid | Insider | Pagado | News | Conan | Brad | | Cops | Hogs Gone Wild | Movie: Trading Places, Ralph Bellamy | MAN | CSI: NY | Wizards | Draft | SportsCenter | |
| 1:AM | Paid | Mujer... Cero | King-Hill | (:37) Up to Pelicula: | | | | Alewine | | Homecoming | Overhaul | Amazing Video | Southland | Wizards Suite Life | SportsNation | SportsCenter | | |

DENNIS THE MENACE



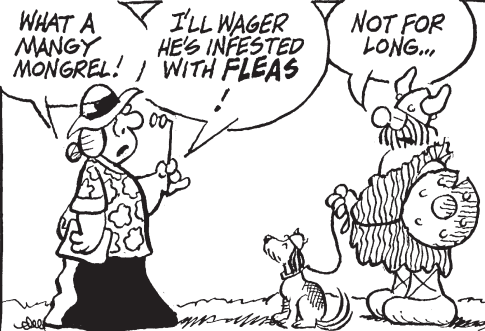
"I ALWAYS PLANT THREE SEEDS... ONE FOR THE BIRDS, ONE FOR THE BUGS AND ONE FOR ME."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy, I need a vanilla folder for school. What flavor is this one?"

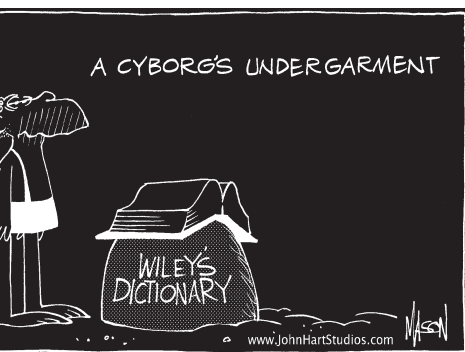
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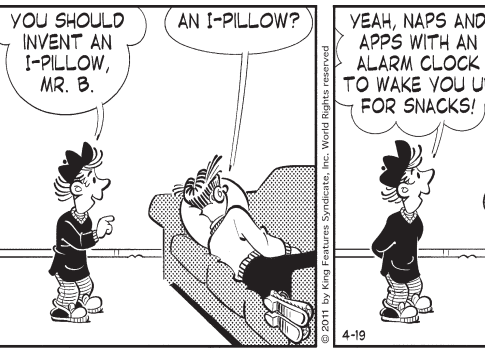
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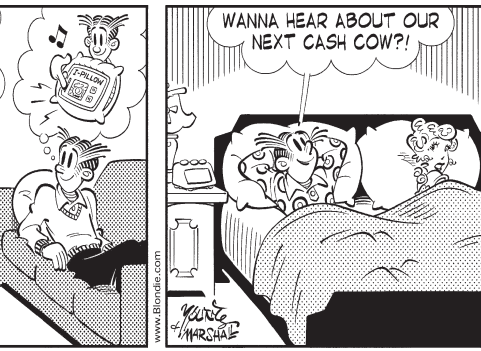
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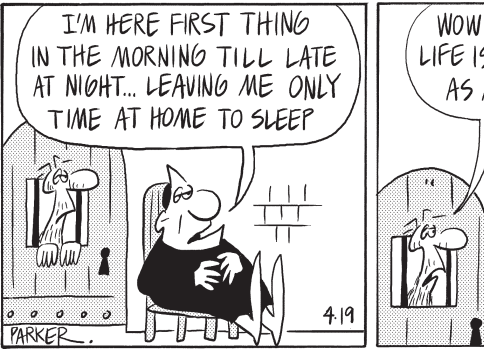
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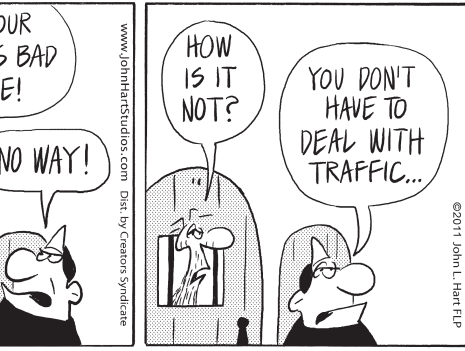
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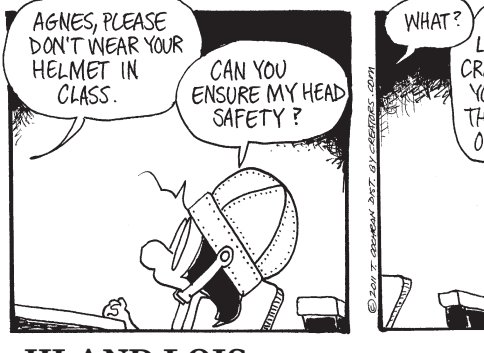
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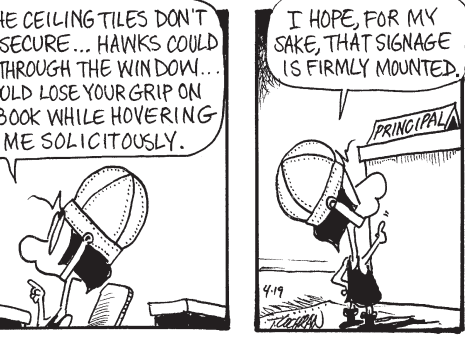
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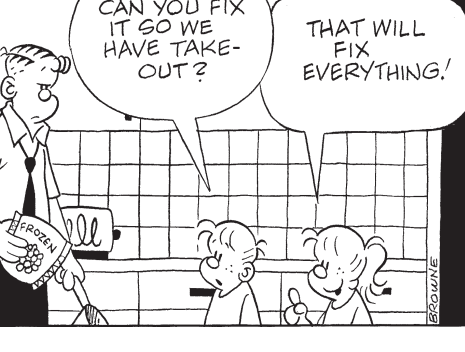
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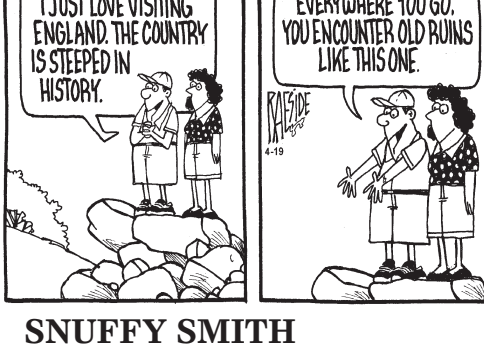
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THE OTHER COAST



