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BIG SPRING HERALD

MONDAY

MAY 9, 2011



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Funtastic Fourth back with new format, date

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
 Managing Editor

Funtastic Fourth, Big Spring's downtown festival celebrating God and the nation's independence, is back, albeit with some "new" twists.

"We have a new, energized

board, new excitement and a new format this year," said Allan Johnson, president of the Downtown Revitalization Association, which puts on the daylong celebration.

There's another new aspect to Funtastic Fourth. This year, the date will change.

"July 4 is on a Monday and we thought we would get better participation if we moved it to Saturday, July 2, instead," Johnson explained. "This year, we will be setting up Pops in the Park as

See **NEW**, Page 3



Courtesy photo
Jessica Rubio, right, and Shermila Kher brought home gold medals for Big Spring High School from the University Interscholastic League State Academic Meet.

Coming home with the gold

BSHS students strike it rich at UIL state academic meet

Special to the Herald

All Big Spring High School Speech and Debate coach Jennifer Adams wanted for her birthday was for one of her students to win a University Interscholastic League academic state gold medal. Turns out, her birthday was twice as nice.

Big Spring High School students Jessica Rubio placed first in Persuasive Speaking and Shermila Kher placed first in Lincoln-Douglas Debate at the 101st Annual UIL State Tournament.

"We felt we had a really good shot at winning at least one gold medal," Adams said. "These two girls have been performing well all year."

Rubio and Kher had qualified for the National Forensic League National Tournament in the same two events earlier this year.

See **GOLD**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno
Howard County Master Gardeners held their plant sale Saturday at St. Paul Lutheran Church. The sale included flowers, plants, potting soil, gardening supplies and more.

Early voting ends Tuesday

Herald Staff Report

Early voting in the Big Spring City Council and term limits election ends at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Howard Coun-

ty Courthouse. Voters are being asked to weigh in on races for the District 1 and District 3 seats on the council, as well as a proposed charter amendment

that would call for council members to serve no more than two consecutive terms before being required to sit

See **VOTE**, Page 3

City to ponder stolen goods ordinance; establish name, fees for aquatics center

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council will entertain a number of amendments to its Code of Ordinances Tuesday, including a change to its Business and Occupations section to help prevent the sale of stolen goods to secondhand stores.

According to Big Spring Police

Chief Lonnie Smith, the amendment would provide a number of processes designed to prevent the sale of stolen goods and promote the recovery of such items.

"These types of ordinances have been in effect for years for pawn shops," Smith recently told the council. "Requiring identification for those trying to sell the items

and keeping records of the transactions helps law enforcement to track down stolen goods and not only return them to their rightful owners, but also to help arrest and prosecute those selling them."

Smith said area businesses dealing in secondhand goods should be

See **CITY**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Leo Franklin Bairrington



Leo Franklin Bairrington, a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away Friday, May 6, 2011, at the age of 72. He was born in Tahoka on Sept. 11, 1938, to Cleave and Jewell (Minor) Bairrington. The family moved to O'Donnell in 1948 where he remained a life-long resident. After attending high school in O'Donnell, Leo joined the U.S. Navy, serving from 1956 to 1960. He married Gustene Sherrill June 1, 1964.

By trade, Leo was a talented carpenter. After retiring, he became a farmer, which he enjoyed greatly. He had a love for the land, but was happiest when surrounded by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

His memory will be cherished by his wife of more than 46 years, Gustene; son, Kelly and wife Shellie of Draw; two daughters, Keri Goad and fiancé Dick Patterson of Lubbock and Kimberly Wright and husband Johnnie Ray of Big Spring; two sisters, Susie Newer of Richardson and Fern Childress of Tahoka; brother, Ronnie of Weatherford; sister-in-law, Paula Sherrill of Lubbock; brother-in-law, Gerry Sherrill of Post; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and, numerous nieces and nephews.

Leo is preceded in death by his parents; one daughter, Linda Bairrington in 1966; and two brothers, Billy Jack and James Cleave Bairrington.

Memorials on behalf of Leo can be made to your favorite charity.

Graveside services are scheduled for 2 p.m. Monday, May 9, 2011, at the O'Donnell Cemetery.

Please celebrate the life of Leo by visiting www.combestfamilyfuneralhomes.com.

Paid obituary

Patsy Grigg



Patsy Grigg, 72, of Big Spring died Saturday, May 7, 2011, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Trinity Baptist Church with Dr. Randy Cotton officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Patsy was born Dec. 31, 1938, in Big Spring to Lila and Dennis Hayworth Sr. She grew up in Big Spring. Her ministry was music and she was a gifted pianist. She was a part of Lester Roloff's Evangelistic Team for several years.

She returned to Big Spring in 1966. She married Pat Grigg on May 12, 1968, in Big Spring. She had worked for the Selective Service, Webb Air Force Base and had retired from Social Security Administration in 1999. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

Patsy is survived by her husband, Pat Grigg of Big Spring; one daughter, Laura Dumas and husband James of Midland; two sons, Jason Grigg of Big Spring and Robyn Grigg of San Diego; two granddaughters, Hannah Dumas and Leah Dumas, both of Midland; one brother: Bob Hayworth of Amherst; and a number of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents: five brothers, Marlin Hayworth, Bill Hayworth, Bob Hayworth, L.D. Hayworth and Dennis Hayworth Jr.; and two sisters, Rose Medlin and Ima Dell Williams.

The family suggests memorials to Trinity Baptist Church Building Fund, 1701 E FM 700, Big Spring 79720 or Crestview Baptist Church Building Fund, 301 N Loop 250 W, Midland 79703.

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

Paid obituary

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December 'Dee' Taylor



December "Dee" Taylor, 44, of Coahoma died Friday, May 6, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. A memorial service and gathering will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Kenny Scott officiating.

She was born Dec. 10, 1966, in Columbia, Mo., to Pearl and Allan Grubich. She married James Taylor on Feb. 18, 1986, in McAllen. She has been a resident of Howard County since 1997, coming from Abilene. She lived most of her life in the Rio Grande Valley.

She is survived by her husband, James Taylor of Coahoma; one daughter, Ashton Keaton and her husband Coy of Coahoma; one son, Matthew Taylor of Coahoma; one granddaughter; one expected grandson; and father, Allan Grubich of Mission.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Pat Grubich.

