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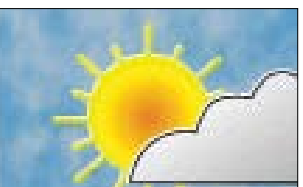
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FARMERS

BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

MAY 26, 2011



VOLUME 106, NUMBER 151

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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Crews have begun site preparation work for three new elementary school campuses in Big Spring Independent School District. The work is part of a \$60 million construction bond approved by voters in 2010.

Excavating for an education

Construction begins at elementary campuses

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

A different kind of school work is beginning at Big Spring Independent School District.

While students and teachers prepare for summer vacation, construction work on four new elementary campuses is beginning in earnest.

Crews have begun preparing the

sites for three of the four new schools in recent days, and the pace of work will only increase in the coming weeks, BSISD officials said.

Site preparation has begun at Washington, Marcy and Goliad schools, said BSISD Transportation Director Wayland Pierce, who also serves as the school district's liaison with the

See **BSISD**, Page 3

In remembrance 20th anniversary of Vietnam Memorial planned Monday

By AMANDA MORENO
 Staff Writer

Memorial Day will mark the 20th anniversary of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial. The day will be commemorated with an 11 a.m. ceremony at the memorial.

"We need to pay tribute to all those who lost their lives," Clarence Hartfield Jr., Vietnam Memorial board member said. "We pay tribute to the men and women still serving and we need to not forget those who lost their lives for us."

Sonny Choate, U.S. Air Force, will be the keynote speaker and Tim McKinnon, U.S. Army, will be the guest speaker at the event.

The memorial was designed and erected after the Moving Wall, a half-scale replica of The Wall in



Washington, D.C., came through

See **MEMORIAL**, Page 3



Memorial Day service set at Trinity Memorial Park

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

As the country prepares to honor its fallen heroes next week, officials with Trinity Memorial Park are planning a patriotic Memorial Day display and ceremony that features more than 120 full-size U.S. flags and hundreds of smaller flags.

Set for 2 p.m. Monday, May 30, officials with the local memorial park will hold a Memorial Day ceremony to honor the men and women who have given their lives in defense of

America, according to Trinity Memorial Park Facility Manager Phillip Welch.

"This year's ceremony is going to be very simple and basic, a lot like it was last year," said Welch. "There won't be any speakers or anything like that, just the simple wreath laying ceremony."

Welch said the Howard County Volunteer Fire Department will once again provide color guard

See **TRINITY**, Page 3

Large item pickup moves to District 3

By THOMAS JENKINS
 Staff Writer

It's time for residents in Big Spring's District 3 to take advantage of the city's annual large item pickup program, as municipal crews get ready to begin collecting oversized items Friday morning.

The program will target District 3 — represented by newly elected City Councilman Glen Carrigan — part of a six-month project designed to help residents get rid of items too large to be transported by usual means to the landfill.

"Some of the more typical items

we pick up are appliances that don't work anymore, couches and mattresses," said Chad Averette, code enforcement supervisor for the city of Big Spring. "Those are the kind of things we can take

See **TRASH**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Jean Bassett



Jean Bassett, 75, of Big Spring died Monday, May 23, 2011, at her residence. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 28, 2011, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Elwin Collom, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Dec. 23, 1935, in Big Spring to Josephine and Joe Myrick. She grew up in Big Spring and married Robert "Bob" Bassett on Oct. 13, 1962, in Tillamook, Ore.

She lived in Oregon, Levelland, Orange and Hemphill, returning to Big Spring in 2001. She was a homemaker and also worked in restaurants as a waitress and cashier. She was a member of Hillcrest Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Bob Bassett of Big Spring; two daughters, Sandra Almager and husband Benny of Levelland and Tana McIntire and husband James of Lubbock; one brother, C.J. Myrick and wife Juanita of Breckenridge; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one great-grandson.

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

Alvin Gluege



In honor of Alvin Gluege, a memorial service will be held on Memorial Day, May 30, 2011, at 10:45 a.m. at the Resthaven Memorial Park Mausoleum located at 5740 W. 19th St. in Lubbock.

The service will be conducted by Texas Tech University Health Services to honor and express appreciation to Alvin and his family for their generous donation to the University Health Science

Center.

Friends and family of Alvin Gluege, a longtime Big Spring resident, are invited to attend the memorial service.

Rickie Ballard



Rickie Ballard, 55, of Big Spring died Monday, May 23, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 28, 2011, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with Courtney Ballard officiating.

He was born June 2, 1955, in Big Spring to Loyce and Dan Ballard.

He lived most of his life in Snyder and Big Spring, marrying Juanita Leonard on April 7, 2001, in Water Valley. He returned to Big Spring from Snyder 13 years ago and worked at Alon USA for 17 years. He was currently employed by Weatherford A&M Composites. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his wife, Juanita Ballard of Big Spring; one daughter, Terri Danielle Dosier of Midland; four stepsons, Gene "Squeak" Leonard and wife Jessie of Fredericksburg, Justin Leonard and wife Chelsea of Big Spring, Arthur "Bubba" Watson of Big Spring and Franklin Jay Riordan of Dallas; his parents, Loyce and Dan Ballard of Snyder; one sister, Karen Ballard of Snyder; and four grandchildren.

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

Jeannie Pitts

Jeannie Pitts, 55, of Big Spring died Wednesday, May 25, 2011, in an Odessa hospital. Her 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 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. today:

Note: The BSPD reported no arrests were made during this period.

• BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1100 block of N. Aylesford.

• ASSAULT was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

• BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported: In the 1200 block of Young.

In the 600 block of State.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 70 inmates at the time of this report.

• LARRY JONES HINOJOSA, 37, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana — two ounces or less and a Tom Green County warrant for unauthorized absence from community correctional facility.

• KENNETH CHARLES DEMONE, 54, was arrested Wednesday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• ELOY FIERRO JR., 46, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of Class C assault — family violence.

• DAVID HOUSTON SUMMERS, 33, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on charges of public intoxication and resisting arrest, search or transportation.

Fire/EMS

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

• TRAUMA was reported in the 600 block of N. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Avenue C. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Harvard. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of Tonn Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 800 block of W. FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.

• GRASS FIRE was reported in the 1100 block of W. Third Street.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

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

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

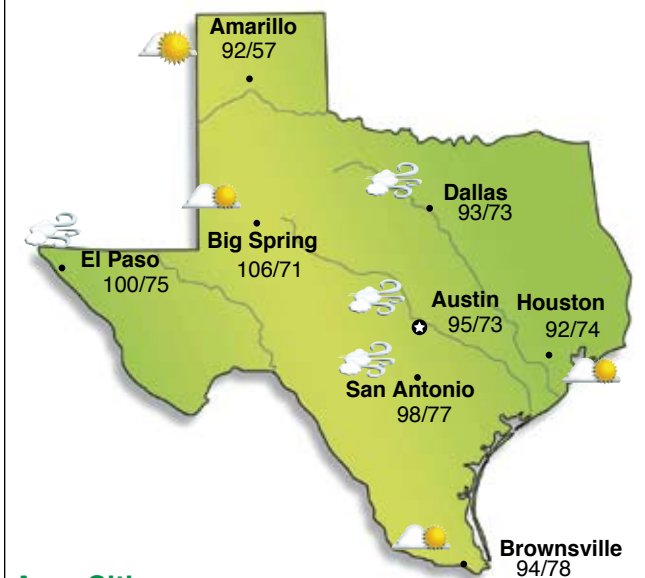
• Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 5/27	Sat 5/28	Sun 5/29	Mon 5/30	Tue 5/31
106/71 Partly cloudy skies. Record high temperatures expected. High 106F.	109/73 Sunny. Highs 107 to 111F and lows in the low 70s.	101/70 Windy with a mix of sun and clouds.	98/71 Windy with a mix of sun and clouds.	96/70 Partly cloudy, chance of a thunderstorm.
Sunrise: 6:42 AM Sunset: 8:45 PM	Sunrise: 6:42 AM Sunset: 8:45 PM	Sunrise: 6:41 AM Sunset: 8:46 PM	Sunrise: 6:41 AM Sunset: 8:47 PM	Sunrise: 6:41 AM Sunset: 8:47 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	106	73	windy
Amarillo	92	57	mst sunny
Austin	95	73	windy
Beaumont	90	72	sunny
Brownsville	94	78	pt sunny
Brownwood	103	73	windy
Corpus Christi	91	77	pt sunny
Corsicana	92	72	windy
Dallas	93	73	windy
Del Rio	104	78	pt sunny
El Paso	100	75	windy
Fort Stockton	106	71	sunny
Gainesville	89	71	pt sunny
Greenville	90	70	windy
Houston	92	74	pt sunny
Kingsville	94	76	pt sunny
Livingston	92	69	sunny
Longview	91	70	sunny
Lubbock	101	62	mst sunny
Lufkin	93	71	pt sunny
Midland	105	73	pt sunny
Raymondville	96	75	pt sunny
Rosenberg	93	73	windy
San Antonio	98	77	windy
San Marcos	96	73	windy
Sulphur Springs	89	71	sunny
Sweetwater	106	72	windy
Tyler	91	69	sunny
Weatherford	94	72	windy
Wichita Falls	101	72	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	82	63	t-storm
Boston	83	59	pt sunny
Chicago	62	50	pt sunny
Dallas	93	73	windy
Denver	70	47	pt sunny
Houston	92	74	pt sunny
Los Angeles	77	59	sunny
Miami	86	76	t-storm
Minneapolis	59	50	rain
New York	86	67	pt sunny
Phoenix	96	72	sunny
San Francisco	59	50	pt sunny
Seattle	54	45	rain
St. Louis	71	60	pt sunny
Washington, DC	87	68	t-storm

Moon Phases



UV Index

Fri 5/27	Sat 5/28	Sun 5/29	Mon 5/30	Tue 5/31
11	11	11	11	11
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

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

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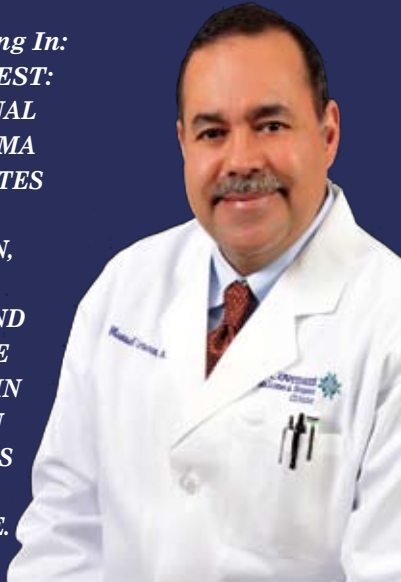
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MEMORIAL

Continued from Page 1

Big Spring in 1987. Residents of Big Spring wanted to make sure the community had some form of remembrance for not only The Wall but all those it represents. What started with the planting of a tree turned into the purchase of two and a half acres, funding ideas and eventually the dedication of the memorial.