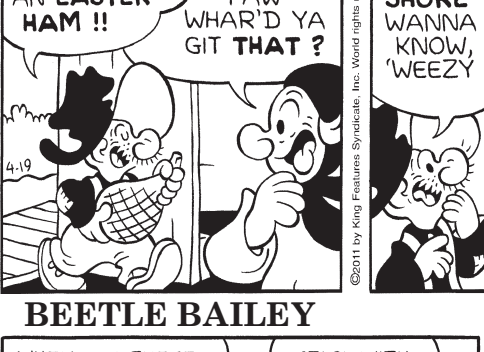
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SNUFFY SMITH



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BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, April 19, the 109th day of 2011. There are 256 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 19, 1861, a week after the Civil War began, President Abraham Lincoln authorized a blockade of Southern ports.

On this date:

In 1775, the American Revolutionary War began with the battles of Lexington and Concord.

In 1911, the Ballet Russes premiered "Le Spectre de la Rose" in Monte Carlo, with Vaslav Nijinsky and Tamara Karsavina.

In 1933, the United States went off the gold standard.

In 1943, during World War II, tens of thousands of Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto began a valiant but ultimately futile battle against Nazi forces.

In 1951, General Douglas MacArthur, relieved of his Far East command by President

Harry S. Truman, bid farewell in an address to Congress in which he quoted a line from a ballad: "Old soldiers never die; they just fade away."

In 1961, the Federal Communications Commission authorized regular FM stereo broadcasting starting on June 1, 1961.

In 1971, the West African nation of Sierra Leone was declared a republic.

In 1993, the 51-day siege at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, ended as fire destroyed the structure after federal agents began smashing their way in; dozens of people, including sect leader David Koresh, were killed.

In 1995, a truck bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people. (Bomber Timothy McVeigh was later convicted of federal murder charges and executed.)

In 2005, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany was elected pope in the first conclave of the new millennium; he took the name Benedict XVI.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Hugh O'Brian is 86. Actress Elinor Donahue is 74. Rock

musician Alan Price (The Animals) is 69. Actor Tim Curry is 65. Pop singer Mark "Flo" Volman (The Turtles; Flo and Eddie) is 64. Actor Tony Plana ("Ugly Betty") is 59. Former tennis player Sue Barker is 55. Former race car driver Al Unser Jr. is 49. Recording executive Suge Knight is 46. Singer-songwriter Dar Williams is 44. Actress Ashley Judd is 43. Singer Bekka Bramlett is 43. Latin pop singer Luis Miguel is 41. Actress Jennifer Esposito is 39. Actress Jennifer Taylor is 39. Jazz singer Madeleine Peyroux (PAY-roo) is 37. Actor James Franco is 33. Actress Kate Hudson is 32. Actor Hayden Christensen is 30.