The family suggests memorials to the Big Spring Humane Society, P.O. Box 823, Big Spring 79721-823.

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

Kenneth Howell

Kenneth Howell, 74, of Big Spring died Monday, May 9, 2011, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- ROBERT LEE EVANS JR., 29, of 1502 Tucson, was arrested Saturday on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

- ASHLEY NICOLE KENNEDY, 26, of 1005 Stadium, was arrested Saturday on warrants for failure to yield the right of way at an intersection, failure to appear and expired license plate.

- LONNIE S. JACKSON, 20, of 3709 Hamilton, was arrested Saturday on warrants for no driver's license - when unlicensed, failure to appear (three counts), disregarding a stop sign and displaying an expired motor vehicle inspection certificate.

- NEIL DOUGLAS LOOSE, 51, of Oak Point, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

- TAMMY NEWELL, 53, of 1006 Goliad, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid - no insurance.

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- KRISTEN NICOLE RIOS, 22, of 304 N.E. Sixth St., was arrested Saturday on a warrant from another agency.

- LARA JO TURMAN, 35, of 2609 Wasson Rd., was arrested Saturday on warrants for bail jumping - failure to appear (fine only), failure to maintain financial responsibility and violating operator/driver's license restriction.

- RONDEL WAYNE BROCK, 57, of 2800 Macauslan St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

- PAUL MORENO, 48, of 616 Caylor Dr., was arrested Sunday on charges of assault - family violence and possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

- HERIBERTO GARCIA-SEBASTIAN, 38, of Fontana, Calif., was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- CHRIS MARTIN DOPORTO, 36, of Midlothian, was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- JIMMY HEREDIA OLIVARES, 47, of 2403 Alabama, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- SHARI ANNE MINTZ, 35, of 207 Washington, was arrested Sunday on warrants for possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to appear.

- ANTHONY CASTILLO DUTCHOVER, 33, of Midland, was arrested Sunday on a charge of assault - family violence.

- CHRISTOPHER JAMES SHATTAH, 32, was arrested Sunday on a warrant from another agency.

- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:

- In the 2600 block of Langley.

- In the 3200 block of Duke.

- THEFT was reported:

- In the 500 block of E. 18th Street.

- In the 2000 block of Gregg Street.

- In the 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20.

- In the 1600 block of Tucson.

- ASSAULT was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 83 inmates at the time of this report.

- JEREMY MICHAEL CERDA, 24, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of a controlled substance.

- RUBY MUNOZ-MCDANIEL, 41, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana - two ounces or less.

- GREGORY ALLAN MCDANIEL, 42, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on

See **SHERIFF**, Page 4

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Briefs

U.S. says it wants access to bin Laden widows amid questions over whether Pakistan harbored him

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The United States wants access to Osama bin Laden's three widows and any intelligence material its commandos left behind at the al-Qaida leader's compound, a top American official said in comments broadcast Sunday that could add a fresh sticking point in already frayed ties with Pakistan.

Information from the women, who remained in the house after the commandos killed bin Laden, might answer questions about whether Pakistan harbored the al-Qaida chief as many American officials are speculating. It could also reveal details about the day-to-day life of bin Laden, his actions since the invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 and the inner workings of al-Qaida.

The women, along with several children also picked up from the house, are believed to be in

Pakistani army custody. A Pakistani army official declined to comment Sunday on the request, which U.S. National Security Adviser Tom Donilon revealed on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The CIA and Pakistan's spy agency, known by the acronym ISI, have worked uneasily together in the past on counterterrorism, but the unilateral U.S. raid — done without Pakistan's advance knowledge — has exposed the deep mistrust that scars a complicated if vital partnership for both nations.

Even before the May 1 raid, the ISI said it was cutting cooperation with CIA to protest drone strikes close to the Afghan border, among other things. In the current environment, Pakistan could use the fact it has something Washington wants — bin Laden's widows — as leverage to reduce some of the pressure it is under.

Riots, church burning drag Muslim-Christian relations to new low in post-revolution Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — Relations between Egypt's Muslims and Christians degenerated to a new low Sunday after riots overnight left 12 people dead and a

church burned, adding to the disorder of the country's post-revolution transition to democracy.

The attack on the church was the latest sign of assertiveness by an extreme, ultraconservative movement of Muslims known as Salafis, whose increasing hostility toward Egypt's Coptic Christians over the past few months has met with little interference from the country's military rulers.

Salafis have been blamed for other recent attacks on Christians and others they don't approve of. In one attack, a Christian man had an ear cut off for renting an apartment to a Muslim woman suspected of involvement in prostitution.

The latest violence, which erupted in fresh clashes Sunday between Muslims and Christians who pelted each other with stones in another part of Cairo, also pointed to what many see as reluctance of the armed forces council to act. The council took temporary control of the country after President Hosni Mubarak was deposed on Feb. 11.

After the overnight clashes in the slum of Imbaba, residents turned their anger toward the military. Some said they and the police did almost nothing to intervene in the five-hour frenzy of violence.

NEW

Continued from Page 1

opposed to following them," he added, speaking of Big Spring's other Independence Day celebration, which will be held at the Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater on Sunday, July 3.

Funtastic Fourth wasn't held last year, primarily, Johnson said, because it would have fallen on a Sunday. But the event is returning with more vigor, more music and more vendors, according to

the board.

"We want to create a stir downtown. We already have more than 30 vendors lined up but we want to have more than a hundred," said Johnson. "That's why this year all non-food vendors will be allowed to set up for free. We encourage artists and crafters and others to set up booths with their own tables and chairs or whatever they want to use."

The only catch is that organizers want to know in advance what is going to be sold, in part, to better publicize the

event and also to know how much room to allot to vendors. Those interested in setting up non-food booths can contact Johnson at 432-267-6278.

Food vendors will be charged \$150 and are asked to call Johnson or Linda Burchett at 432-816-9381.

"We'd like to have more local restaurants participate as food vendors," said Johnson.

Another new twist is that Funtastic Fourth will welcome all types of music again. The event had "gone gospel" in recent years, and while gospel groups will still

be included, there will also be tejano, rock and roll and country — including headliner Mark McKinney.

The format calls for gospel music to be performed when the festival opens at 10 a.m. Rock and roll groups will perform from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., followed by an hour of intermission to allow the evening bands to set up. Tejano groups will take the stage from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., followed by Ike Jackson — who performs Mowtown from the 1960s and 70s — an area group, Lenora from Lenora, and

McKinney, a Big Spring native.