Since its dedication on May 27, 1991, there have been numerous additions, including a helicopter, tank, jet and a small chapel. The site also includes a memorial honoring veterans who served prior to and following the Vietnam War.

"It's important that we don't forget the people that sacrificed for us," Hartfield said.

The memorial is located on Rackley Street, located near SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

To find out more about the ceremony, contact Hartfield at 267-1806.

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



Big Spring City Manager Gary Fuqua presents a plaque to outgoing city council member Joann Staulcup during Tuesday's meeting of the council.

HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins

TRINITY

Continued from Page 1

services for this year's ceremony — which marks the 27th year Trinity Memorial has held the event — with a special touch.

"The volunteer fire department provided their color guard last year and did such a tremendous job," Welch said. "This year, I understand they are also going to

be bringing their bag pipes for the ceremony, so we're really excited about that."

Preparations for the ceremony begin the prior Saturday, according to Welch, as local Boy Scouts take time to show their appreciation in a very special way.

"Each year, the day before the ceremony, the Boy Scouts from the Buffalo Trail Council come out and place miniature American flags

on the graves of the veterans buried here," said Welch. "It's a very emotional thing to see."

Welch said the ceremony will be held near the park's Avenue of Flags — which will feature more than 120 full-size American flags.

"In honor of Howard County veterans, there will also be 120 full-size American flags flying at the park's Avenue of Flags, which is sponsored each year by the

veterans' families," he said. "When this ceremony first started out, we didn't have anywhere near 100 flags, but over the years it's grown and grown. It's really something beautiful to see."

Welch said the ceremony should serve as a heartfelt thanks to the men and women that made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States.

The wreath being laid

at the park's main flagpole during the ceremony represents a number of local veterans organizations, said Welch.

"The wreath is divided up into portions, and each portion is devoted to a different veterans organization," said Welch. "I'm not sure which organizations will be there to take part in the ceremony, but it's always a very moving thing to watch."

Trinity Memorial

Park is located on S. Highway 87, approximately five miles south of Big Spring.

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

BSISD

Continued from Page 1

project contractors. "They've started ground work at those three sites ... and we're looking at around late June before they start pouring concrete," Pierce said. "The next major thing after that will be at Moss Elementary. They'll start work there in mid-June, with demolition work beginning in mid-July."

New campuses at Washington, Marcy and Goliad will be built adjacent to the existing buildings. Because of topography issues, however, construction of a new campus at Moss will have to wait until the current building is demolished.

The \$60 million bond will pay for a wide variety of construction projects during the coming few years. In addition to four new elementary campuses, renovation work is scheduled for Big Spring Junior High and Big Spring High School.

As for now, however, the main focus of work is on the new elementary schools.

"By mid-to-late August, they should be finished pouring (foundation) concrete and going into steel work," Pierce said. "It could be earlier than that, depending on weather."

The schedule currently calls for the new Washington, Marcy and Goliad campuses to open in time for the start of the 2012-2013 school year. The new Moss building should be ready for occupancy about two

months later, Pierce said.

Classes at Washington, Marcy and Goliad will continue to be held at the current campuses while construction on the new schools is taking place. Moss students will transfer over to the Goliad campus while their new building is being built.

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

TRASH

Continued from Page 1

to our landfill and we're allowed to pick up. However, we can't pick up any household hazardous waste. That means any kind of chemicals including lawn chemicals, car batteries and tires and things of that nature. We also won't be picking up any tree branches, shrubs or things like that."

While the program originally targeted elderly and disabled residents, Averette said the program is now open to all city residents.

"In the past, the program was simply aimed at residents that didn't have the means to get these large items off their property and to the landfill," said Averette. "Last year, however, we began opening it up to everyone. This is all part of an effort to go through each district and get rid of code violations."

"This is a service the city is going to provide as a courtesy to those people and give them the opportunity to get things off of their property they might not be able to otherwise."

All items must be by the curb in the city's

right-of-way no sooner than 24 hours before the scheduled pick up. Items need to be separated as much as possible for its trip to the municipal landfill, added Averette.

"To be placed on the pick up list, all residents have to do is call 264-2504 or 264-2501, and we'll get them set up," he said. "If they don't call and get on the list, we can't pick up their items."

Averette said customers need to be aware of

gas, water and electricity meters and lines when they put their large items out to be picked up.

"A lot of time we have to bring in equipment to pick those large items up," he said. "If you cover the meters up, it's hard for us to know where they are. Using the equipment makes the pick up go quicker and we want to make sure our employees are safe while they are picking these things up."

Averette said he and his officers are looking at following a similar plan for District 4 in late June.

For more information on the large item pick-up program and maps of the six city districts, visit the city of Big Spring website at mybigspring.com, or call 264-2504.

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

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD

 By Eddy Pitchford

Timely reminders:
 "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only." (Matthew 24:36.)
 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief ... what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting and hastening the coming of the day of God..." (2 Peter 3:10-12).
 "...when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. (2 Thessalonians 1:8).

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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

Memorial Day: Take a moment to remember

Memorial Day over the past few years has lost its meaning to so many people. The only thing that seems to be remembered about Memorial Day is its part of a three-day holiday.

Memorial Day was set up as a way to not only pay recognition, but to never forget the sacrifices that were made by numerous soldiers. These are men and women who have fought for the freedoms our nation has. It is one day, 24 hours for them to be remembered and respected by a society that has long since forgotten.

In its humble beginnings Memorial Day was when a group of women would show their appreciation by visiting soldiers' graves and laying flowers down. It was about making a simple gesture in gratitude to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

In order to bring the nation back to remembering, a resolution was passed Dec. 2000. The resolution encourages Americans to take a moment of silence at 3 p.m. local time, according to the Memorial Day website.

Once again it may be a small gesture, but it's a gesture showing the nation's gratefulness and it shows no matter how much time passes the sacrifices the soldiers made are not in vain and they will not be forgotten.

Locally, there will be a Memorial Day service marking the 20th anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial at 11 a.m.

Trinity Memorial Park will host a ceremony at 2 p.m. to honor the men and women who have given their lives in defense of America. It will include a simple, wreath laying ceremony.

Even if you are unable to attend one of the ceremonies, take the time to acknowledge the national moment of silence at 3 p.m. Take flowers to a soldier's grave. If you know a family who has given the sacrifice of a loved one in any of our wars, take the time to thank them and let them know their sacrifice is appreciated.

The gesture doesn't have to be grand it only has to be made. Take the time to remember the reason for this three-day holiday. After all you have three days.

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

Even when it looks the darkest, Lord, may we bring everything to You through prayer. Amen

Remembering my graduation

Considering it's graduation season yet again I have to admit I've been thinking back to my graduation seven years ago.

I remember being a senior and anticipating that final walk across the stage. The feeling of knowing high school would soon be over and the world would be mine to conquer.

It was the feeling of knowing the time to explore and see what the world had to offer was finally upon us.

Senioritis never really got me like it did some of the others, but then again I was never much like the other students I graduated with. I kept to myself, did what needed to be done and was ready for the next step. To me, high school was one of the steps that had to be taken, but one I was ready to move on from. I learned what I could, but I knew there was so much more out there, and I was ready to see what it was.

Sitting there at graduation gave me a feeling I can't explain. It was an anxious, excited feeling crowded by sadness. I remember listening to the speeches and realizing in less than an hour my elementary and high school career — thirteen years — would be left behind and a different chapter would be starting.

I looked around and saw the 40 students I had gone to school with for so many years and realized I may never see them again. I began to think just how well I really knew any of them. For the most part we all seemed to get along, everyone was able to hang out with each other, but there were still those cliques that every school has.

I sat there and thought to myself where would we all be 10

years from now; how many of us would go on to do great things and how many of us would be confined to the perceptions that high school put on us.

It's hard to believe it's been seven years since that day. I still keep track of most of those 40 students; some of us have moved on from Big Spring and started families. Others have gone on to further their education and enter career fields I never could have imagined for them. Then there are those who chose to stay, build a family and live their life.

Each year I look at the graduating classes and think to myself, how different are they than we were. How much has changed since we were standing in their shoes. The answer is: they are more like us than any of us know and yet so much has changed.

I remember thinking how "big" and "mature" I was graduation day. That same line of thinking is clear as day in each of the graduating seniors. That is one thing that will never change. Maybe it's the fact the seniors have all the attention, they are the oldest and they are the ones all the other students want to be. It's amazing how much "power" is put into being a senior, especially when you are the freshman.

Looking back on it now, I realize being a senior only puts you right back at the bottom of the chain. Once you walk across that stage you are right back at the bottom. You enter into college or the workforce the youngest ones there and the ones on the bottom. The reign of being on top is short lived, but one to be enjoyed.

