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## Standing proud

*Lady Liberty ready to take her place at the auditorium*

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

Mission accomplished. Lady Liberty — the statue which has been absent from her pedestal in front of the Municipal Auditorium — has been repaired.

Terry Kessler, owner of Hester's Mechanical Contractors Inc., undertook the project of restoring and repairing Lady Liberty. At first, the project was an attempt to bring his company together, but now that it's over, it has proven to be so much more than that.

"This project has far exceeded everything I was hoping for," Kessler said. "It feels good to know these guys can take pride in something not pertaining to our company. This wasn't about us, this is about the community."

Over the past few months, Kessler, with the help of employees Clinton Kessler and Baldamor Cortez, repaired the damages caused to the statue from a West Texas wind storm this past spring. After the damage occurred, Liberty was removed from her pedestal and placed in a warehouse until someone could be found to make the repairs.

"It all proved to be a challenge, every bit of it," Kessler said. "I definitely couldn't have done it without the help of my guys."

See **LIBERTY**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno  
**Lady Liberty has been repaired after being damaged in a spring wind storm. She will take her place outside the Municipal Auditorium later this month.**

## Early college at BSISD?

By **STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

It's full steam ahead for plans to offer an Early College High School program at Big Spring Independent School District.

School trustees will hear a report on plans for the program when they hold their monthly meeting at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

The Early College High School program, a proposed partnership between BSISD and Howard College, would allow students to take college credit courses as early as their freshman year in high school. Students in the program could conceivably graduate high school with either an associate's degree in academics or vocational certification in workforce training.

Currently, high school students can earn up to 30 dual-credit college course hours during their junior and senior years.

While they admit the program wouldn't be for everybody, officials with both the college and the school district are enthusiastic about the possibilities Early College High School would provide students.

"It would afford kids the opportunity to graduate either with a certificate, which would help make them employable ... or

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

## Chamber open house planned Thursday

By **AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

Deck the halls and open the doors. Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce is ready for Christmas and ready to open their doors to the community Thursday.

The Chamber, as well as all



ValVerde  
Debbye ValVerde, executive

other entities located in the building, will be hosting the annual open house from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

"We want the community to know our doors are always open,"

Director of the chamber, said. Big Spring Economic Development Corporation, Big Spring and Howard County United Way, Big Spring Convention and Visitors Bureau, Dora Roberts Community Center and Leading EDG will be on hand to answer any questions the community might have.

"We are here to help anyone and everyone in any way we can," ValVerde said.

The annual open house gives those who are members of the chamber and those who aren't, an opportunity to get to know not only the entities and their position in the community, but the people who are behind those positions as well.

The come and go event will include refreshments.

For more information, contact the chamber office at 263-7641.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at [life@bigspringherald.com](mailto:life@bigspringherald.com)

## City dealing with garbage collection woes

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

The city of Big Spring is offering residents an alternative way to get rid of their additional holiday garbage this season, with large dumpsters set up at four locations throughout the area in hopes of alleviating the ongoing strain on sanitation services.

According to Assistant City Manager Todd Darden, dumpsters have been set up in the Coronado Plaza, at the Big Spring Mall, in the College Park Shopping Center and in the 700 block of N. Gregg Street.

"Our sanitation system is already under a tremendous

strain," Darden said. "With the Christmas holiday right around the corner, we know these additional dumpsters are going to be needed. That's why each year we try to be pro-active and get them out into the community ahead of time."

Darden said the dumpsters will remain at the locations until Dec. 28.

"We're hoping during that time the extra containers will not only help with the holiday waste, but will also help with some of the problems we've been having with sanitation pickups," he said. "Our customers need to know we're not ignoring these problems and just hoping they will go

away. We're working on fixing them. Unfortunately, they can take quite some time."

One of the problems the city has faced in the past few years is with its equipment, according to Darden, a problem he and other city officials are hoping to see solved in the coming months.

"One of our biggest problems has been getting sanitation trucks. We have one truck we're having to really baby to keep running and we lost one recently to a fire at the landfill," Darden said. "We have two trucks that are supposed to be delivered this coming year, so we're really looking for-

ward to that."

Replacing sanitation trucks won't do much good, however, if the municipality can't find employees to drive them, Darden said.

"We're having to compete with the oil field for

See **TRASH**, Page 3A



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# Obituaries

## Modesto C. Requejo



Modesto C. Requejo, 64, of Big Spring died Saturday, Dec. 3, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with Marcos Arizemendi Jr., officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Feb. 24, 1947, in Mexico to Paula and Tomas Requejo. He moved to Howard County in 1974 from Mexico. He was a retired welder, having worked at Williams Fabrication. He was a Jehovah's Witness. He is survived by three daughters, Agostina Requejo, Angie Requejo and husband Arturo Jackson and Norma Requejo, all of Big Spring; three sons, Ernesto Requejo and his wife Zuleika of Midland, Josue Requejo of Big Spring, and Daniel Requejo of Walland, Tenn; four brothers, Carlos Requejo and his wife Cuca, Jesus Requejo and his wife Tina, and Manuel Requejo and his wife Elva, all of Mexico, and Roberto Vargas and his wife Suki of Midland; seven grandchildren, Alexis, Asia, Meranda, Josenica, Nyssa, Dante' and Giovanni; and extended family, Ramon, Anna, Emma, Irene, Barbara, Mundo, Adella, Trish, Isabel, Paula, Garza Family, Sanchez Family, Delgado Family, Ortega Family; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two nieces, Norma Vasquez and Cristina Garza; and a close friend, Peter Briseno.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersand-smith.com](http://www.myersand-smith.com)