"We still have some openings for gospel groups, tejano groups and a few in our rock and roll session as well," said Johnson.

Anyone wishing to perform can contact him at the above number.

Other information about the Funtastic Fourth will be released in coming weeks, said Johnson, but event-goers can plan on children's games and rides and an adult washer contest.

The DRA is also looking for sponsors to

help fund the Funtastic Fourth. Depending on the level of support, sponsors will be able to identify a particular event with a company name, be mentioned in all advertising and have a banner with their name on it. Again, for information, contact Johnson.

Bill McClellan can be contacted at 432-263-7331, ext. 230 or by e-mail at editor@bigspringherald.com

GOLD

Continued from Page 1

For Rubio, the third time at state was the charm. She attended the UIL state meet for

the last two years while BSHS was still in 4A, competing in Informative Speaking.

"I decided to try something new my senior year," Rubio said. "I wanted to see if I could have better luck."

This was Kher's first year at the UIL state meet.

"Winning state as a junior classman is a huge accomplishment," Adams said, "especially when it is a student's first time at state."

As a team, the BSHS Speech & Debate Team placed third in the overall Speech contest.

The wins mark the third state championship for the program in the last decade and the 11th time a member of

the BSHS Speech and Debate Team has placed in the top six at the UIL state meet. The wins were also the first state championships for Big Spring High School as a 3A school.

VOTE

Continued from Page 1

out one full three-year term.

District 1 Councilwoman Stephanie Horton is defending her seat on the council from

challenger Marcus Fernandez, while the race for the District 3 seat has four candidates — incumbent Councilwoman Joann Staulcup, Shannon Thomason, Glenn Carrigan and write-in candidate Oscar Velasco.

Those casting a ballot for a District 1 or 3 candidate must

reside within that specific district. Any eligible, registered city resident can vote on the term limits issue, which had generated 499 early votes as of Friday, according to Sandra Bloom, county elections administrator.

Some 73 votes had been cast

in the District 1 race while the race in District 3 had drawn 1578 ballots.

Early voting polls at the courthouse are open until 5 p.m. today and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday. Saturday's election will be at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

required to gather the same information as the pawn shops when they buy goods.

"It would also require the secondhand store to hold the items for seven days before being sold and prohibit the sale or purchase of certain goods that have had their identification numbers tampered with or removed," he said. "The penalty provided would be no less than \$100 and no more than \$200."

The council will also consider an ordinance amending codes related to the municipal aquatic center, which is currently under construction.

The amendments would rename the code from "Comanche Trail Park Municipal Swimming Pool" to "Big Spring Family Aquatic Center," as well as establish fees for entrance, pavilion rental and other transactions involving the facility.

The changes would also provide the city manager the authority to reduce or waive fees for the facility for use by non-profit or governmental entities. The council is also expected to consider approval of an agreement with Big Spring YMCA for operation of the aquatic center.

The proposed fees would include a \$5 entrance fee for swimmers ages 3 and up, a \$3 increase from entrance fees charged during the last year of the municipal swimming pool's operation.

According to Assistant City Manager Todd Darden, the increase in the entrance fee is necessary to cover cost increases caused by incremental increases in minimum wage.

"The last year of the pool's operation we were in a situation where the entrance fee needed to go up, but action was never taken on the issue," Darden said. "The increase in minimum wage raises the cost for the YMCA to operate the facility, and it

had to be addressed this year."

The amendment also establishes the aquatic center hours of operation, which are noon until 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. Saturday

and Sunday, and 11 a.m. until noon for private one-hour group rentals Tuesday through Friday.

Tuesday's meeting is to get under way at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at

307 E. Fourth St. For more information, call 264-2401.

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

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SHERIFF

Continued from Page 2

municipal warrants for theft and failure to appear (four counts).

- LARRY DON HASS, 46, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- ABEL HERNANDEZ HINOJOS, 38, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- KENNETH KIRK KIRKHAM, 43, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense (two counts).
- JACOB IAN STRAIN, 31, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance (two counts).
- MEGAN RYNELL ARMSTRONG, 20, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of duty on striking unattended vehicle.
- KALI ELISE SEAT, 20, was arrested Friday by DPS on a charge of possession of marijuana – more than four ounces, less than five pounds.
- VINCENT ALEXANDER WHITE, 20, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- ASHLEY NICOLE PARNELL, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to yield at intersection, failure to appear and displaying an expired registration.
- KEITH HILARIO, 26, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for deadly conduct.
- ROBERT LEE EVANS, 29, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon and possession of a controlled substance.
- JUAN MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ, 22, was arrested Saturday by DPS on charges of possession of marijuana – more than four ounces, less than five pounds and tampering with/fabricating physical evidence.
- DEVON LEE BUTLER, 25, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of burglary of a habitation with intent to commit other felony.
- LELONNIE STEPHON JACKSON, 20, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for no driver's license, failure to appear (two counts), running a stop sign, expired motor vehicle inspection certificate and violation of a promise to appear.
- NEIL DOUGLAS LOOSE, 51, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of

public intoxication.

- TAMMY CUSTER NEWELL, 53, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- KRISTEN NICOLE RIOS, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- LORENZA SANCHEZ, 46, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of parent contributing to the non-attendance of a minor.
- LARA JO TURMAN, 35, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, violation of a driver's license restriction and failure to appear.
- RONDEL WAYNE BROCK, 57, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- RAYMOND LEE BAKER, 31, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- JONATHON MICHAEL PAUL, 30, was arrested Saturday by DPS on a charge of assault – physical contact and municipal warrants for violation of a promise to appear (three counts), driving while license invalid, expired motor vehicle inspection and failure to maintain financial responsibility.
- PAUL MENDEZ MORENO, 48, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less and assault – family violence.
- DERICK LEE WHITT, 27, was arrested Sunday by DPS on Taylor County warrants for theft by check, violation of a promise to appear and speeding.
- CHRIS MARTIN DOPORTO, 36, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- ANTHONY CASTILLO DUTCHOVER, 33, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of assault – family violence.
- LOGAN EARL JOSEF ROSE, 29, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- HERBERTO GARCIA-SEBASTIAN, 32, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- JIMMY OLIVARES, 47, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- SHARI MINTZ BOUNDS, 35, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to appear.
- IVAN HERNANDEZ VELASQUEZ, 26, was

arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

- CHRISTOPHER JAMES SHATTAH, 31, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a Taylor County warrant for non-payment of child support.
- HERMILO FERREL, 58, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury.
- DANIEL RAYMOND LUTZ JR., 37, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported near the intersection of 11th Place and Birdwell Lane. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 6000 block of E. FM 846. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported near the intersection of FM 1548 and County Road 48.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of E. 15th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 7100 block of Langley. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Salem. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of E. Highway 350. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
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- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Apache. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1700 block of S. Lancaster. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of Mesa. Service refused.