It's easy to get caught up in the "I'm a senior and the world is mine" mentality, but don't forget it won't be long until you are fighting the fight just like everyone else. With the end of high school comes the beginning of the real world. The world of paying bills, finding a job and

making a life. It's the American dream, but it also doesn't come easy.

I listen to the speeches given at graduations and they all say the same thing, but I'm not sure it can be grasped when you are sitting in that seat. I think it isn't until you are looking back seven years or 70 years that you truly realize how momentous the occasion really was. Graduation is a time to be remembered because it's the end and a beginning.

I know if I would have known then what I know now, I would have enjoyed high school a little more. I would have taken more opportunities and lived a little more. I wouldn't have been in such a rush to leave those walls that we all thought were confining us.

My advice to this year's graduating class is this:

Enjoy each and every moment before you walk across that stage. Make sure and take lots of photos because before you know it they will be all you have. Life tends to go by so much faster than we realize. Don't get too involved in rushing the days along because there will come a time when you realize you missed so much.

There are countless opportunities out there and your future is yours to make. Take the chances you want, try things you don't and always remember nobody can decide your fate except you. Once you walk across that stage it won't matter if you were the popular kid or the nerd; it won't matter if you were the biggest football star the school has ever seen or if you were ignored for most of the years — all of it will be forgotten.

After graduation is when it truly begins. It's the time for you to make your dreams come true. Congratulations to all the 2011 seniors, I wish I could be back in your shoes.

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

The end of the world ... again

Until a few months ago, I doubt most Americans had any idea who Harold Camping was.

At 89 years old, Camping, a Colorado-native, won't likely be remembered as the construction tycoon who built a business from nothing and then cashed it in for millions. I doubt he'll even be remembered as the president of Family Radio, a Christian radio broadcasting company heard all over the country.

No, Camping will most likely be remembered as the aging Bible-based numerology crackpot who warned the world the rapture was coming May 21, 2011, only to have his prediction irrefutably exposed as rubbish May 22, 2011.

After months — actually, it's more like years — of warning the citizens of the planet Earth God's judgment would begin with terrible earthquakes and natural disasters of a never-before-seen magnitude all around the world, Camping's doomsday prediction was a flop.

Bear in mind, Camping certainly isn't the first doomsayer to put an expiration date on this world. The belief the world will someday end is a large part of many different religions. Unfortunately, however, there doesn't seem to be a date stamped on the bottom of the world like that can of yams that has been collecting dust in most people's pantries.

So, out of what I can only figure is the fear of the unknown, many turn to numerology, where self-proclaimed holy men

take dates and other details from the Bible and transpose them into digits in some crazy formula that will — according to them — spell out the date when our little third rock from the sun will go south.

Honestly, Camping's claims hold little more validity for me than the crazy guy on the corner wearing the billboards that say "the end is near." And while, at first blush, I'm tempted to say Camping's followers — many of whom gave away their belongings, quit their jobs and yanked their kids out of school for the supposed rapture — I simply can't bring myself to do that.

The truth of the matter is people are looking for hope. They are looking for some light at the end of the proverbial tunnel, whether it comes with the end of the world or some other less-than-real event. And while hope is always a good thing, it can breed desperation, which certainly isn't a cardinal value.

For many, religion — regardless of which one — is a source of hope and strength. The idea God is looking down on us, caring for us and hoping we will make the right decisions for the right reasons is a major part of most people's lives.

Unfortunately, there will always be those wolves in sheep's clothing.

Whether it's Oral Roberts crying for an extra \$1 million so God will let him stick around a little longer, or Jimmy Swagart trying to explain to a California Highway Patrolman why he was cruising on the wrong side of the road with a prostitute in the seat next to him, the list of con-men willing to prey on people's hopes and fears is longer than my arm.

Those duped by Camping's prophecy will most likely head

home and chalk the entire episode up to a lesson learned. They will begin the arduous task of trying to repair the damage they caused in their lives — financial, emotional and even spiritual — so they can move on.

However, like most emotionally invested doomsayers, Camping recently emerged from his post-apocalypse silence to let the world know the rapture has been somewhat "postponed," with the end of days now set for Oct. 21, 2011.

Many Christians will clamor to make preparations for the October doomsday — my daughter is less than thrilled with Camping's choice of dates, since that will be her 12th birthday. And, as the date once again passes without incident, I'm sure Camping will have a back up plan to explain the discrepancy.

For many people, knowing when the world will end is an all-too-real situation. Well, not the whole world, but their world. For many terminally ill patients, they see a movie trailer and wonder if they will still be alive when that film hits theaters. That is reality, not prophecy.

It's a weight no one should have to bear, whether the end is heralded in by cancer or the four horsemen of the apocalypse. It changes who you are, what you do and how you treat people, and not necessarily for the better.

Either way, it's this writer's opinion the American people need to start trusting their own instincts instead of subsidizing them with the musings of a crack-pot radio evangelist.

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



AMANDA MORENO



THOMAS JENKINS

State briefs

Negotiators OK \$172.5B budget

AUSTIN (AP) — House and Senate negotiators have approved the Texas budget for the next two years, sending the plan to the full chambers for consideration.

The panel agreed Thursday on a \$172.5 billion plan that makes about \$15 billion in cuts compared to current spending.

Money for school operations is contingent on lawmakers agreeing on new distribution formulas. Those discussions could push lawmakers into special session if they don't come up with a plan soon.

The spending levels are significantly higher than initial proposals, but would still require dramatic cuts. For example, basic school operations would be short about \$4 billion owed to them under current law.

Dickerson named dean of Texas Tech law school

LUBBOCK (AP) — A law professor in Florida will be next dean of the Texas Tech University School of Law.

The school in Lubbock on Thursday announced Darby Dickerson will assume her new duties July 29. Dickerson in 1995 joined the faculty of Stetson University, becoming dean of the law school in 2004.

She earned a bachelor's degree in government and history and a master's degree in government from the College of William and Mary. Dickerson holds a law degree from Vanderbilt Law School.

The Columbia, S.C., native formerly worked at the Dallas firm of Locke Purnell Rain Harrell, now Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell.

Senate orders review of Port of Houston Authority

AUSTIN (AP) — Workings of the Port of Houston Authority that have drawn local scrutiny could get a look from the state level.

The Texas Senate has ordered a review of operations and policies of the port authority.

The *Houston Chronicle* reported Thursday that the port is facing Harris County investigations over use of a port tour vessel for a private function. Potential conflicts of interests are also being reviewed.

Authority chairman Jim Edmonds said Wednesday that he's confident a state review will show the port authority fully complies with Texas law.

The proposed Sunset Commission review was included in an amendment, by Sen. John Whitmire of Houston, to a bill on the powers of navigation districts and port authorities. The amendment approved Tuesday night by the Senate now goes to the House.

Former Fort Worth officer indicted in ticket scam

FORT WORTH (AP) — A former North Texas police officer is accused of falsifying traffic tickets and claiming more than \$20,000 in unearned overtime.

A Tarrant County grand jury on Wednesday indicted 46-year-old Herman Young, who resigned as a Fort Worth police officer amid the investigation.

Young is facing 12 counts of tampering with a governmental record and one count of theft by a public servant. The indictment says the overtime investigation goes back to 2008.

Young told the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* that he's surprised to be indicted and he does not yet have an attorney.

Dallas: hit and run kills woman in wheelchair

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas police say a woman in a wheelchair has died in a hit-and-run traffic accident.

Police say the driver is sought after the accident around 3 a.m. Thursday.

The name of the woman who died was not immediately released.

Texans gets a tad older in latest census figures

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The average age of Texans is creeping up.

New figures released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau show that the median age of Texas residents was 33.6 last year. That's about a year older than the state's median age in the 2000 census.

World, nation at a glance

Storm-weary middle America hit by powerful storms for third time in 4 days, no deaths reported

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) — In storm-weary middle America, many people were counting themselves fortunate after powerful storms swept through the region for the third time in four days but apparently claimed no lives.

Dozens of people were injured, mobile homes were flipped and roofs were torn off houses when tornadoes and thunderstorms hit Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and other states Wednesday evening.

In southern Indiana, neighbors used flashlights to check on each other and their homes and barns near Bloomington after powerful winds overturned two mobile homes. Crews worked overnight to clear uprooted trees and downed power lines after a tornado touched down in a mostly rural area about 25 miles south near Bedford.

The extent of the damage wouldn't be known until daybreak, but residents expressed relief that no deaths were reported in the latest round of storms even though several homes were destroyed and more than a dozen people were injured, including three or four children.

Congress faces midnight deadline as it rushes to renew anti-terror USA Patriot Act

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress is rushing to extend the life of three anti-terror tools, including the use of roving wiretaps, before they expire at midnight Thursday.

The Senate was set to start voting on the legislation, including possible amendments, Thursday morning. Final passage during the day would send it to the House for quick approval and then onward to President Barack Obama in Europe for his signature.

The rapid-fire action on key elements of the post-9/11 USA Patriot Act comes after several days of impasse in the Senate and results in part from the prodding of senior intelligence officials, who warned of the consequences of disrupting surveillance operations.

"Should the authority to use these critical tools expire, our nation's intelligence and law enforcement professionals will have less capability than they have today to detect terrorist plots," James Clapper, the director of national intelligence, wrote congressional leaders.

The legislation would extend for four years provisions that allow law enforcement officials to set roving wiretaps to monitor multiple communications devices; obtain court-approved access to business records and other documents, including library check-outs, that might be relevant to a terrorist threat; and conduct surveillance of "lone wolf" suspects not known to be tied to specific terrorist groups.

Arizona shooting suspect found incompetent to stand trial

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — One of more than a dozen surviving victims from the Tucson shooting rampage says he has no problem with the suspect spending his life in a mental health facility.