*Paid obituary*

## Doris V. Lewis

Doris V. Lewis, 62, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Stanley Reid

Stanley Reid, of Stanton died Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011. His services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

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

- ALBERTO RIVAS, 53, of 306 NE Sixth St., was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for assault: causes bodily injury.
- WILLIAM DANE JOHNSON, 19, of 1405 Driver St., was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for driving while license suspended/invalid-no insurance.
- NATHANIEL JAMMAL AUSBIE, 29, of 1512 Wood St., was arrested Tuesday on warrants for driving while license invalid and failure to appear (three counts).
- JULIAN JAY TORRES, 18, of 500.5 NW Seventh, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for deadly conduct.
- DEBORAH KAY CANTU, 46, of 419 Dallas St. B, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.
- ALEXIS JADE BLAND, 14, of 1614 Cardinal, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of theft greater than or equal to \$50 and less than \$500/shoplifting.
- CINDY MACHADO LOPEZ, 15, of 3709 Calvin St., was arrested Tuesday on a charger of theft greater than or equal to \$50 and less than \$500/shoplifting.

# Take Note

• Coahoma Christmas Concert, featuring the Coahoma Choir Kids and members of the third grade class, will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday in the school cafeteria. Everyone is invited; the event is free.

# Police blotter

- RUBBEN BASQUEZ CARRION, 49, of 916 Ohio St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- CHRISTOPHER RYAN MINYARD, 25, of 540 CR 4851, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency.
- MICHAEL RAY THOMAS, 39, of 1503 Erwin Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported north of town.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 400 block of Dallas.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 500 block of Abrams St.
- BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported: In the 500 block of Washington Boulevard. In the 2100 block of Johnson. In the 4000 block of Connally St.
- ASSAULT was reported: In the 500 block of Birdwell. In the 1600 block of Lincoln Ave.

# Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Ridge Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Hwy 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.

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# College Luminaria planned Thursday

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

Howard College's Christmas gift to the community will be unveiled Thursday when HC holds its annual Luminaria ceremony.

Hundreds of luminarias and other holiday decorations will light up the college's Birdwell Lane campus, Christmas music will be played and Santa Claus will pay a visit to hear children's gift requests and pose for photos.

The event will be held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the area between the Hall Center and the student union building. There is no admission charge, but people are asked to bring non-perishable food items to support the Phi Theta Kappa food drives. Donations go to the local Salvation Army.

Cookies and hot chocolate will be served.

For more information, contact the college at 264-5000.

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

# Take Note

- A brisket plate fundraiser to help defray medical expenses of Zayda Stallings will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday near the east doors at Wal-Mart. Plates will be \$7 each; burritos \$3. A variety of desserts will be available. A donation bucket will also be available. Your support is appreciated.

- The community is invited to a Christmas concert at 4:30 p.m. Sunday at First Presbyterian Church, located at Eighth and Runnels. Featured musicians will be First Presbyterian Choir, directed by Michael D. Mitchell; the Tardy Bells Handbell Choir, composed of Big Spring area retired teachers and directed by Susan Dawes; the newly-formed Children's Choir, eleven youngsters from First Presbyterian, First Christian, and St. Mary's

Episcopal churches; and organist Michael D. Mitchell at the Petty-Madden pipe organ.

- A benefit account for the Arguello family, who lost two family members in a recent house fire in Coahoma, has been established at Western Bank. Interested persons can contribute to the account at any of the bank's three locations (two in Big Spring; one in Coahoma). For more information, call 432-394-4256.

- A fund has been set up at Myers & Smith Funeral Home for Mike Williams, 39, a lifetime resident of Big Spring who died Nov. 1. He leaves behind a wife and seven children. Any donations can be brought to the funeral home office at 301 E. 24th St.

For more information, call 267-8288.

# BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

give them the chance to graduate from high school with an associate's degree," BSISD Assistant Superintendent Danny Ferrell said.

"This will allow us to work with students at a time in their educational journey when they're ready to take college courses," Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said. "We need to rethink the educational pattern. Some students are ready to take on the challenge of college life earlier than others and we need to reach those students."

College and school district representatives have spent the last few weeks visiting Early College High School programs across the state and will spend the next several weeks fine tuning a proposal to the

Texas Education Agency, which must approve the program.

If all goes well, the proposal could be forwarded to state officials by March, Ferrell said.

In other business, trustees will consider:

- Reports on the district's Academic Excellence Indicator System status and campus report cards.