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Editor's Note: Hundreds of Ann Landers' loyal readers have requested that newspapers continue to publish her columns. These letters originally appeared in 1999.

Dear Ann Landers: I want to thank you for the encouragement you give your readers to mend family fences before it is too late.

You printed a letter from a woman who said her brother had little contact with his father, who was dying. I, too, was estranged from my father for several years, but we reconciled our differences a couple of months before he died, thanks to you.

I am so grateful I took the time to read your column the day that letter appeared. I immediately related it to my own situation and helped care for my father at the end of his life.

I also told him how much I loved him for the first time, and it made a world of difference.

I have been estranged from my mother for many years, as well, and recently learned that my stepfather is terminally ill and has only a few months to live. It made me realize the torment she must be going through. I decided to call my mom and tell her how much I love her before it is too late.

Thank you, Ann, for those wonderful words of wisdom. Your advice helped me have no regrets when I lost my dad, and now, I am going

to make sure I have no regrets with my mom, either. — R.L.

Dear R.L.: It was good of you to take the time to write and let me know I helped. I hope your letter will encourage others who are estranged from family members to follow your lead. Some may be rebuffed, but those who find welcoming arms will be forever grateful. Trust me.

Dear Ann Landers: Several years ago, I enclosed this clipping from the Oregon Register-Guard when I sent out my Christmas cards to all my friends and relatives. They thought it was pretty funny, so now I'm sharing it with you. I hope you will print it one of these days, maybe a few weeks before Christmas. — Billie in Springfield, Ore.

Dear Billie: Here is your contribution, which will appear well before Christmas. I hope the fruitcake lovers (I am not among them) won't be offended:

An American Express survey about Christmas gifts found that the fruitcake was chosen most often from a list of "worst" holiday gifts. It even finished ahead of "no gift at all," the second choice. Fruitcake was picked as the worst gift by 31 percent, "no gift" by 18 percent.

Anything that has to be assembled was third on the list of bad ideas, followed by damaged gifts, another tie or blouse, and a gift that needs batteries but doesn't come with them.

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Best in the West



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College Softball Coach Kelly Raines (top middle) and the Hawks pose with the championship trophy after defeating Midland College, 11-5, to win the Region V West Tournament at Lubbock Christian University Saturday.

Hawks thump Midland, claim regional title

Herald Staff Report

LUBBOCK – Next stop, nationals.

The Howard College Hawks completed a weekend to remember by defeating Midland College, 11-5, in the championship game of the Region V West softball tournament Saturday, earning the team its first-ever trip to the national junior college softball tourna-

ment.

The Hawks reached the championship game with pitching and defense, but it was Howard's bats that came up big Saturday.

Shortstop Olive Naotala, who usually hits clean-up for the Hawks, was moved to the leadoff spot Saturday and set the tone for what was to come immediately when she sent the game's first pitch over the

left field fence for a home run and a quick 1-0 lead.

"We moved Olive to the top of the order because they had been walking her the entire tournament," Howard Coach Kelly Raines said. "We felt good about our ability to hit Midland's pitching and we were very confident going into the game ... but I totally believe Olive's leadoff home run set the tone for the

game."

As significant as Howard's first inning was, it was nothing compared to the third, when the Hawks struck for seven runs to take a 9-1 lead. The onslaught was bookended by a leadoff home run from Alexis Beltran and three-run double by Faith Korja.

"That was a big, big inning," Raines said. "Alexis led off with that home run

and we just kept hitting and hitting. It was huge for us."

The lead was more than enough for starting pitcher Selina Mitchell, who kept Midland at bay despite not having overpowering statistics. In 5.2 innings of work, she scattered 10 hits while striking out one and walking three. She was charged with

See **HAWKS**, Page 10

Howard outlasts Weatherford, 11-10

Herald Staff Report

LUBBOCK – It was probably more exciting than the Howard College Hawks preferred, but they'll take it.

The Hawks started fast, then hung on for dear life to claim an 11-10 victory over Weatherford College in the first round of the Region V baseball tournament at Texas Tech University Sunday afternoon.

The victory allows Howard to advance in the winner's bracket of the tournament, where they'll face New Mexico Junior College in a second round game at 5 p.m. today.

Howard, the top seed from the Western Junior College Athletic Conference, struggled mightily against Weatherford, which finished fourth in the North Texas Junior College Athletic Conference this season.

The Hawks started fast, scoring two runs in the first inning and seven in the second to take a seemingly comfortable 9-4 lead over the Coyotes.

But little was as it seemed Saturday.



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Chase Durham scores the winning run of the Hawks' 11-10 victory over Weatherford College in their first-round game at the Region V Baseball Tournament at Lubbock Sunday.

Weatherford rallied for four runs over the next three innings, then took a 10-9 heading into the bottom of the eighth.

With their backs against the wall, however, the Hawks rallied.

First, Tyler Colins blasted his 18th home run of the

year, a solo shot to left, to tie the game at 10-all in the eighth. Then Nick Sawyer, the fourth Howard pitcher of the day, shut out Weatherford in the top of the ninth to set the stage for the Hawks' late heroics.

Leadoff batter Chase Durham reached base when he

was hit by a pitch, then went to third on a Tony Calhoun double. One out later, second baseman Brendan McCurry lofted a fly ball deep enough to left-center to allow Durham to come home with the winning run.

See **HOWARD**, Page 10

Forsan squads advance

Herald Staff Report

The Forsan High School baseball and softball teams opened the 2011 playoffs in convincing fashion, sweeping their respective series this past weekend.

The FHS baseball team closed out its series with Tornillo with a 13-1 run-rule victory, while the Lady Buffs' softball squad finished off Littlefield with an 11-4 win Saturday.