Eric Fuller spoke shortly after a federal judge ruled Wednesday that Jared Lee Loughner was incompetent to stand trial for the Jan. 8 attack, which left Rep. Gabrielle Giffords seriously wounded from a bullet to the brain.

Mental health experts concluded that Loughner, a 22-year-old college dropout, suffers from schizophrenia.

U.S. District Judge Larry Burns ordered Loughner to a federal facility in Missouri for up to four months, where doctors will try to give him enough treatment to bring him to a point where he understands the case against him.

At one point during the hearing, Loughner lowered his head to within inches of his table and then raised it and began yelling, prompting federal marshals had to drag him from the packed courtroom.

Obama in France for G-8 meeting; to seek aid for Egypt, Tunisia and to boost Arab Spring

DEAUVILLE, France (AP) — President Barack Obama prepared to press allies from the Group of Eight industrial nations for commitments in the Middle East and North Africa during two days of meetings in France that were getting under way Thursday.

Air Force One touched down in the seaside resort of Deauville after a flight from London Thursday

morning for the summit's opening meetings. The world's leading economic powers are seeking ways to support fledgling democratic transitions in Tunisia and Egypt, while also creating incentives to encourage other countries in the region to pursue greater political freedoms.

The summit comes on the heels of Obama's sweeping address at London's Westminster Hall Wednesday, where he cast the U.S., Britain and other like-minded allies in Europe as the world's "greatest catalysts for global action." He will echo a similar theme in his discussions with G-8 partners on the recent Arab uprisings and argue that the political protesters in the Middle East and North Africa share their democratic values.

On the sidelines of the summit, Obama will hold one-on-one meetings with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, French President Nicolas Sarkozy and Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan.

Following outburst, suspect in Gang battles rattle western Mexico — 28 dead in Nayarit state, 700 flee homes in Michoacan

MORELIA, Mexico (AP) — Fierce fighting among apparent rival drug gangs in western Mexico bloodied one highway with 28 dead, while in a nearby state more than 700 people huddled in shelters after fleeing villages that had become battlegrounds.

The violence, which appeared to be unrelated, escalated Wednesday in the western states of Nayarit and Michoacan, where drug cartels have been warring for territory.

Police in Nayarit initially responded to a citizen complaint of a kidnapping by a group of armed men, who fled on a federal highway near the town of Ruiz in the central part of the state, according to the state prosecutors office.

As the officers headed toward the scene, they heard a second report of a shootout involving the same men, according to the statement, which did not identify the gangs or the victims.

Police found 28 men lying dead and four others wounded on the road littered with bullet casings from high-powered weapons and 10 abandoned vehicles.

Kerrigan to give impact statement at sentencing of brother convicted of battery in dad's death

WOBURN, Mass. (AP) — Olympic figure skater Nancy Kerrigan planned to give a victim impact statement when her brother is sentenced Thursday on an assault charge after being acquitted of manslaughter in their father's death.

Mark Kerrigan was convicted Wednesday of a misdemeanor assault and battery charge in a January 2010 altercation with his 70-year-old father, Daniel, at the family's home in Stoneham, just north of Boston.

Nancy Kerrigan and her mother, Brenda, embraced and cried after the verdict was read; the skater had supported her brother and attended every day of the nine-day trial in Woburn Superior Court.

"My family has never believed at all that my brother had anything to do with my father's death, and he would — my dad would — never have wanted any of this," Nancy Kerrigan said outside the courthouse after the verdict, standing with other family members.

Defense attorney Janice Bassil said mother and daughter plan to give victim impact statements when 46-year-old Mark Kerrigan is sentenced Thursday. He faces a maximum 2½ years in a county jail.

Men gaining on women as share of U.S. population, increase mostly among people 65 and older

WASHINGTON (AP) — Women are continuing to outlive men, but men are gaining on them in numbers thanks to medical improvements. New 2010 census figures, released Thursday, show men are narrowing the female population advantage, primarily in the 65-plus age group. It's a change in the social dynamics of a country in which longevity, widowhood and health care for seniors have been mostly seen as women's issues.

sudoku
ANSWERS

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

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Casual Cooking: Auntie Pam's delicious spread

Welcoming readers to my world where I enjoy simple, sometimes quick, but always delicious meals.

Now who doesn't like a good road trip? Me too. That's exactly what I had two weekends ago.

My husband, mom, stepdad and I traveled to Garden City, Kansas for my nephew's graduation. I hadn't seen him, his sis-



KRIS
SOLIZ

ters or his mom in about two years. They've grown, they've changed and I left happy for seeing them, but feeling older. Can you relate? It was a good trip and good visit. We went for his graduation party at his house and it was filled with people we

didn't know.

After everyone left we watched him open gifts and was getting ready to leave when I spied this huge bowl on the table filled with what looked like something delicious.

Since we had already eaten we didn't eat at the party, but I couldn't resist this huge bowl. I grabbed a cracker and my mouth was in heaven.

Who made this? It turned out to be my nephew's aunt Pam. So naturally I asked

how to make it and she sent me away with a bowl full.

So this weeks recipe is from Kansas and is really good.

At the end I have provided some variations to this lovely dip/spread that you can try as well. Enjoy!

Aunt Pam's Cream Cheese Herb Spread

2 pkg of soften cream cheese
1 pkg of ranch dressing
2-4 green onions chopped

1/2 to 1 whole jalapeno with/without seeds

In a bowl whip cream cheese, if not soft enough add dash of milk. Add ranch and mix well, then gently add in rest of items and place in fridge for a least four hours to overnight so flavors can mix and develop. Variations - Mediterranean - add chopped olives, sundried tomatoes and jarred red bell peppers. Mexican - add chopped lime marinated grilled shrimp, dash of cumin and 1/2 tps. of chopped cilantro.

USPS to host public meeting at Lenorah

Special to the Herald

LENORAH - The U.S. Postal Service will hold a public meeting to discuss its proposal to make possible changes in the way postal services are provided in Lenorah.

The community meeting will take place at 1 p.m., on Friday, June 3, at the Lenorah Post Office. Customers will have an opportunity to meet with a Postal Service representative to discuss alternatives.

A review of business

activities of the Lenorah Post Office revealed that the office workload has declined. This reduced workload suggests the maintenance of an independent Post Office for Lenorah may no longer be warranted.

Written questions may be submitted to:

Consumer Affairs Manager
USPS Rio Grande District
10410 Perrin Beitel Rd.
Room: 1045
San Antonio, TX 78284-9631



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
Marcus Fernandez, left, the new District 1 city councilman, takes the oath of office from City Secretary/Finance Director Peggy Walker during Tuesday's Big Spring City Council meeting.

www.bigspringherald.com

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Take note

• Scenic Mountain Medical is making some infrastructure repairs inside the Yellow Rose Café and has decided to close the eatery until the work has been completed.

• The Salvation Army will hold an open house from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. today. There will be refreshments and door prizes. Tour the building and view the construction in progress. Salvation Army is located at 811 W. Fifth.

• All Coahoma High School alumni are invited to an all-school reunion on July 23. This year's program will focus on CHS music, to include honoring anyone associated with former CHS bands, choirs, musical groups, etc. Please help spread the word by sharing this information with any CHS alumni among your family/friends. The Reunion Planning Committee is meeting every other Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Coahoma Dairy Queen. Contact Joyce York Baumann at 432-816-1588 or Patti Lee Meeks at 432-267-6688 for additional information, or with mailing addresses for CHS alumni. Addresses can also be e-mailed to Harold Aberegg at aberegg66@gmail.com.

• Fridays are live band dance nights at Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler. Senior adults are invited to an evening of fellowship (and good exercise) from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. each Friday. Cost is \$6 per person. For more information or to find out what band is playing, call the Senior Center at 432-267-1628.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Sylvia Learns a New Convention

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A 10 5
♥ 8 5
♦ A K Q 6
♣ A K 7 4
WEST
♠ J 6
♥ J 9 4
♦ 9 8 7 5
♣ Q J 10 6
EAST
♠ Q 8 7
♥ Q 10 7 6
♦ J 10 4
♣ 9 8 5
SOUTH
♠ K 9 4 3 2
♥ A K 3 2
♦ 3 2
♣ 3 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass
3♣ Pass 3♥ Pass
3♠ Pass 4NT Pass
5♣ Pass 5NT Pass
6♥ Pass 7♠ Pass

Opening lead — queen of clubs.
When Sylvia first learned the Blackwood Convention, she embraced it with all the enthusiasm of a child playing with a new toy.
The mechanics of the convention were not, after all, difficult, and the temptation to use it proved irresistible to her.

For example, I was playing against her one day when this deal occurred. Sylvia was South. When her partner bid three spades and Sylvia realized that this was her

chance to use Blackwood, her face lit up like a Christmas tree.

And when North showed three aces, allowing her to then inquire for kings by bidding five notrump, she beamed with uncontained joy.

Naturally, when North showed two kings, Sylvia bid seven. The small detail of producing 13 tricks with four aces and four kings hardly entered her calculations.

My partner led a club, and Sylvia zipped through the play without much thought, taking trick after trick until she had won them all. In the process, her trump loser vanished into thin air!

She played the A-K of clubs and ruffed a club, then cashed the A-K-Q of diamonds and ruffed another club. Next came the A-K of hearts and a heart ruff, producing this position:

North
♠ A 10
♦ 6
West
♠ J 6
♦ 9
South
♠ K 9 4

Sylvia led dummy's remaining diamond, and I could do nothing. If I ruffed low, Sylvia would overruff with the nine, while if I ruffed with the queen, she would overruff and finesse my partner's jack. Our apparently certain trump trick simply went up in smoke.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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Summer sports camps planned

By ROBERT GRIFFIN

Sports Editor
Big Spring ISD has released the dates of this summer's various athletic camps for younger athletes wishing to help their cause going into next year's sporting season.