- Approval of a District Concussion Oversight Team and guidelines for concussion management.

- Contract renewal for extracurricular student drug testing services.

- Reaffirming the board's code of ethics.

- Bids for the first phase of demolition projects at Big Spring High School.

- A budget amendment for installation of turf at Memorial Stadium.

- Legal and local policy updates.

- The district's annual investment report.

- Personnel matters.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

# LIBERTY

Continued from Page 1A

We couldn't have done what we did if it wasn't for the help of some people in town."

John Bryans, owner of Big Spring Collision Center, and George Leatham helped in repairs to Lady Liberty's arm. When the wind knocked over the statue, the arm was bent and had to be reshaped. The tablet, also smashed in the fall, had to be repaired on the outside edge. In addition, Cortez constructed the missing spokes of Lady Liberty's crown.

"The most challenging part had to be her crown. The rest of her was there and just had to be repaired, but her crown spokes had to be reconstructed because

they were missing," Kessler said.

Of course, Kessler and his employees didn't stop there. Liberty's nose had been previously damaged from hail and her base was also in need of some alterations in order to ensure her placement would be secure once she was returned to her stand at the auditorium.

"I didn't plan on giving her a nose job, but with all the attention brought to it we decided to go ahead and give her a nose job," Kessler said.

Once the statue was repaired, the team took it one step further. Weight was added to her base and hinges were attached for added security.

"She can't just be pushed over now. However, if they need to

work on her they can still remove her and set her back," Kessler said.

Lady Liberty first made her appearance in 1950 when she was placed on the front lawn of the auditorium as a gift to the Boy Scouts from Mr. and Mrs. Tom Good. According to West Texas Scouting History, the monument was given in memorium of the Good's son, Jake, who had passed away in 1928. The statue was dedicated to the National Boy Scouts of America theme "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty."

"She is a part of our local history. I would hope those who can't make it to New York could look at our Lady Liberty and see a replica standing there. I would hope that is why she is here and what people would see."

Lady Liberty stands

at 13 feet, 4 inches tall with her base, making her one-ninth of the 151-foot original statue that stands in New York. Her five-foot base is made of Austin stone and stands in the center of a huge star made of concrete and brick.

"Just like I told my guys, you may never have looked at her before, but I can guarantee each of us will be looking at her now," Kessler said. "I never knew just how important she was until we started working on her. The longer we worked on her, the more important I realized she is and the more important she became to us."

The day after Thanksgiving the finishing touches were completed on Lady Liberty and, as Kessler said, that is where their part in the

story ends.

"We are going to move on to the next project here, but just because she is out of our shop doesn't mean she will be out of our sight," Kessler said.

Kessler and his employees may consider their part in the story to be over, but the whole story is far from finished. Lady Liberty will find her way back in front of the Municipal Auditorium soon and will be unveiled before "The Nutcracker" performance Dec. 17.

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

# MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Modesto C. Requejo, 64, died Saturday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Doris V. Lewis, 62, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

# TRASH

Continued from Page 1A

drivers right now, and I'm sure I don't have to tell anyone that the oil field is booming," he said. "That's making it very difficult to not only find drivers, but to keep them."

"About five years ago, our sanitation drivers had an average of 28 years experience among them. Today, they have less than two years experience among them. So no matter how many trucks we have, it's going to take them longer to get the job done. There's no way around that. It's just going to take some patience."

For more information on city sanitation services, contact the city of Big Spring at 264-2378.

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

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## In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

## OUR VIEWS

# Dec. 7: Pearl Harbor not to be forgotten

The attack on Pearl Harbor took place 70 years ago, but the importance and historical impact of that day has not changed.

December may be the time for spreading holiday cheer; however, it is also a time to remember all those who willingly and unexpectedly gave their lives. Pearl Harbor marked the beginning of World War II for the United States and for those who lived through it and fought in it, it is so much more than that. It is more than just a piece of history or a page in a book; it is a day that a surprise attack shattered and shook the entire world.

The Japanese started their surprise attack on the United States naval base in Hawaii around 7:48 a.m. on Dec. 7, 1941, and sent a second round of attacks almost an hour later. Their main intentions were to send the American forces running out of their territory, to ensure their movement forward in the Far East. The Japanese didn't expect Americans to stand and fight. The Americans took the attack, declared war on the Japanese and entered into World War II.

Pearl Harbor was an attack that struck a cord and placed itself in the hearts of all those who were there and even those that were not. It is a war that has set itself apart from all the others. From the devastating attack, there were 16 Medals of Honor, 51 Navy Crosses, 53 Silver Crosses, four Navy and Marine Corps Medals, one Distinguished Flying Cross, one Distinguished Service Medal and three Bronze Stars awarded to the American servicemen. In addition to those distinguished awards, all military veterans serving at Pearl Harbor were awarded the Pearl Harbor Commemorative Medal.