Baseball:

Forsan 13

Tornillo 1

PECOS – Dylan Lowery fired a two-hitter and the Forsan Buffaloes raked Tornillo pitching for nine hits en route to their Class 2A bi-district series-clinching victory Saturday afternoon, which was called after five innings because of the mercy rule.

Lowery was dominant, striking out five and walking only one in picking up the complete-game victory.

Offensively, the Buffs were paced by Elgin Suazo, who hit a two-run

See **FORSAN**, Page 10

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Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 36319

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury and Venus come together like shameless flirts at a cosmic cocktail party, bandying brazen banter, fishing for a reaction. Will it be one of shock, blushing or giggles? The possibilities are endless as they stride through youthful Aries. The Leo moon cheers them on. It will be lucky to take a risk. Make a spectacle, and bask in the attention.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your problem is not as difficult as some make it out to be. Beware of those who would benefit from your thinking the solution is beyond you — for instance, a drug company, life coach, politician or makeup manufacturer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Something you once wanted to do now seems like the opposite of fun. Perhaps the risk/reward ratio is askew, or perhaps the times and your mood have just changed. New goals will take the place of this defunct one.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The key to your success is simple. You do exactly what you say you'll do. This is made even easier if you don't say you'll do anything, freeing yourself up completely.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Everyone has a heart. Not everyone leads with it, though — not like you. You'll wind up at a magical destination, all because you listened, understood and followed your heart's dictates.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Some negotiations are pointless. The distance between what they want and what you want may be too wide to bother with. You can't get on the same page if you're not even in the same book.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You wouldn't dream of passing off your responsibilities on someone who couldn't possibly handle them as well as you. When it's important to you, you're strictly hands-on. You'll

impress someone with this attitude today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You may wonder whether you should do the job yourself or enlist someone else to do it. The question will be answered for you in a way that is so obvious that you can't help but take it as a sign.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have the mindset that will make you successful. You know which jobs are important and which are so crucial that it really doesn't matter how long the job takes, only that it gets done.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Often your senses of duty and pleasure can be served in the same activity. Take time to sit with loved ones around the table this evening, and your time together will be infused with humor and fun.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). For you, there's no such thing as "just business." You'll take your personal feelings and put them directly into your work. That's what makes it good, and it's also what makes it challenging.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Being wealthy is not all about money. You

could live in a palace and still feel poor inside. You realize this on a deep level and will make choices that only the truly rich would make.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's drama in your environment. Be mindful of your involvement. Step back, because perspective is absolutely necessary. Consider that you may be taking everything a little bit too seriously.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 9). You'll be serious about your fun this year. You will purchase tickets well in advance for special events and make plans that are bigger than any you've executed in the past. A special love comes into focus in June. Family reunions are featured in July. There's a life-changing meeting in August. Charity leads to good fortune in September. Pisces and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 33, 15, 49 and 1.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I recently asked a Virgo woman if she'd like to go out with me sometime, and to my shock and elation, she said yes. Now what do I do? I don't know where to take her."

The perfect date for Virgo is well considered.

This organized sign wants to sense that you have given careful thought to the matter, that you have done your research and determined an itinerary that is likely to produce a high level of interest, relaxation and connection. The plans don't have to be expensive or overly exciting. They just have to be, well, plans. A walk in the park at sunset, for instance, requires that you note when sunset will be and time it right. Virgo loves that. On the other hand, if you're driving around in circles trying to find the venue or struggling with where to park, that will be a "buzz-kill" for Virgo. If you go to the museum on the busiest day of the year or if you have to wait an hour because you didn't make reservations, Virgo will think you didn't care enough to think it through. When you plan a date well, there's no need to manufacture the good

times. They will come naturally.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: As an artistic director of the Sydney Theatre Company, earth sign Cate Blanchett has supported an eco-friendly construction project to equip The Wharf Theater with enough solar panels to provide 70 percent of the theater's electricity. The glamorous movie and stage star has her sun, moon and Saturn all in the sensual and environmentally friendly realm of Taurus.

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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6					7	8	2	
5	6			3		4		
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	7	2	3					9
1			9	4	2			
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♣ Q J

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♦ K Q 10 7 3 2

♣ A 5 3

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♠ A 10 9 8

♥ 9 4 2

♦ 4

♣ 10 9 7 4 2

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♥ A Q J 8 7

♦ A 9 6 5

♣ K 8 6

The bidding:

South West North East

1♥ 2♦ 2NT* Pass

4♥

* heart raise

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

The United States scored the most lopsided victory in the 60-year history of the Bermuda Bowl, routing Brazil 506-288 in the final of the 2000 world team championship. The margin (in International Match Points) and the winning team's IMP total were both records for the event.

The 16-day competition, which started with 20 teams, came down to a showdown between the U.S. squad, composed of Bob Hamman, Paul Soloway, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Nick Nickell and Richard Free-

man, and Brazil's Gabriel Chagas, Marcelo Branco, Ricardo Janz, Miguel Villas-Boas, Joao-Paulo Campos and Roberto de Mello.

The final was a virtual runaway for the Americans from the outset. Today's deal resulted in a 12-IMP pickup for the winners.

At the first table, Meckstroth, playing in four hearts, won the king-of-diamonds lead with the ace and led the spade four to dummy's king. East won and returned a club to West's ace, whereupon West cashed the queen of diamonds and continued with the deuce.

Meckstroth trumped the diamond with dummy's king and ruffed a spade, felling West's queen. Declarer then drew trumps, crossed to the club queen and discarded his remaining diamond on the spade jack to make his game.

At the other table, Chagas, one of the world's great players, became declarer at the same contract. He had played nearly every deal for two weeks and showed signs of his fatigue by making the fatal mistake of drawing three rounds of trumps after taking the diamond ace at trick one. He then guessed the spade position correctly, playing the jack after West followed low. But East took the ace and returned a club to his partner's ace, and West's Q-10 of diamonds set the contract one trick.

Tomorrow: Winning technique.