The first of the camps, a baseball skills camp, begins May 31 and runs through June 2 at Steer Field. The camp will be for students from first through eighth grades and will run 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
The softball skills camp will begin June 6 and last until June 9 at the Lady Steers Field. The times of the camp will be 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. and it is for returning students in third through eighth grades.

Football skills camp, June 13-16, will be held 8:30-11:30 a.m. at the ATC. The football skills camp is open to first through eighth graders.

A skills camp for girls basketball will be held June 20-23 at Steers Gym. Second

through fifth graders will be instructed between 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. while seventh and eighth graders will be 10:30a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The cost of each of the camps will be \$25, with an additional \$10 fee, if the athlete wants a t-shirt.

Any additional information about the camps can be obtained by contacting any of the coaches or calling Kay Cook at the athletic department of Big Spring ISD. Her number is 432-264-3662, extension 1480.

Parents will need to sign a waiver releasing Big Spring ISD from any and all liability for their children, in case of injury.

Dallas Mavericks Finals bound

DALLAS (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki wrapped his hands around the silver ball trophy that goes to the Western Conference champions and smiled. After five years, he and the Dallas Mavericks are kings of their conference again, earning another trip to the NBA finals.

Yet Nowitzki didn't flash the wide, toothy grin of someone relieved to have accomplished his goal. Because, he hasn't. Unless the Mavs win the next round, too, and become NBA champions for the first time, their whole glorious post-season — and that silver trophy — won't mean as much. It's a lament heard by many superstars, but Nowitzki's indifference amid much of the frenzied celebration around him showed just how serious he is about it.

"I was already thinking about the finals," he said. "This is

nice for a day, but we set our goals in October to win it all. We haven't done it yet."

Dallas says its climb back to the NBA finals with a 100-96 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Wednesday night that ended the Western finals in five games.

The young, up-and-coming Thunder made things tough on the older, now-or-possibly-never Mavericks as they had throughout the series. And, as he has throughout the post-season, Nowitzki made the plays that mattered most. His latest highlights: swishing a 3-pointer with 1:14 left that put Dallas ahead and making a pair of free throws with 13.3 seconds left to seal it.

"It feels good to finally go back," Nowitzki said. "This time, hopefully we can finish the job."

The Mavs' only other trip to

the finals was in 2006. They were up 2-0, with a big, late lead in Game 3, but wound up losing. They'd won only a single playoff series since until a tremendous run this post-season — going 12-3, with wins in 10 of the last 11 games, including a sweep of the two-time reigning champion Lakers.

This Dallas team filled with veterans all seeking their first rings has been playing with what coach Rick Carlisle calls "a laser-like focus." It showed when they clawed back from a 15-point deficit with 5:06 left in Game 4, and again in this game, when the Mavs were down by six with 4:37 left.

They outscored the Thunder 14-4 the rest of the way, with many of their most-accomplished players making the

See **FINALS**, Page 12

Clijster out of French Open

PARIS (AP) — After wasting two match points in the second set and feeling her confidence fading, Kim Clijsters let the match slip away Thursday at the French Open.

The two-time French Open runner-up, seeded second at this year's tournament, lost to the 114th-ranked Arantxa Rus of the Netherlands 3-6, 7-5, 6-1.

"I started doubting a little bit," said Clijsters, who was playing only her second match since a right ankle injury knocked her out of action. "When you start doubting yourself on any surface, but for me definitely on clay, it's the wrong attitude to have."

Two-time French Open finalist Robin Soderling and No. 10 Mardy Fish of the United States also advanced, as did No. 6 Li Na of China and No. 9 Petra Kvitova on the women's side.

Also Thursday, five-time champion Rafael Nadal is scheduled to

be back on court — two days after being stretched to five sets for the first time in his French Open career. Maria Sharapova is also set to play.

Clijsters, who had won her last 15 Grand Slam matches after taking the titles at last year's U.S. Open and this year's Australian Open, failed to convert either match point in the second set.

Playing with her right ankle taped, the Belgian made 65 unforced errors in the match and lost 11 of the final 12 games. Rus finished with only 22 unforced errors and had only eight winners in the entire match.

"My ankle feels fine, so that has absolutely nothing to do with it," Clijsters said. "If I felt like I wasn't ready as much as I would have liked to be, I wouldn't have come here. If I wasn't feeling like I was able to play tough matches, then I wouldn't have made that decision to come

here." Clijsters had her first chance to close out the match against the Dutchwoman when leading 5-2 in the second set, but Rus saved the match point and held to make it 5-3 before breaking Clijsters to get back on serve.

"When I was 5-2 down in the second set, I was thinking, 'Just go for it and play more aggressive,'" Rus said. "And, yeah, that really helped."

"At 6-5 I had a really good serve game, and then I won the set. Then I was thinking, 'Yeah, I can win this match.'"

Clijsters then had another match point in the 10th game, but Rus saved it again and eventually pushed the score to 5-5.

With the momentum shifting, Clijsters double-faulted for the seventh time — one of her 28 unforced errors in the set — to allow Rus to break and serve out the second set.

"She obviously start-

ed building up more confidence, started playing a lot better and was really kind of putting me on my back foot all the time. I couldn't really play my aggressive tennis anymore in that third set," Clijsters said.

Clijsters injured her right ankle while dancing at her cousin's wedding in April, sidelining her until the French Open. She last played at Roland Garros in 2006, when she reached the semifinals.

The last time Clijsters was eliminated this early at a major tournament was when she lost in the second round at Wimbledon in 2002.

But since returning to the tour in 2009 following the birth of her daughter, Clijsters has won three of her four Grand Slam titles.

Rus, the 2008 Australian Open junior champion, reached the third round of a Grand Slam tournament for the first time.

QUICK SNAPS

CGA Scholarship Tournament June 4-5

The Chicano Golf Association's 21st annual Scholarship Drive Tournament will be held June 4-5 at Comanche Trail Golf Course. Registration for the two-person scramble is \$75 per person and proceeds will go toward providing college scholarships to area students.

On the first day of the tournament, a prize of \$500 will be awarded for a hole-in-one, while a 2011 vehicle will be awarded for an ace on the second day.

For more information, contact Ben Garcia at 213-1074, Tommy Billalba at 816-1091 or Bobby Cordava at 935-0410.

Country Club Parent-Child Scramble June 4-5

The Big Spring Country Club is hosting a Parent-Child two-man golf scramble June 4-5. The event will kick off to a shotgun start at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 4 and at 1p.m. Sunday. Entry fee for the Open Division is \$80 and \$40 for the Trophy Division, plus cart fees (private carts are welcomed).

Parents may play with more than one child and the fees will be half off for the second team. BBQ will be served on the golf course Saturday. Prizes in the Open Division will be Golf Shop gift certificates.

To sign up or for more information, call 432-267-5354.

Summer Bash Ragball Tournament June 10-11

A Summer Bash Ragball Tournament will be held on June 10-11 at Cotton Mize Softball Park. Teams must be comprised of 5 girls and 5 guys. The fee is \$10.00 per person. Registration will be at 6 p.m. June 10 and games will begin at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Mike Hilario at 213-6791 or Tommy at 517-9512.

Grady High School Basketball Camp planned

Grady High School will be hosting a summer basketball camp May 31 through June 3, from 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Grades 3-5 will be boys and girls and grades 6-8 will be girls only. The cost of the camp will be \$50.

Coach Hefner, two time National Champion Coach with over 800 wins will be conducting the camp.

The camp will stress fundamentals on both offense and defense. Early registration is important so they will know how many coaches will be needed.

Checks are to be made out to Ken Hefner.

For more info, call 432-459-2445.

BSHS Cheerleader Ragball Tournament

Big Spring High School Cheerleaders will be having their ragball tournament at Roy D. Anderson Complex July 8 from 6 p.m. to midnight and July 9 from 8 a.m. until the last game is played.

To register contact Kelli Wash at 213-3206, Brandi Borchardt at 816-2334 or Val Robertson at 213-8315.

Registration deadline will be July 8 from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the complex. Fees are \$10 per person. Remember to get your receipt. A full concession will be open.

Lightning rally to force Game 7

TAMPA (AP) — Facing elimination in the Eastern Conference finals, the Tampa Bay Lightning knew they could count on Martin St. Louis to make a difference.

The six-time NHL All-Star has a knack for thriving in big games.

What he did — on and off the ice — to help his team stay alive against the Boston Bruins hardly came as a surprise on Wednesday night.

"He's the first guy to step up and get the guys going. He's obviously been through every type of experience, and every single type of championship you could win, he's been there," Stamkos said.

"Whether it's as a kid in the driveway and pretending to be a Game 7, those are the games you watch. ... Those are the games that get your fire going and those are the ones you want to play in," he added. "The do-or-die games. Our backs against the wall. You want to leave it out

there, and I was fortunate to get a couple of good bounces."

The Lightning also got a lift from Steven Stamkos and Vincent Lecavalier, and resilient goaltender Dwayne Roloson weathered a hat trick by Boston's David Krejci to force Game 7 in Boston on Friday night. All that after St. Louis got his teammates' attention with some inspiring words in the locker room.

"He's the first guy to step up and get the guys going. He's obviously been through every type of experience, and every single type of championship you could win, he's been there," Stamkos said.

"He's won individual awards. He's won the Stanley Cup and he's always been a big part," the Lightning's 21-year-old forward added. "He knows what to do and how to react in those situations. He stepped up before the game and said a few words, and

just the respect he has from every single guy on the team, we take it to heart. ... He's been our go-to guy, and he was again."

The Bruins are seeking their first trip to the Stanley Cup finals in 21 years, and the Lightning will try to clinch their first appearance on hockey's biggest stage since they won their only league title in 2004.

The Western Conference-champion Vancouver Canucks await the winner.

"We've been able to bounce back, but it's going to be our toughest challenge. We need to put together a full 60 minutes and that's going to be important going into the next game," Boston forward Milan Lucic said.