The devastation that accompanied Pearl Harbor has led to the numerous finger pointing and blame being laid on those in power. Throughout history there have been reports of commanders and government officials having knowledge of the attacks. There has been blame laid upon commanders and questions raised, such as why there was no preparation for scenarios such as this. The devastation took its toll the world over and has continued to do so and will continue to do so.

History can not be changed, but it can be learned from. The attacks of Pearl Harbor may have or possibly not have been known, but in either case lives were lost and hopefully not in vain.

## 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 editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Steve Reagan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

## LETTER POLICIES

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- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

# Where windbags dare to outlaw the use of plastic shopping bags

On his official website, San Francisco Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi starts his list of accomplishments with this item: "Plastic Bag Ban: First-in-the-Nation ban on plastic bags in chain grocery stores and drug stores, which sparked similar legislation around the world from Oakland to Canada to Paris to Beijing." In his final month as supervisor before he becomes sheriff, Mirkarimi wants to expand the ban so that it applies to all stores and requires retailers to charge customers for bags at the checkout counter.

"First in the nation" is rarely a good thing for a law. First, it means the measure is liberal. (Conservatives don't brag that their proposed laws are an experiment.) Second, its target is virgin territory probably because there's been no need for a law. Third, the measure may cost someone else his job and surely will be paid out of your pocket.

Exhibit A: San Francisco's groundbreaking Happy Meal law. McDonald's got around the ordinance that banned free toys with meals that don't meet City Hall's nutritional standards by announcing it will charge customers an extra 10 cents if they want a toy with the food.

Exhibit B: The Mirkarimi plan. Supervisors will vote on Plastic Bag 2.0 this month. It would come with a mandatory charge of at least 10 cents per bag starting July 1, possibly rising to 25 cents in 2014. Retailers would get to keep your dimes.

Mirkarimi told me that San Francisco no longer is in the lead when it comes to bag laws. Other governments — Ireland, Beijing, Marin County — that followed Ess Eff's lead are "now blowing by us. Their laws are much more vigorous."

Single-use bags don't just end up in landfills and wetlands;

they litter streets and become a "nuisance" and "blight." Science is on his side, Mirkarimi told me; it takes 500 years for plastic bags to disintegrate. (How does anyone know it takes 500 years for a bag to disintegrate?)

Mayor Ed Lee told KCBS' Barbara Taylor that he supports the measure because it probably would "modify behavior." Spokeswoman Christine Falvey walked that position back with an email that said Lee supports "the goal of the legislation and incentivizing consumers to bring their own bags." He will weigh in later.

Mirkarimi argued, "You've got to deal with the hidden costs of pollution that were never factored in (to) the retail point of purchase."

This is how City Hall sees the bag bill playing out: Thanks to enlightened San Francisco politicians, shoppers begin to take reusable bags wherever they go.

Bad consumers pay for their own bags. Good consumers no longer have to subsidize bad consumers.

Even the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce is on board. "You're outlawing the plastic bags but also encouraging reusable," said Vice President Jim Lazarus.

"The chamber reflects the community we live in," Lazarus added. I ask how big department stores, which send off their merchandise in brightly colored bags, feel about the bill. "A number of retailers must prefer not to have this regulation," he answered, "but are resigned to the changing demands of communities of how bags are used."

That's the story of San Francisco. The left squawks when, say, the mayor suggests that Occupy SF activists decamp from their illegal digs in Justin Herman Plaza. The mayor backed off for weeks. But when City Hall tells law-abiding businesses and customers to change their behavior, it gets results.

But not always the desired result. A Safeway spokeswoman explained that Mirkarimi's 2007 plastic bag ban prompted cus-

tomers not to bring their own reusable bags, but to ask for free paper bags.

Given a choice, San Franciscans chose free bags. Bingo, a new law.

Of course Safeway supports the new Mirkarimi measure. It makes Safeway charge for bags it has been giving away.

The lonely job of opposing the measure falls to Stephen Joseph, who represents plastic bag manufacturers. Because most reusable bags are made overseas whereas most plastic bags are made in America, he claims, the new measure essentially would kill American jobs and replace them with Chinese jobs.

Joseph doesn't believe consumers will use reusable bags as often as expected. They get dirty, so you don't want to put food in them.

Also, San Francisco is a tourist mecca. Where's the hospitality in charging visitors to buy a bag to take their purchases home?

My objection: City documents report that single-use plastic bags represent 0.13 percent of California's total waste stream. If the supervisors want to address a "nuisance," as Mirkarimi calls plastic bags, they should work with the mayor to go after bigger nuisances that dramatically alter the quality of life in San Francisco. Read: aggressive panhandlers, hostile street people who use the city as a public toilet and substance abusers who drive up crime rates. But that would require city pols to moderate their politics.