Answer to previous puzzle

| | | |
|--------|--------|-------|
| GEE | MIST | SHAPE |
| CORN | IDLE | TALON |
| LURE | LEAP | ARMED |
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| OARS | SHORES | |
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| HOLES | PANE | SNOW |
| INANE | ERAS | ESPN |
| PESTS | NEWS | SEE |

Newsday Crossword

ALL IN YOUR HEAD by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Apple e-book reader
 - 5 Total confusion
 - 10 Minor quarrel
 - 14 Sandwich shop
 - 15 "I wanna try it!"
 - 16 Source for ore
 - 17 Cambodia neighbor
 - 18 Sports venue
 - 19 Initial poker payment
 - 20 Computer
 - 23 Japanese money
 - 24 Away from the office
 - 25 Sudden
 - 29 ___ of Arc
 - 31 Air-gun pellets
 - 34 "I was wrong—tough!"
 - 35 Female pigs
 - 36 50-and-over org.
 - 37 Minor misstatement
 - 40 Omelet ingredients
 - 41 Covering of an orange
 - 42 Singer's talent
 - 43 Mid-morning hour
 - 44 His and ___
 - 45 Damaged, as a fender
 - 46 Fruity dessert
 - 47 Angry dog's sound
 - 48 More than ready for battle
 - 57 Hawaiian garlands
 - 58 Notions
 - 59 Opera solo
 - 60 Fine fabric
 - 61 Intends
- DOWN
- 1 Not doing anything
 - 2 Ring out
 - 3 Spiny houseplant
 - 4 Compact-___ player (audio device)
 - 5 Red wine
 - 6 Marsh bird
 - 7 Prayer ending
 - 8 Prefix meaning "everything"
 - 9 Shoreline
 - 10 High in IQ
 - 11 ___ colada (rum cocktail)
 - 12 Not in favor of
 - 13 Typical high-schooler
 - 21 Blood bank's "universal donor"
 - 22 Burger bread
 - 25 Balance-sheet plus
 - 26 Swell slightly
 - 27 Monarch's rule
 - 28 Baseball arbiters
 - 29 ___ Hopkins University
 - 30 Was obligated to
 - 31 Bring along lunch, slangily
 - 32 ___ Wayne (Batman alter ego)
 - 33 Velocity
 - 35 Mix with a spoon
 - 36 Author unknown: Abbr.
 - 38 Leisure
 - 39 Out-in-the-open
 - 44 Kept out of sight
 - 45 Like evening gowns
 - 46 Bothersome
 - 47 West African nation
 - 48 In addition
 - 49 Jockey's strap
 - 50 Pepper grinder
 - 51 Poems of praise
 - 52 Pekoe and oolong
 - 53 Toward sunrise
 - 54 A Great Lake
 - 55 Cash register
 - 56 Corridor

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Is this the NBA playoffs or March Madness?

By PAUL NEWBERRY
AP National Writer

We're only three days into a marathon that will drag on for another two months, but these NBA playoffs are shaping up as the most intriguing in years.

And if there's anything this league could use, it's a few surprises. The NBA has always been the most predictable of the four major sports, pretty much following the script that was written over the regular season.

Lakers. Celtics. Spurs. Yawn.

Sure, the finals are often exciting, but the first 45 days usually lack intrigue. Maybe this is the year the pro guys give us their own version of the NCAA tournament.

There are potential first-round upsets all around. From the Grizzlies to the Hornets to the Hawks — heck, even the Pacers, the only

playoff squad with a losing record — teams that were expected to go away quietly are already making a lot of noise in this postseason.

"I've been saying all along, just get us to the playoffs," said New Orleans guard Chris Paul, who led the Hornets to a shocking Game 1 upset of the two-time defending champion Los Angeles Lakers. "Just get us to the playoffs, and we've got a chance."

They're not the only ones.

Memphis knocked off the top-seeded Spurs in the series opener at San Antonio. Atlanta, one of the league's most enigmatic teams, romped past the Magic in Orlando even with a monster performance by Dwight Howard. New York nearly bumped off Boston, and the Pacers have given Chicago, the No. 1 seed in the East, all they could handle in the first

two games.

"We knew it was going to be tough," said Derrick Rose, the MVP in waiting, after the Bulls struggled to another close win over Indiana on Monday night. "They're a good team. They finished the regular season strong. I'm just happy we won."