St. Louis assisted on a third-period goal that put the Lightning up 4-2. His second goal — and NHL-leading 10th of the playoffs — restored Tampa Bay's two-goal lead after Boston pulled to 4-3 on

one of two goals Krejci scored to keep the Bruins close in the closing minutes.

Roloson, who didn't play in Game 5 after being pulled from two of the previous three games because of ineffectiveness, also gave up a pair of first-period goals and finished with 16 saves.

"It's just one game now, and we've got to focus on what we've got to do and play 60 minutes or 120 or 420, whatever it's going to take to win the game," Roloson said.

Boston's Tim Thomas gave up another early goal, then struggled after Krejci and Milan Lucic scored to give the Bruins a 2-1 lead through one period.

The Lightning took control when St. Louis, Purcell and Stamkos scored power-play goals within a 12-minute span of the second and third periods.

"The fourth win, they don't give it to

See **NHL**, Page 12

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TECHNICAL WORK company is currently seeking candidates for the position of Entry Level Account Clerk at the Howard College-Big Spring Bookstore. Minimum Qualifications: 1 yr. exp. or College accounting classes, proficient in Excel and Word, excellent team building, communication, cashier experience and organizational skills with attention to details. Qualified candidates must apply on line at: www.leasebook.com. http://www.leasebook.com. Click on "Join Our Winning Team".

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Natural relief during allergy season



Photo Courtesy Getty Images

(Family Features) Itchy eyes, sneezing, coughing and congestion - these are just some of the symptoms that millions of people have to deal with every day, all from allergens being inhaled through the nasal passages. In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control, nearly one in three Americans suffer from sinus related symptoms, and that number continues to grow.

"Allergy sufferers require longer term care, so I try to recommend all-natural solutions that keep the wsi-

nuses clear for extended periods of time," said Dr. Rohit K. Katial, MD, staff physician and professor at National Jewish Health in Denver and Fellow of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology. "One of the most useful practices allergy sufferers can undertake is to use a daily sinus rinse, which helps relieve allergy symptoms naturally."

Sinus rinse has been used in other parts of the world for hundreds of years and is a practice that is recommended by approximately 98 percent of all ENTs and allergists, according to Lynx Research Consulting.

"Just like washing your hands, it's important to rinse out your sinuses as part of a daily routine to stay healthy," said Dr. Katial. "With all the sinus wash products available on the market, I recommend Waterpik's line of sinus rinse products, Waterpik SinuSense, because of ease of use, ergonomic feel, soft tip for sealing and the flow control valve."

Katial says that Waterpik SinuSense offers a natural, easy, effective and BPA-free option for the treatment and prevention of sinus-related symptoms.

In addition to sinus wash, there are some simple tips to follow that help reduce and prevent exposure to allergens:

- Vacuum often — Vacuuming once or twice a week may reduce the surface dust mites; and make sure your vacuum has a HEPA filter to capture dust and allergens. Also, wear a mask when doing housework, and consider leaving for a few hours after you clean to avoid inhaling allergens stirred up in the air.

- Control dust mites — You can't get rid of them, but you can take steps to help keep them under control and lessen your exposure to them. Consider covering mattresses and pillows in zippered, dust-proof covers. Launder

sheets and blankets every week in hot water — to kill dust mites, the water needs to reach at least 130°F.

- Reduce pet dander - If you don't want to part with your pet, keep it out of the bedroom. It's also recommended that you have someone without a pet allergy brush the pet outside to remove dander as well as to clean the litter box or cage. Additionally, bathe the pet frequently to reduce the allergen levels.

- Limit pollen exposure — Prevent pollen from entering your home by keeping your windows and doors closed. Set your central air conditioning to "recirculate," which can keep some pollen and mold from getting into the home, and use a HEPA air filter. And limit your outdoor activ-



Photo Courtesy Waterpik

ity during high pollen and mold counts — find out the pollen count through local weather reports or on sites such as www.pollen.com.

- Avoid mold spores — If you reduce the moisture in the bathroom and kitchen, you will reduce mold. Fix any leaks inside and outside of your home, and clean moldy surfaces. Dehumidifiers will also help reduce mold.

It's impossible to completely avoid exposure to allergens — so what else can you do to help relieve symptoms? Talk with your doctor about the best all-natural treatment options for you and the allergy sufferer in your life. Find out more at www.WaterpikSinuSense.com.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Pisces moon goes void-of-course before entering Aries this evening. And though the mood is somewhat sleepy and rather spaced out, there is a plus side. If you take a nap, your dreams will be healing. And if you don't take a nap, your daydreams will be tinged with brilliant insights and perhaps even a peek into your potential future.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your small gestures will have big meaning. That's how closely people are watching you, though most of the attention they pay you may be on a subconscious level.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A personal interaction will be thoroughly rewarding. You will satisfy someone's need and make that person happy. Your act, in turn, will fulfill you on a deep emotional level.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll have access to a person who can seriously help you out — more than a little. Maybe one phone call or meeting is all you need to start the ball rolling. Practice what you'll say first to work out the kinks.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know that a change is coming. The question is whether it's best or even possible to consciously guide the change instead of letting it wash over you and happen the way it happens.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are one of those unique creatures who can actually be creative even when you are tense. That's why you deal with deadlines so well. Still, your best work usually comes when you are relaxed and joyful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You will know you have arrived because you will no longer feel like you have anywhere to go. Maybe this is a temporary destination — a plateau of sorts. But enjoy it and celebrate it for now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be strong, happy and confident — that is, until a certain someone enters the picture and makes you go all mushy. This person may be your kryptonite, but just like Superman, you will always find a way to prevail in the end.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You like to chase, and you like to do the chasing. Whichever role you're in today, it will be fun, as long as the one who is doing the chasing really intends to catch the other person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will correctly assess what you can do. This sounds basic and common, but it is actually a special gift. You would be amazed how often people overestimate or underestimate their abilities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are complex and multifaceted. And yet it might help you to sim-

plify things for the purpose of making a certain kind of impression. Think of yourself as a brand. If you had a slogan, what would it be?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll take care to do things right the first time. A powerful person is watching, expecting you to be a pro. You'll feel the pressure and use it constructively as motivation to be excellent.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You didn't set out on a mission to find money, so the money comes looking for you. You'll get financial opportunities while you're busy pleasantly minding your own business.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 26). Your biggest challenge is within your own mind. You'll dedicate yourself to the process of evolving to a new level of thinking and understanding. In June, a mentor appears on the scene to guide you. July brings a change of location. You'll receive tangible benefits from your creativity and public persona. Aquarius and Taurus people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 19, 36, 26, 2 and 12.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "Where is Venus now, and what does it mean?"

Venus is currently close to Mercury and even closer to Mars, at least from our earthly perspective. These planets are all in Taurus now, the second station of the zodiac. Though Venus is credited as the love planet, her role goes beyond matters of romance and stretches into the realms of aesthetics, social attitudes, humor and the many ways in which humans pursue pleasure. Taurus is ruled by Venus, and when she visits the realm of the bull, her powers are augmented. She brings attention to the myriad ways we can delight our senses, and she demands quality choices. While Venus is in Taurus, people want more from their physical world. They want uplifting music and food that's as nutritious as it is good-looking and tasty. They also want their relationships to connect them in practical ways to a more beautiful lifestyle. Friends will share good times and be generous with information — everything from recipes to hair stylists, contractors for home improvements and trendy entertainment spots. If it makes life more pleasurable, it's worth mentioning. The current transit of Venus in Taurus will last until June 9, 2011.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: The magnificent Helena Bonham Carter is the descendant of a baron, a film director and a prime minister. Yet this intellectual Gemini actress was her own engine, bound for thespian success, taking the initiative to get herself into casting directories and land commercials at the age of 16. Bonham Carter was born when the moon was in Leo, the sign of creativity, children and entertainment.

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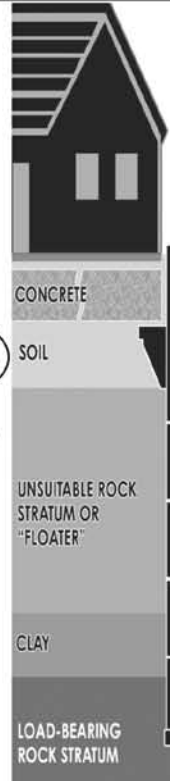
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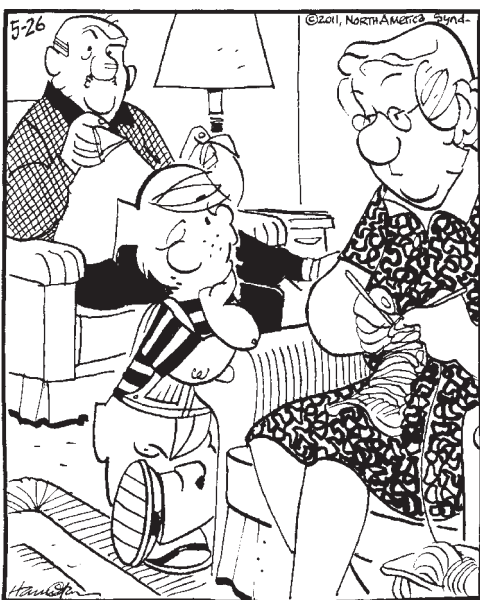