So they go after people who have the cheek to buy things in San Francisco stores and expect a free new bag. They're the only group in San Francisco that won't protest.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.*

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# The brilliant words he holds

Sitting in the teacher's lounge of Henrietta High School back in the mid-90's my attention was drawn to a book on the table near the chair where I was resting my substitute-teaching bones in between classes. The title was very intriguing and in a matter of seconds my curiosity got the best of me and I couldn't help picking it up to glance at a few pages. Before I knew it, those few pages had become the majority of the book and I had become a fan of its author, whose name was almost as fascinating as the literary composition itself. The book was entitled "I Feel Much Better Now That I've Given Up Hope" and it was a captivating and entertaining collection of great wit and wisdom from the amazing mind of a man whose real name is Ashleigh Brilliant.

Having always had a special appreciation for quips, epigrams and other forms of pithy sayings I sought out more of his work and through the magic of the internet was able to communicate personally with the man whose uniquely ingenious ability to make me smile and desire to quote him had become quite influential in my conversations. From our email communication we developed a friendship and some years into that association he actually drove his mini-motorhome all the way from California to St. Joseph, Missouri to

spend several days with me and my family. The few days spent with this personable philosopher and renowned author proved to be very memorable and we remain friends today.

Anyone who knows me at all will tell you that I unequivocally despise gossip, both spreading it and listening to it and there is one of Ashleigh's famous copyrighted "Pot-Shots" that has been a personal favorite of mine for a number of years. If I could influence everyone in the world to adopt its powerful message it could have a beautifully transforming effect upon the pestilential problem of tale-bearing. It simply asks the question, "What right does anyone have to remember something about me that I myself have chosen to forget?"

I am already sick and tired of presidential politics. The attacks on a person's character, the endless dredging to find a skeleton in a closet, the exposure of the sordid details of a past failure, or a misspoken word are the headlines many people hunger for and the media works overtime to satisfy this deleterious craving that guarantees ratings. But the sad truth is that behavior of that despicable and destructive nature is not limited to the political stratosphere. It's a detestable pest that finds sanctuary in our neighborhoods and I wish it was exterminated.

I know inquiring minds want to know and I am certainly not implying that past behavior or mistakes should unambiguously be ignored if a person is being considered for leadership or a place of influence. Of course it matters what fiber a person is

made of and what their moral compass reads. But may we never forget that everybody makes mistakes. There's only been one faultless and impeccable person who ever survived the passage through humanity without sin or failure and it isn't you or me. So it begs our consideration to evaluate whether something we have either heard or observed in the life of a fellow earthling is worth the pain or vexation that will be the result of it becoming the latest news on the "vine".

Sadly, there are several things that I have observed in my four decades of vocationally being in the "people business" that never seem to dematerialize. Namely, there is always somebody making a mistake, there is always somebody ready to talk about it, and there is always somebody ready to listen to it being talked about. Can any good come out of spotlighting someone's shortfalls or imperfections? Do we actually believe we are making life better by babbling things that discredit or disparage someone's character or actions?

There's a word common to my vocabulary that might be a good "word for the day". Try being someone who "edifies" (uplifts) your fellow planetary traveler. I promise you a word of encouragement will make both you and the person you elevate much happier than spreading rumors or gossip ever could. Everybody needs love, acceptance, and forgiveness. You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

*Eddy Prince is the senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church. To contact Eddy Prince, email him at pastorprince@msn.com.*



DEBRA SAUNDERS



EDDY PRINCE

# Honor Roll

## Elbow Elementary School

### Second Six-Weeks "A" Honor Roll

First Grade: Emily Allen, Blake Barclay, Jaren Ceasar, Trevor Cole, Wyatt Cornish, McKenna Couch, Bea Crownover, Katcher Dawson, Nolan Ezell, Antonio Garza, Gracie Gonzalez, Jazzmin Hale, Hannah Hillger, Autumn Holguin, Jackson Hopper, Charlie Huff, Marlie Kennedy, Anson Kirkland, Belle Moore, Koby Nichols, Nolan Park, Addi Roberts, Mason Sedberry, David Tidwell, Jackie

Vellinga, Kaitlyn Wiggins, Kaeli Woodall and Kelcey Zubiata.

Second Grade: Caylor Averette, Joshua Cervantes, Libby Everett, Corwin Flores, Hailey Grant, Connor Hair, Ella Hoff, Riley Jenkins, Emma Johnson, Louis Mancha, Trent McConnell, Cayden Morgan, Reagan Phillips, Reese Rutledge, Aubrie Smith, Sawyer Stallings, Major Stockton, Lane Vellinga, John von Hassell, Rylee Yanez and Maverick Yanez.

Third Grade: Zadie Andrews, Haley Cline, Rylee Evans, Mason Hillger, Elyse Rice, Bailey Smith, John Tant,

Curtis Taron and Reagan Thomas.

Fourth Grade: Ryan Buske, Mallory Ezell, Ty Freeman, Jonathon Gabehart, Brant Gartman, Berenice Hernandez, Christian Hill, Chloe Ignezi, Kynleigh Joy, Lila Knox, Keira Peffer, Evan Roberts, Madison Smith and Nelson Wylie.

Fifth Grade: Mikayla Arzate, Macey Evans, Dora Hickham, Tatum Miller, Channing Miller, Ashtyn Pearson, Jacki Torbik, Caden Williams and Razyl Yanez.