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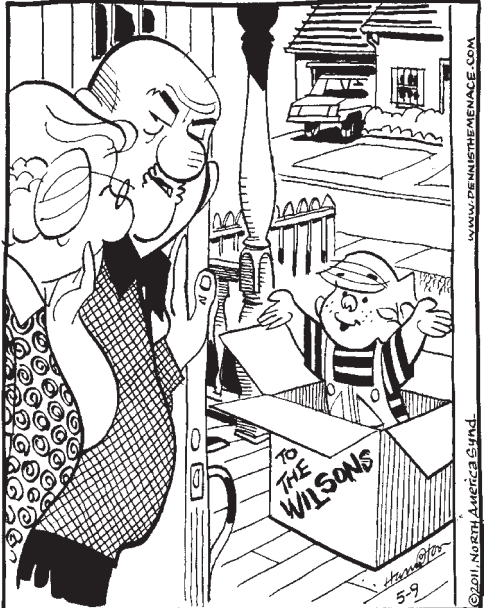
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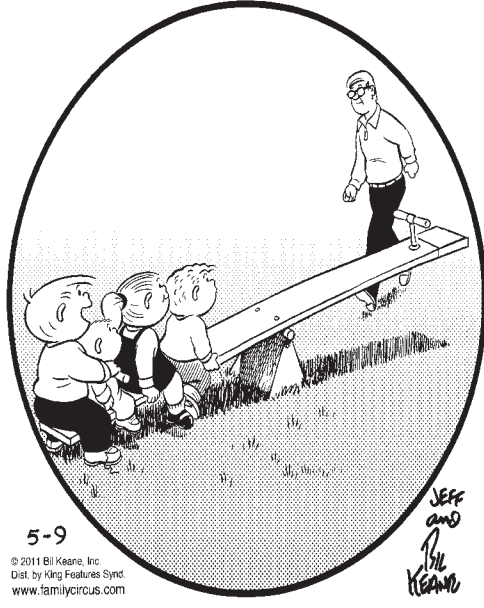
TV schedule table with columns for channel (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLE, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and time slots (5:30 PM, 6:30 PM, 7:30 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:30 PM, 11:30 PM, 12:30 AM, 1:30 AM) listing various programs like News, Jeopardy!, Dancing With the Stars, etc.

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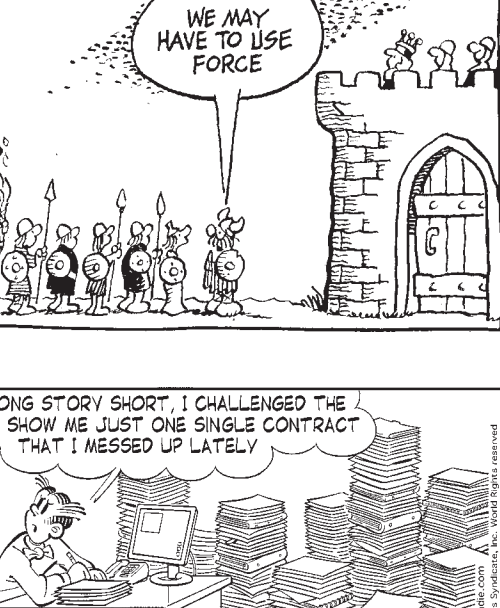
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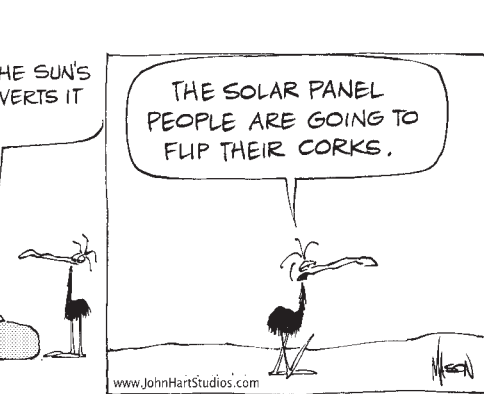
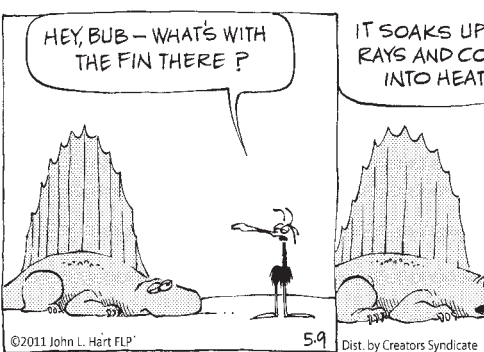
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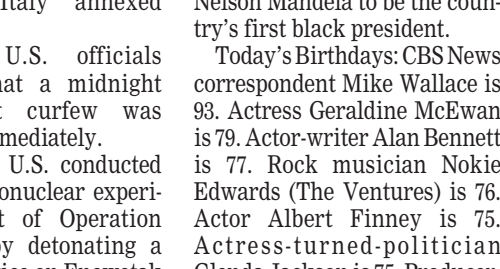
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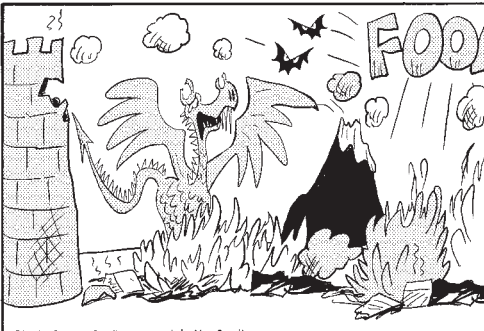
This Date In History

Today is Monday, May 9, the 129th day of 2011. There are 236 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On May 9, 1961, in a speech to the National Association of Broadcasters, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Newton N. Minow decried the majority of television programming as a "vast wasteland" of "game shows, formula comedies about totally unbelievable families, blood and thunder, mayhem, violence, sadism, murder, western bad men, western good men, private eyes, gangsters, more violence, and cartoons."