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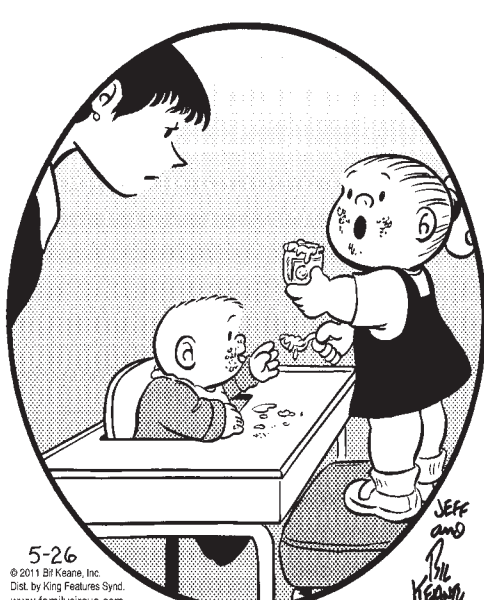
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5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez News	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	Seinfeld	Israel Brad	News Business	70s Show	Cash Cab	Movie: Rocky IV, Burt Young	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Fish Shake It	Women's College Tennis	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Cuando Me	Two Men	News	Caso Cerrado	News	King	Robinson CCM	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Deadliest Catch	Jail	Bones					
7:PM	Wipeout	Teresa (SS)	Two Men	Ent	Millionaire	King	Movie: Liar Liar, Jennifer Tilly	Upd Sid Roth	Daytrip Parks	The Vampire Diaries	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Lost World: Jurassic Park, Pete Postlethwaite	Jail	Pregame	Movie: The Great Debaters, Nate Parker	Movie: Beverly Hills Chihuahua	Football Nation	College Softball
8:PM	Rookie Blue	Triunfo del Amor (SS)	So You Think You Can Dance	Big Bang Rules	Mi Corazón Insiste	30 Rock	Office Parks	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Nikita	American Chopper	Jail	NBA Basketball: Miami Heat at Chicago Bulls.			Deck	Nation	Baseball Tonight
9:PM	Rookie Blue		Simpsons How I Met	The Mentalist	La Reina del Sur	30 Rock Office	Fam. Guy		American Road	Payne Browns	Swords: Life					Deck	College Softball	Baseball Tonight
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met	News	Noticias Titulares	News	Conan	New	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	American Chopper	The Killing	UFC Unleashed	Inside the NBA	The Mo'Nique	Good		SportsCenter
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	El Cartel	Late Night	Lopez Tonight	Dr. Denis Scrivner	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk	American Chopper	(:02) Movie: The Thomas Crown Affair	MAN	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Hannah Hannah	Baseball Tonight	NBA
12:AM	Extra	Destilando Amor	Paid Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest	Influence Born	County Jail: Miami		The Killing	Trailers	CSI: NY	Movie: A Man Apart	Wizards	NFL Live	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	Cero	King-Hill	(:37) Up to	Pagado	Poker After Dark							The Shield	Memphis Beat		Suite Life	Nation	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



"TOMORROW'S YOUR BIRTHDAY, SO WHY DON'T YOU BAKE A NICE CAKE FOR YOURSELF AND INVITE ME OVER?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"PJ should have a different dessert! I don't like this kind."

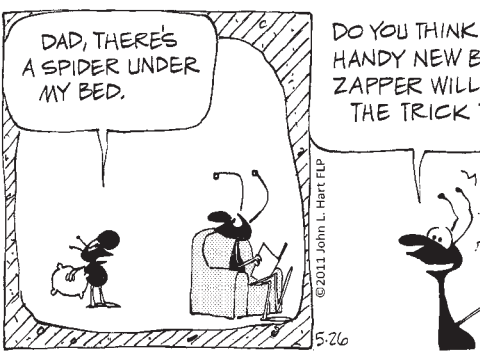
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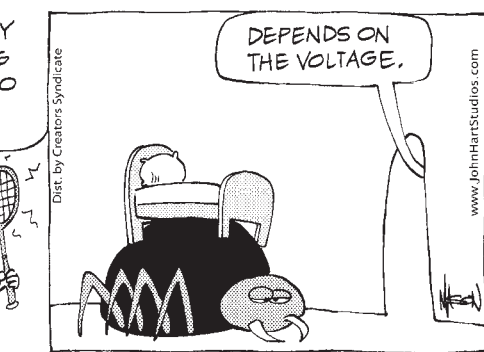
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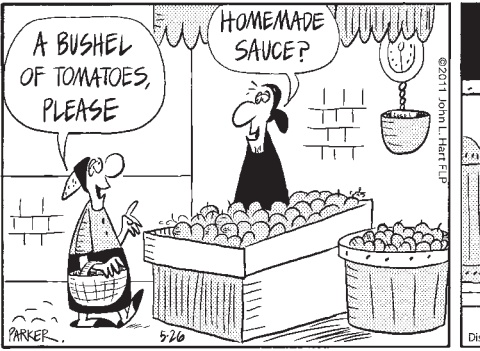
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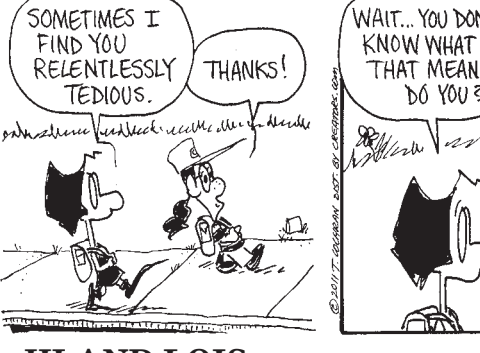
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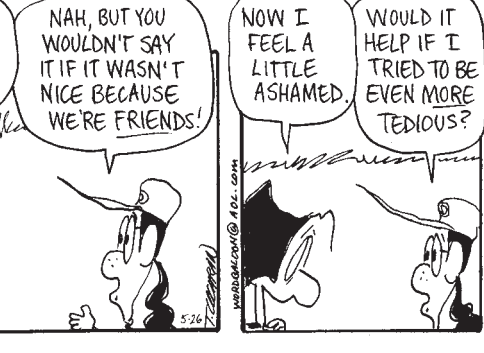
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THE OTHER COAST



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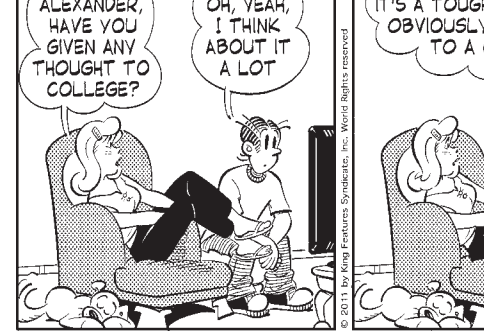
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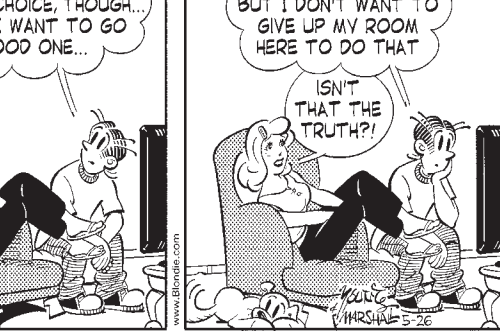
WHAT'S THAT LAST ONE FOR?



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This Date In History

Today is Thursday, May 26, the 146th day of 2011. There are 219 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 26, 1940, the evacuation of more than 338,000 Allied troops from Dunkirk, France, began during World War II.

On this date:

In 1521, Martin Luther was banned by the Edict of Worms (vohrms) because of his religious beliefs and writings.

In 1868, the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson ended with his acquittal on the remaining charges.

In 1913, Actors' Equity Association was organized in New York.

In 1938, the House Un-American Activities Committee was established by Congress.

In 1941, the American Flag House, where Betsy Ross once lived, was donated to the city of Philadelphia.

In 1960, U.N. Ambassador

Henry Cabot Lodge accused the Soviets of hiding a microphone inside a wood carving of the Great Seal of the United States that had been presented to the U.S. embassy in Moscow.

In 1969, the Apollo 10 astronauts returned to Earth after a successful eight-day dress rehearsal for the first manned moon landing.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev signed the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in Moscow. (The U.S. withdrew from the treaty in 2002.)

In 1981, 14 people were killed when a Marine jet crashed onto the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz off Florida.

In 1991, a Lauda Air Boeing 767 crashed in Thailand, killing all 223 people aboard.

Today's Birthdays: Actor James Arness is 88. Actor Alec McCowen is 86. Sportscaster Brent Musberger is 72. Rock singer-musician Levon Helm (The Band) is 71. Country musician Gates Nichols (Confederate Railroad) is 67. Rock musician Garry Peterson (Guess Who) is 66. Singer Stevie Nicks is 63. Actress Pam Grier is 62. Actor Philip Michael Thomas is 62. Country singer Hank Williams

Jr. is 62. Former astronaut Sally K. Ride is 60. Actress Margaret Colin is 54. Country singer-songwriter Dave Robbins is 52. Actor Doug Hutchison is 51. Actress Genie Francis is 49. Comedian Bobcat Goldthwait is 49. Singer Lenny Kravitz is 47. Actress Helena Bonham Carter is 45. Rock musician Phillip Rhodes is 43. Actor Joseph Fiennes (FYNZ) is 41. Singer Joey Kibble (Take 6) is 40. Actor-producer-writer Matt Stone is 40. Contemporary Christian musician Nathan Cochran is 33.

Thought for Today: "Courage is being scared to death — and saddling up anyway." — John Wayne, American actor (born this date in 1907, died 1979).