### "A-B" Honor Roll

First Grade: Ben Bailey, Robert Bartlett, Jasen Bishop, Aiden

Chaney, Boyzz Guzman, Haylee Henderson, Jaylee Lindsey, Bobby Lee McCormick, Jeremiah Rivera, Kristen Schafer, Brandon Scott, Aalizah Squyres, Rydeck Tanis, Cade Wallis and Keith Whitt.

Second Grade: James Alexander, Hailey Beall, Zander Bishop, Adrian Enriquez, Luis Flores, Thomas Gabehart, Duncan Gilbert, Jayden Golleher, Gabby Gonzalez, Brayden Gray, Tucker Grigg, Reece Hale, Ethan Hunt, Adrian Juarez, Michael Massingill, Christopher Mendez, Alexis Pace, Eshan Patel, Mallory

Paul, Jace Richardson, Ernesto Rivera, Smilla Stephens, Brandon Valdez, Breann White and Dakota Wulfert.

Third Grade: Cameron Allen, Patrick Bailey, Ramsey Campbell, Hunter Cevallos, Ethan Cole, William Cole, Brenner Gartman, Payte Landrum, Ely Matthies, Nayeli Paredez, Faith Raspe, Gage Speck, Sara Tarbet, Hannah Williams and Andre Wright.

Fourth Grade: Ally Aguilar, Micah Arzate, Katie Averette, Joshua Caldwell, Jaeden Ceasar, Katelin Colvin, Kassey Darden, Macee

Grant, Katelynn Hand, Keaton Hill, Sam Howell, Cody Huitt, Maggie Mendez, Jake Patterson, Haley Patterson, Samantha Raney, Cole Riley and Taylyn Still.

Fifth Grade: Zachary Bailey, Noah Barraza, Payton Beauchamp, Jack Everett, Gage Fox, Brandon Freitag, Cassidy Gamble, Emily Garcia, Keith Garrett, Aaron Gutierrez, Michael Kukoly, Brenna Lindsey, Kaylee Morgan, Natori Morin, Montie Munsell, Samantha O'Neill, Kobe Richardson, Cassidy Rusk, Luke Settles and Price Tarbet.

# News in brief

## Geithner says he is encouraged at progress Europe is making in addressing debt crisis

PARIS (AP) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said Wednesday he is very encouraged with the progress Europe is making in coming up with a plan to shore up the euro in the wake of a crippling debt crisis.

Geithner's comments to reporters followed a meeting with French Finance Minister Francois Baroin on the second day of his whirlwind trip through Europe.

At a summit on Friday, Europe's leaders will discuss proposals made by France and Germany to impose greater budget discipline on the 17 nations that use the euro as a common currency.

Baroin said he and Geithner had spoken about building a "robust firewall" to reassure financial markets. Baroin also said they had also discussed greater involvement by the International Monetary Fund in resolving the debt crisis.

European countries have been pushing for more support for the IMF, which is already helping in the financial bailouts of Greece, Ireland and Portugal. But the United States has previously said that the IMF has adequate resources following a big increase in its financial firepower following the 2008 financial crisis.

## Pearl Harbor attack remembered at 70th anniversary ceremonies

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP) — The Dec. 7,

1941, bombing of Pearl Harbor and those who lost their lives that day are being remembered Wednesday on the 70th anniversary of the Japanese attack that brought the U.S. into World War II.

About 120 survivors will join Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, military leaders and civilians to observe a moment of silence in Pearl Harbor at 7:55 a.m. Hawaii time — the moment the attack began seven decades ago.

About 3,000 people are expected to attend the event held each year at a site overlooking the sunken USS Arizona and the white memorial that straddles the battleship.

The Pearl Harbor-based guided missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon will render honors to the Arizona and blow its whistle at the start of a moment of silence at 7:55 a.m. — the same time 70 years ago the first Japanese planes began to attack.

F-22 jets flown by the Hawaii National Guard are due to soar overhead in a missing man formation to finish the moment of silence.

## Ousted Illinois governor to ask judge for mercy

CHICAGO (AP) — With years of freedom hanging in the balance, disgraced former Illinois Gov. Rod

Blagojevich on Wednesday gets his final shot at trying to persuade a federal judge not to send him away for a lengthy prison term.

Blagojevich was expected to address Judge James Zagel on what's shaped up as the climactic second day of his sentencing hearing.

Shortly after he speaks, Judge James Zagel is expected to announce just how long the 54-year-old will spend behind bars for 18 corruption counts that include his attempt to auction off President Barack Obama's old Senate seat.

A prosecutor also will have an opportunity to make a brief pitch to Zagel about why he thinks Blagojevich should go to prison for up to 20 years.

Nearly three years to the day since Blagojevich's arrest while still in office, the sentencing hearing Tuesday featured an admission by Blagojevich's attorneys that he was, in fact, guilty of public corruption.

For years, the former governor and his team had strenuously avoided acknowledging that.