AGNES



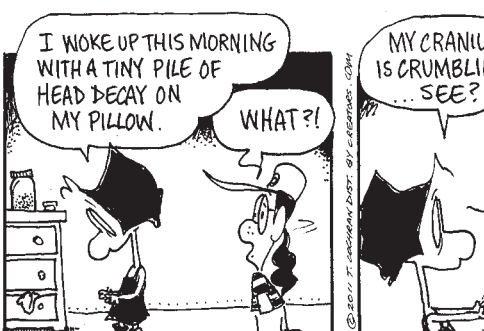
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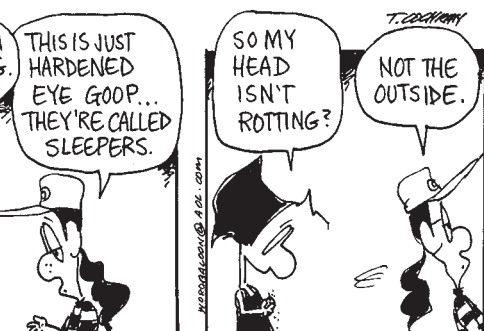
THE OTHER COAST



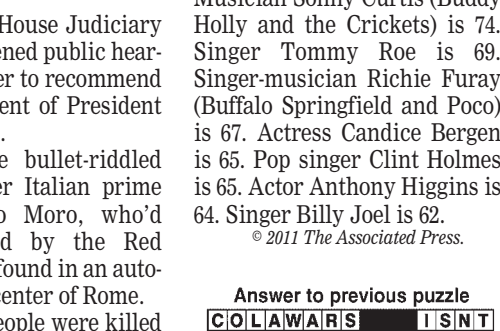
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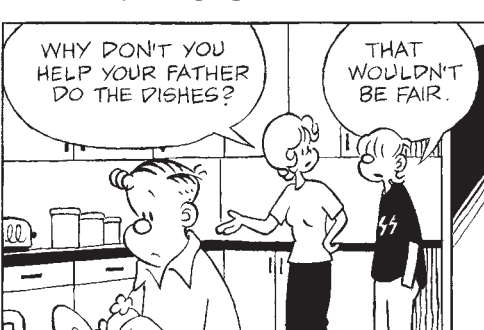
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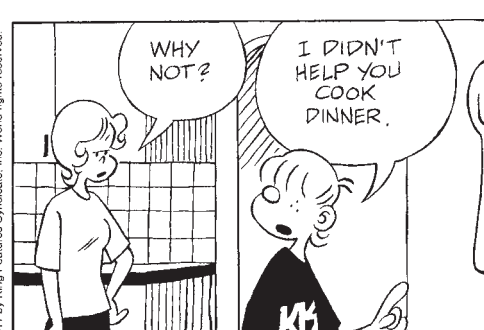
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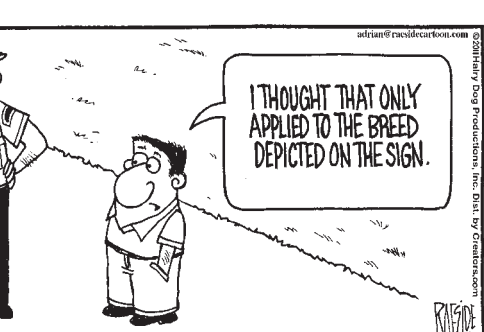
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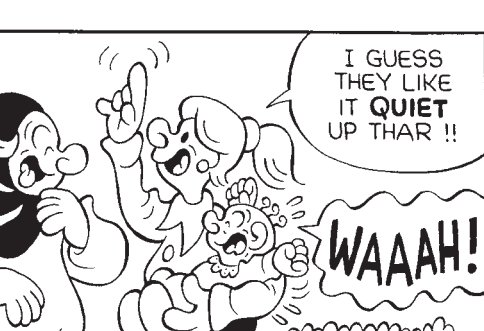
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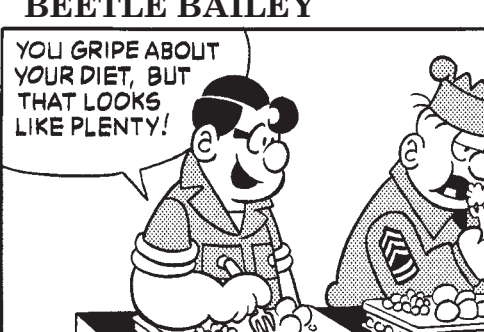
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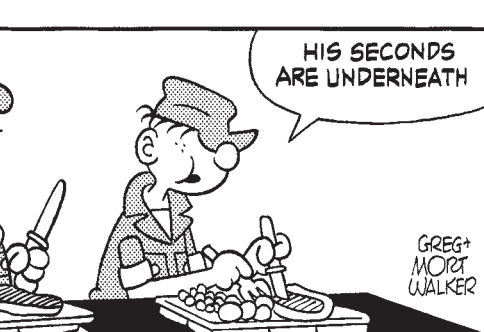
HI AND LOIS



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Where hair roots grow 6 Go yachting 10 Room coolers: Abbr. 13 Difficult problem 14 "Ready __, here I come!" 16 Once around the track 17 Full of energy 18 Embarrass 19 Had lunch 20 Became the new ruler 22 Guys 23 And so on: Abbr. 24 Make another tape of 26 Boy in A Christmas Carol 29 "Absolutely!" 31 Sun. church talk 32 Vicinity 34 "That's too bad!" 37 One of Columbus' ships 41 16, 101 and 947 Hr. after midnight 45 Lowly worker 46 Search for 47 College student's stat. 49 Life story, briefly 51 __ Moines, IA 52 Allowed to go free 57 Give it a whirl 59 Metallic rock 60 Globe-shaped firecrackers 65 Sheep's sound 66 Fortune-teller's deck 67 Absolutely perfect

RED ALERT

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

- 39 Forest unit 40 Inquires 42 Has an effect on 43 Togetherness 48 "That's __!" ("Too bad!") 50 Satellites' paths 52 After-bath garments 53 Wipe clean 54 Minimum amount 55 Very strange 56 Oddly amusing 58 Alpine song 61 Numbered roads: Abbr. 62 Dole (out) 63 Like Mother Hubbard's cupboard 64 Venetian-blind part

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Grid of crossword puzzle answers: COLAWARS, ISNT, ORALEXAMS, ASTOR, MISTLETOE, SIENA, BEHOLD, KEEP, SMUM, ONES, BETAS, WSW, STD, VIEFOR, GAEA, LANAI, TARRY, ICESCULPTURES, CNOTE, LUANN, ONTO, DUENNA, HGT, CUT, WORDY, MEOW, HEATHBAR, STAPLE, ANGRY, LOANERCAR, IDEAS, SOLARLAMP, ROSY, MAGNATES

CREATORS SYNDICATE

Dallas finishes off Lakers

DALLAS (AP) — Phil Jackson walked off the court with a tight smile, shaking hands and accepting congratulations like he has after so many series-ending playoff games.