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Answer to previous puzzle

SCAM	INFUN	STAB
ORCA	SEETO	HABA
BORN	TREAT	EXES
SCENE	OF THE	CRIME
EGO	DAB	
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AREA	LOYAL	OURS
MARS	ALARM	STOP
ANDY	TONES	TOWN

Newsday Crossword

COMING APART by David W. Cromer Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 High-maintenance actress
 - 5 Ocean phenomenon
 - 9 Shock to the system
 - 13 Rice dish
 - 14 Heaven on earth
 - 15 Stratford's river
 - 16 Pitch-black
 - 17 Casting form
 - 18 Something owed
 - 19 Devices for multi-room viewing
 - 22 Palindromic preposition
 - 23 Feels awful about
 - 24 Executive assistant
 - 25 Colorant
 - 26 OPEC measure
 - 27 Bloc of 25 Down
 - 30 Myopic toon
 - 33 Leave port
 - 35 Mambo move
 - 36 Electrical safety devices
 - 39 Pub choices
 - 40 Scholarship criterion
 - 41 Chutzpah
 - 42 Airport security org.
 - 43 Banned spray
 - 44 Suffix for stock
 - 45 Spicy cuisine
 - 47 Sore
 - 49 Maui souvenir
 - 52 Marx Brothers film
- DOWN**
- 1 Kuwaiti money
 - 2 "Son of a gun!"
 - 3 Colorado resort
 - 4 Phrase of courtesy
 - 5 Arizona State site
 - 6 Adulated ones
 - 7 Supermarket department
 - 8 Sofa adjunct
 - 9 World-weary
 - 10 One putting away too many dishes
 - 11 Soft throw
 - 12 The Closer channel
 - 13 Purple shade
 - 20 Writer Grafton
 - 21 "Open 10 __ 6"
 - 25 Treatment experts
 - 26 Seed eater
 - 28 Griffin of game shows
 - 29 Church recess
 - 30 Church for future
 - 25 Down
 - 31 Feels off
 - 32 Eminence
 - 33 Editor's directive
 - 34 Face featured on a fin
 - 35 __-ball (arcade game)
 - 37 Indelible liquid
 - 38 Comic strip from England
 - 43 Stream obstruction
 - 44 "Got it now!"
 - 46 Soprano's pride
 - 47 Intermission follower
 - 48 Manual skill
 - 49 Not prohibited
 - 50 Standing straight
 - 51 Atlas speck
 - 52 Jai __
 - 53 Savings partner
 - 54 Midleg spot
 - 55 Strange

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FINALS

Continued from Page 7

key plays: Nowitzki, Jason Kidd, Shawn Marion and Jason Terry.

"It goes to our veteran leadership, our experience, us being in every possible situation we could possibly be in," said Terry, who along with Nowitzki are the only holdovers from the '06 team. "We know what we're going through offensively and defensively. We know we have to get stops and we're able to do that. When you have that belief and that trust in what you're doing it's just a confidence and more times than not you're going to be successful."

Nowitzki scored 26 points, nine in the fourth quarter. For the series, he averaged 32.2 points, 11.8 in the fourth quarters.

Marion scored 15 of his 26 points in the fourth. His steal, dunk and free throw right after Nowitzki's go-ahead 3 went a long way toward pulling

this one out. It meant a lot to him because unlike Nowitzki, Kidd and Terry, he's never been to the finals.

"Lots of guys never go, so I'm going to make the best of it," Marion said. "We knew what we were capable of from the start of the season. This is a realization of that."

When the Mavs last made the finals, they advanced with a win in Phoenix. This time, they got to share the moment with their fans. Franchise founder Don Carter was right in the middle of it all, trading his signature white cowboy hat — the one that used to be featured in the team's logo — for a black baseball cap that read "The Finals 2011" with a Mavs logo and the championship trophy.

"All I can tell everybody is, we ain't done yet," team owner Mark Cuban said during the on-court trophy presentation ceremony.

Funny thing is, Dallas could face Miami again. Fans seem to hope so, chanting "Beat the Heat!" so loudly after

Cuban spoke that they drowned out Carlisle's on-court interview.

LeBron James and Miami lead the Chicago Bulls 3-1 in the Eastern Conference finals. If the Heat win Thursday night, the finals will begin Tuesday in Miami. If the Bulls win Thursday night, the finals will begin next Thursday in the East winner's city.

The Mavericks' big edge this series was experience, and it showed in the final two games. Age never slowed them, in part because their legs were refreshed by eight days off before the opener. Winning this game is huge because it earns them at least six days off before the finals.

"Any time you can get rest this time of year is a bonus," said Kidd, who at 38 could become the oldest point guard to ever win a title — by several years. "For us to close it out here is huge."

Oklahoma City led for most of this game, even staying ahead during a stretch of 11 straight missed shots. But the Thunder were just too young and too inexperienced to understand how to close out a game.

When Dallas started to surge at the start and middle of the fourth quarter, Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook came up with some answers. Yet when the pressure really ratcheted up, and 21,092 fans were at their loudest, the veteran Mavericks made all the right moves.

"It's tough now," Durant said. "But we can learn from it. The only way to get better is to keep pushing."

Westbrook scored 31 points, and Durant and James Harden each had 23. The Thunder bowed out with only their second three-game losing streak this season.

Buckeye rings for sale

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Former Ohio State wide receiver Ray Small told the school's student newspaper that he sold Big Ten championship rings and other memorabilia for cash and got special car deals as an athlete during his playing days.

The Lantern reported that Small, who played for the Buckeyes from 2006-2010, said "everyone was doing it" on the team.

Five Buckeyes players are suspended for the first five games of the 2011 season for selling memorabilia to the owner of a local tattoo parlor. That is considered an improper benefit under NCAA rules. Coach Jim Tressel also is suspended for five games and is under investigation by the NCAA for knowing about his players' involvement and not telling his superiors for more than nine months.

Small said, "We had four Big Ten rings. There was enough to go around."

He added that, despite Ohio State's large and proactive NCAA compliance department, most of student-athletes "don't even think about (NCAA) rules."

Small said he used the money he got to cover his typical costs of living.

"We have apartments, car notes," he said. "So you got things like that and you look around and you're like, 'Well I got (four) of them, I can

sell one or two and get some money to pay this rent."

He said the biggest advantages came from car dealerships.

It was definitely the deals on the cars. I don't see why it's a big deal," said Small.

Ohio State is investigating more than 50 transactions between Ohio State athletes and their families and two Columbus auto dealerships.

"They have a lot (of dirt) on everybody," Small said, "cause everybody was doing it."

Small had 61 catches for 659 yards and three touchdowns during his Ohio State career, which was marked by frequent suspensions and disciplinary acts. He spent time on the practice squads of the Indianapolis Colts, Minnesota Vikings and Washington Redskins and has now returned to Ohio State to get his degree in sociology.

Small said players went to see Edward Rife at Fine Line Ink tattoo parlor because Rife was an Ohio State fan and gave big discounts. It was the U.S. Attorney's investigation of Rife on federal drug-trafficking charges that led to Ohio State officials finding out about the improper benefits.

Small said the players would have been foolish to turn down the discounted tattoos.

"If you go in and try to get a tattoo, and some-

body is like 'Do you want 50 percent off this tattoo?' You're going to say, 'Heck yeah,'" Small said.

Tressel continually suspended or benched Small during his playing days at Ohio State. One of the team's fastest players, he was seen as the heir apparent to Ted Ginn Jr. after the wide receiver and kick returner went to the NFL. But Small's career was marked by being in Tressel's doghouse.

"They explain the rules to you, but as a kid you're not really listening to all of them rules," Small said. "You go out and you just, people show you so much love, you don't even think about the rules. You're just like 'Ah man, it's cool.' You take it, and next thing you know the NCAA is down your back."

Another former Ohio State player interviewed by The Lantern, defensive back Malcolm Jenkins, said Ohio State told players about NCAA rules and if they were broken it was the players' fault.

Ohio State spokesman Dan Wallenberg said, "We educate as best we can and expect student-athletes and staff to follow our messaging and policies."

Former Oklahoma State University basketball player Mark Titus wrote Tuesday on his blog that the perks within the football program are far from a secret.

NHL

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you, as we learned once again. Not that we were looking for them to give it to us. It's just more proof that's the way it goes," said Thomas, who stopped 21 shots after a superb performance in Game 5 moved the Bruins within one victory of their first Stanley Cup finals appearance since 1991.

Roloson improved to 7-0 in elimination games during his career, including 4-0 this postseason. The Lightning rallied from a 3-1 deficit to beat Pittsburgh in the first round, with their 41-year-old goalie shutting out the Penguins in Game 7 on the road.

"I wasn't aware of it. It's nothing. I don't think it's me. It's the teams that I've played on. ... It's not about individuals," Roloson said. "It takes a whole team to win hockey games, and that's what it's all about in this locker room also."

Bruins coach Claude

Julien said his team would need to play its best game of the series to clinch it, and the Bruins certainly had to have some doubt about how the night might go after Teddy Purcell scored the first of his two goals on Tampa Bay's first shot of the game.

Lucic countered for Boston less than 7 minutes later with a wrist shot from the slot that got past Roloson. Krejci's third goal of the series, after he took a nice backhand pass from Daniel Paille, gave the Bruins a 2-1 lead with 3:30 remaining in the first period.

But an inability to take advantage of three more power plays caught up with Boston in the middle of the second period when Tampa Bay, which hadn't scored in man-advantage situations since Game 2, converted three within 12 minutes to regain the lead for good.

Despite the loss, the Bruins are confident returning home.

They faced a similar situation in the opening round, losing Game 6 on

the road against Montreal before winning Game 7 at TD Garden.

"I think our guys are going to be fine for Game 7," Julien said. "I know our guys will be ready and positive, and our job is to make it happen."

Notes: Krejci's hat trick — giving him 10 goals this postseason to share the league lead with St. Louis — was Boston's first in a play-off game since Cam Neely did it April 25, 1991 against Montreal. ... Tampa Bay's "Big Three" of St. Louis, Stamkos and Lecavalier combined for three goals and five assists after contributing just one goal and two assists in the previous three games. That goal was an empty-netter by St. Louis in Game 4. ... Purcell's quick goal marked the fourth time in the series a team scored less than 2 minutes into a game. ... The Lightning played without injured LW Sean Bergenheim, who missed the last two periods of Game 5 with an undisclosed injury.

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