But earlier Tuesday, Zagel seemed to signal he may be ready to impose a stiff prison sentence, telling the courtroom he thought Blagojevich lied when he testified on the stand at his retrial that he never sought to sell or trade the Senate seat.

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# News in brief

## 3 in Collin County guilty over election campaign

McKINNEY (AP) — A jury has convicted a North Texas district clerk and two employees of abuse of office charges over campaign work done on county time.

A judge Tuesday then sentenced the women to probation.

The Dallas Morning News reports the judge removed Patricia Wyson Crigger as Collin County district clerk, in the case involving her 2010 re-election campaign. Convicted felons are barred from holding public office in Texas.

Judy Blazier was promoted to interim county clerk. She then fired Rebecca Littrell and Sherry Bell.

Crigger and Littrell were convicted of abuse of official capacity and conspiracy to commit abuse of official capacity. Bell was convicted of conspiracy to commit abuse of official capacity.

Crigger and Littrell must serve four years of probation. Bell was sentenced to two years of probation.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report.

• JOSHUA WILLIAM LUCERO, 23, was arrested Tuesday by HCSO on a sentence/probated judgment/ DWI open alcohol container.

• WILLIAM DANE JOHNSON, 19, was arrested Tuesday by HCSO on sentence/driving while license invalid with previous conviction/suspension without final restitution.

• ALBERT RIVAS, 53, was arrested Tuesday by HCSO on a charge of assault causes bodily injury (commitment/sentence).

• JULIAN JAY TORRES, 18, was transferred to the county jail by BSPD Tuesday on a charge of deadly conduct.

• DEBRA KAY CANTU, 46, was transferred to the county jail by BSPD Tuesday on charges of aggravated robbery and burglary of a vehicle (two counts).

• CHRISTOPHER RYAN MINYARD, 25, was transferred to the county jail by BSPD Tuesday on a charge of criminal mischief greater than \$50 and less than \$500.

• RUBEN CARRION, 49, was transferred to the county jail by BSPD Tuesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• MICHAEL RAY THOMAS, 39, was transferred to the county jail by BSPD Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.

## 2 dead in Texarkana house fire, home destroyed

TEXARKANA (AP) — Investigators say a fire at a northeast Texas home has left an elderly couple dead.

Officials say the fire was reported around midnight Tuesday in Texarkana, Texas, when a passing driver called 911 after seeing the flames.

KSLA-TV reports firefighters found the body of an 86-year-old man in a back bedroom. The body of the 87-year-old woman was located in the middle of the home.

Texarkana Fire Department Battalion Chief Dennis Martin says the fire appears to have started in a carport and the wind blew the flames through the attic.

Names of the victims have not been released.

## 2 children shot by mom

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Police say two children are fighting for their lives after their mother shot them before killing herself during a standoff at a South Texas welfare office.

The shootings happened just before midnight Monday at the Department of Health and Human Services building in Laredo.

Laredo police investigator Joe Baeza said Wednesday that 12-year-old Ramie Grimmer and her 10-year-old brother, Timothy Grimmer, remain in "very critical" condition at University Hospital in San Antonio.

## Robinson woman gets 30 years over death of spouse

WACO (AP) — A Central Texas woman convicted in the fatal shooting of her longtime spouse as he slept has been sentenced to 30 years in prison.

A jury in Waco on Friday convicted 66-year-old Joyce Sturdivant of Robinson of murder and of attempted capital murder.

The case involves the 2008 death of 68-year-old Joe Sturdivant Jr.

Prosecutors say the wife tried to hire some men to kill her husband of nearly 40 years.

# 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.

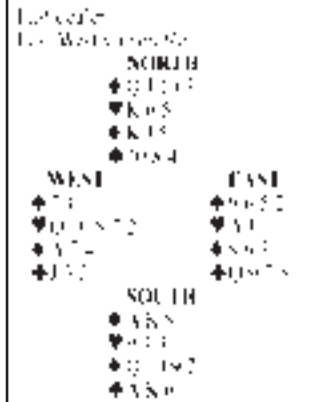
						5	3	
2		5	9	3				
			8	5				2
	1	8					2	6
7								8
5	6					9	4	
4			7	9				
			8	1	4			7
	7	6						

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## The Rule of Eleven



hands in the North-South position. Since you know the North hand, you can determine the South hand.

South's heart suit has the same number of cards as the West's. If you know the West's, you know South's. The same logic applies to the other suits.

It doesn't follow, however, that you should play the jack every time because you know it will win the trick. This is a rule of eleven, not a rule of twelve.

The balance of the hand is determined by the rule of eleven. The rule of eleven says that the number of cards in the hand is equal to the number of cards in the hand.

But note that if you play the jack, it will win the trick. This is a rule of eleven, not a rule of twelve.

Tomorrow's article will discuss...