Even if the Pacers have already delivered their best shot, they've exposed the Bulls for what they are — a team still unproven at playoff time, a team with one magnificent player who will need some help if Chicago is going to survive a four-series playoff gauntlet for their first title since the Jordan years.

Out West, there's all sorts of potential chaos, starting at the top.

The Spurs are hurting and getting a little long in the tooth. Now, they're facing a young, hungry Memphis team that presents major problems on the inside and firmly believes it has the makings of a championship contender. Zach Randolph has revitalized his career, mauling the Spurs for 25 points and 14 rebounds in Game 1.

"A beast," said the Spurs' DeJuan Blair.

San Antonio didn't fare much better try-

ing to guard 7-footer Marc Gasol, who had 24 points and missed only one shot from the field.

Struggling to get motivated for the run at a third straight title, the Lakers ended the season in a funk and failed to snap out of it against the Hornets, who stole Game 1 in Los Angeles. New Orleans lost leading scorer David West to a knee injury late in the season, but still inflicted plenty of pain on Kobe Bryant's team to start the playoffs.

"We have to change our disposition as a team," Lakers forward Lamar Odom said on a day off. "We have to get a different energy."

If they don't, the Lakers can kiss that threepeat goodbye.

Third-seeded Dallas won its opener against Portland, but the Mavericks have a history of playoff flops. And it's not farfetched to see a conference finalist coming out of the 4-5 matchup between the oh-so-deep Nuggets — wow, that team has a lot of options since trading Carmelo Anthony for about half of the New York Knicks' roster — and Oklahoma City, which picked up some much-needed nastiness at the trade deadline by acquiring Kendrick Perkins to go with

the wondrous talents of Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook.

Things look a little more settled in the East, but those teams beneath Chicago have to be encouraged by the way the Bulls struggled in their first two games against a team that went 37-45 during the regular season.

The Pacers had a 10-point lead late in Game 1, but Rose led the Bulls on a closing 16-1 run. He was at it again Monday night, scoring 36 points, and Chicago needed all of them to hold on for a 96-90 victory. Certainly, both games were much tougher than anyone expected.

"We've been standing toe-to-toe with them," Indiana coach Frank Vogel said. "I'm proud of these guys."

Miami and the Big Three of LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh cruised to a second straight win over Philadelphia on Monday night, so that series is going by the book. But aging Boston struggled to hold off New York in Game 1, giving the disjointed Knicks a glimmer of hope that Anthony and Amare Stoudemire might figure out a way to work together.

Speaking of discom-
bulated, the Hawks were a complete mystery much of the season, looking like world-beaters one night, a complete basket case the next. There's not a whole lot of chemistry with this bunch, but they do match up well with the Magic, having a bunch of big bodies they can run at Howard while shutting down his teammates. Superman had 46 points and 19 rebounds in Game 1 — and Atlanta still romped to a 10-point win.

Orlando, which made the finals two years ago, doesn't resemble the same team since a big December trade shook up the roster.

Yep, the underdogs have a legitimate shot this year, but history still strongly favors the higher-seeded teams.

Over the past 30 years, only five teams seeded lower than third have made it to the NBA finals, and only one champion qualified as a genuine surprise: No. 6 Houston, which strung together four straight upsets in 1995.

Crashing through the concrete ceiling in David Stern's little club is darn near impossible.

But this might be the year another longshot gets it done.

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British Olympic body resolves cash dispute

LONDON (AP) — Britain's two major Olympic bodies settled the messy financial dispute Tuesday that threatened to overshadow preparations for the 2012 London Games.

The British Olympic Association dropped its legal case against the 2012 organizing commit-

tee, known as LOCOG, over its share of any surplus from the games and accepted the original contract terms.

In return, LOCOG agreed to waive rights to royalties on some British team merchandise and allow the BOA to buy extra games tickets.

"I am glad this issue has been put behind us and we can all get on

with delivering games next year that will make this country proud," LOCOG chief executive Paul Deighton said.

BOA CEO Andy Hunt welcomed the "spirit of partnership and co-operation" shown by LOCOG.

"With this matter now resolved, the BOA will be able to keep its attention focused entirely on our preparations to

support Team GB at the Games," Hunt said.

The conflict flared last month just as London marked the 500-day countdown to the Olympics and launched the sale of 6.6 million tickets.

The dispute shattered virtually six years of harmony among local organizers in a generally smooth buildup to the games.

"We welcome the agreement between the BOA and LOCOG," International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge said.

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