Never like this, though. His team didn't win; they were crushed. Swept, too.

And he wasn't just heading to the offseason — he's calling it a career, ending the most successful run by any coach in NBA history.

Jason Terry and the Dallas Mavericks ended Jackson's tenure, and the Lakers' reign as two-

time champions, with a 122-86 victory Sunday. After two tight finishes and another game that was relatively close, the Mavs turned this one into a rout in the second quarter.

With Terry leading the way, Dallas hit a barrage of 3-pointers to go ahead by 24 points at halftime. When he made 3s on consecutive possessions early in the third quarter, Los Angeles knew it wasn't going to come back in this game or the series.

Things got ugly early in the fourth quarter, with vicious, frustration-fueled cheap shots

by Lamar Odom and Andrew Bynum getting them ejected 45 seconds apart. But at game's end, Dallas coaches, players and team owner Mark Cuban lined up to bid farewell to the Zen Master.

"It's been a wonderful run," Jackson said.

The 65-year-old Jackson has retired before, but he insists it's for good this time. While he goes out with the sour taste of his first sweep in 21 postseasons, and his second-widest margin of defeat, it can't override all the sweet days.

A Hall of Famer since 2007, he leaves with a record 11 titles, and only 10 series losses. Take away Red Auerbach, who won nine championships, and Jackson won more titles than any two coaches combined. He won six championships with Michael Jordan, three with Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal, and the last two with Bryant leading the

way. He had to be talked into coming back this year. The lure of chasing a 12th title, bundled neatly as four three-peats, did it, but he knew it would be tough with a team worn down by three straight years of reaching the finals.

Four of Jackson's five kids flew to Dallas for this game, in case it was the end. On Saturday, Jackson called that "a drag that I don't need," but by Sunday afternoon he was probably happy to have them around. They sat near the Lakers bench, wearing yellow hats with Roman numerals marking his 10th and 11th championships.

Then there was his extended family — his coaches and players, especially Bryant.

"I grew up under him," Bryant said. "The way I approach things, the way I think about things — not only basketball, life in general

— comes from him. It's a little weird for me to think of what next year is going to be like."

Assistant Brian Shaw, a former Lakers player, is considered a front-runner to take over. The bigger decisions for general manager Mitch Kupchak will be how to surround Bryant. He may want a younger point guard than Derek Fisher, who turns 37 before next season, and he may consider breaking up his tandem of 7-footers, Bynum and Pau Gasol.

For Dirk Nowitzki and the Mavs, clearing this hurdle sets them up for a chance to redeem themselves for flopping during the 2006 NBA finals and for flaming out in every postseason since.

That's why when this game ended, confetti didn't fall; the organization's bigger goal is reaching the finals and winning its first championship.

Sports Calendar

TODAY

JUCO baseball — Howard College vs. New Mexico JC at Region V tournament, 5 p.m., Texas Tech University, Lubbock.

Tennis — Forsan High School's Sydney Holdampf at State Class 2A tournament, Lakeway.

TUESDAY

JUCO baseball — Howard College at Region V tournament, time and opponent TBA, Texas Tech University, Lubbock.

THURSDAY

Track and field — Area athletes at state meet, Austin.

FRIDAY

Track and field — Area athletes at state meet, Austin.

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

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FORSAN

Continued from Page 5

home run in the fourth inning, and Zane Herrin, who collected two hits during the game.

"It was good to win that first series," Forsan Coach Jason Phillips said. "We didn't play as well as we hoped (in the first game of the series) Friday, defensively, but we did play a lot better Saturday. And Dylan

pitched a great game."

The Buffaloes advance to face Bushland in the area round of the playoffs. The first game of the best-of-three series will be played at 7 p.m. Thursday at Lubbock Cooper High School. Games 2 and 3 will be played at a time and site to be determined.

Softball:

Forsan 11 Littlefield 4

SEMINOLE — The

Forsan Lady Buffaloes overcame a shaky start to complete a two-game sweep of Littlefield in their Class 2A bi-district softball playoff series with an 11-4 victory at Seminole High School Saturday afternoon.

Pitcher Ashley Buzbee picked up the win for the Lady Buffs, scattering eight hits and striking out six to gain the complete-game victory. She helped her own cause by hitting two doubles and a triple. Also, Kay'C Stanley contributed an

inside-the-park home run and Ali Knight hit two doubles.

"Ashley pitched OK," Forsan Coach Shanna Taylor said. "She started off a little slow. They got a few hits off her, and we didn't play as well as we did (in the first game of the series) Friday. But we came out of it."

The Lady Buffaloes will next face Alpine in the area round of the Class 2A playoffs. The series will be played at a time and site to be determined.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 10

"The game just had a lot of ebb and flow and momentum shifts," Howard Coach Britt Smith said. "It was

just one of those games where we had to keep fighting. If we had been able to push that early lead a bit further, that might have broken their backs. But they kept chipping away, and we were fortunate to be able to win the game there at

the end."

Today's game will be between two teams very familiar with each other. Howard swept NMJC in a four-game series April 22-23 in Big Spring.

"They'll be familiar with us, and obviously, we're familiar with

them," Smith said. "It's going to come down to who plays better."

The game will be broadcast locally on radio stations KBST (1490-AM) and KBYG (1400-AM).

WC 040 301 011 - 10 14 1
HC 270 000 011 - 11 12 3

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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HAWKS

Continued from Page 5

all five Midland runs, four of which were earned.

Sandra Serna finished the game for the Hawks, surrendering only one hit in 1.1 innings pitched.

"Selina just had a long weekend," Raines said. "She did a good job, and we just needed her to get some outs for us. We made some mistakes behind her, or else she probably would have pitched the entire game. But Sandra was ready to go and she finished the job for us."

This marks the first time the Hawks' softball program has qualified for the national JUCO tournament, which will be held in St. George, Utah, beginning May 19.

"The girls did a great job, and I'm just really, really proud of them," Raines said. "We talked to them about them having a great chance to win (the regional tournament), and they just did an awesome job. Now, we're excited to have the chance to keep playing some more."

HC 207 000 2 - 11 11 3
MC 100 022 0 - 5 11 2
Mitchell, Serna (6) and Vasquez; Kamaka, Rios (3), Kua-kini (6) and Macias; W - Mitchell; L - Kamaka.

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