**Wishing you and yours a happy holiday season filled with love and plenty of Christmas spirit. We feel so blessed to be a part of this caring community.**

From the staff at  
**Victim Services Agency**  
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**Letters to Santa**

**Deadline For Letters Is Friday, December 9th**

Letters will be published in the Letters To Santa Section on Friday, December 23, 2011

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# National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day December 7

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# Veterans fund assists Hernandez family

Herald Staff Report

The Veterans Families Fund recently presented the Spc. Alfredo and Yuly Hernandez family with a check for \$500.

"This check from the local people is a thank you for the veterans and their families for the sacrifices during their service to our country," said Dr. J. Gale Kilgore, fund administrator.

Spc. Hernandez has been in the Army since January 2010 and is currently deployed in Cos Toji, Iraq. He is a combat engineer with the 74th MRBC River Rats.

"Having him deployed (since May) has been one of the toughest things I've had to go through but we're praying he will be home soon," his wife, Yuly, wrote. "Please keep all of our soldiers in y'all's prayers."

The couple have a four-and-a-half-month-old daughter, Karlie.

Those interesting in making a donation to the Veterans Families Fund can do so by sending them to Wood Forest National Bank, Acct. 5901848, 201 W. Marcy Drive, Big Spring, TX, 79721,



Courtesy photo  
Army Spc. Alfredo Hernandez, wife Yuly and daughter Karlie were recipients of a donation from the Veterans Families Fund, made possible by monetary gifts from Crossroads area residents.



Courtesy photo  
Youngsters with Lake View Head Start were among those participating in Saturday's Community Christmas parade.

# MATCH THE SANTA TO HIS WORKSHOP!!



**This entry form must be received by Friday, December 16 at 10 a.m. Drop off your form at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. The winner will be the one who correctly matches the most Santas to his business/workshop. There will be 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. Gift certificates will be given away to use at the participating businesses. Winners will be announced in the Sunday, December 18th Edition of the Big Spring Herald!**

*All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald*

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_____	<b>Klassic Kleaners</b>
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## NBA League releases compact schedule

By BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK — The Los Angeles Lakers will play games on the first three nights of the NBA season, the first of 42 back-to-back-to-back sets teams will face during this lockout-shortened season.

The NBA announced the compacted, 66-game schedule on Tuesday night, one that will require every team to play on three consecutive nights at least once. And it will force every team to navigate demanding stretches that are never seen during a full season, such as the nine games in 12 nights the Atlanta Hawks face starting with their Dec. 27 opener.

The league's 66th season begins with five games on Christmas, including the Lakers hosting the Chicago Bulls. Los Angeles then visits Sacramento the next night before returning home to host Utah on Dec. 27.

Teams will play 48 conference games and 18 against the opposing conference, meaning they play only three nonconference opponents home and away. The league did preserve its most storied rivalry, with the Lakers traveling to Boston for a Feb. 9 matchup before the Celtics open a stretch of eight road games in 13 nights in March with games on back-to-back nights at Staples Center.

Dallas and Miami also will play twice, following their Christmas NBA finals rematch with a March 12 game in Miami. The Heat and Lakers also play two games.

The 50-game 1999 season featured 64 sets of back-to-back-to-backs and was plagued by sloppy basketball being played on fatigued legs. The NBA faces a similar predicament now after failing to reach a new labor deal in time to save the Nov. 1 start to the season.

Instead, a tentative agreement was reached

See **NBA**, Page 2B



**Cerbi Ritchey (44) and teammate Bridgette Tuitt scored 17 points apiece to lead the Big Spring Lady Steers to a 69-27 victory over Pecos in non-district basketball action Tuesday.**

HERALD file photo

## Hoops roundup BSHS thumps Pecos

Herald Staff Report

PECOS — The Big Spring Lady Steers continue to impress during the early stages of the 2011-2012 basketball campaign.

The Lady Steers improved to 8-3 for the season with a convincing 69-27 thumping of Pecos Tuesday evening.

Big Spring grabbed control of the contest from the beginning, running to a 15-5 lead after the first quarter. The Lady Steers then removed all doubt as to the outcome by stretching their lead to 39-7 at halftime.

Bridget Tuitt and Cerbi Ritchey each scored 17 points, while Diamond Mayes added 11 to lead Big Spring.

The Lady Steers return to action at 2:30 p.m. Thursday when they open play at the Monahans Sandhills Tournament against Jal, N.M.

BSHS 15 24 13 17 — 69  
Pecos 5 2 8 12 — 27

## Coahoma boys fall to Classical

COAHOMA — A hot second quarter made the difference for Midland Classical as they took a 61-34 victory over Coahoma in non-district boys' basketball action Tuesday night.

Classical led 14-8 after the first quarter, then scorched the Bulldogs for 24 points in the second to take a 38-17

See **HOOPS**, Page 2B

## Pujols dominates winter meetings

By RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Albert Pujols will get a huge contract, there's no doubt. But the team that will sign the three-time NL MVP remains unclear.

Will it be St. Louis, the team he's helped to two World Series titles in six seasons?

The new-look Miami Marlins, whose newfound riches from their new ballpark are dominating the free-agent market?

The Los Angeles Angels, until now in the background?

"He's not the only guy," Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria said Tuesday, trailed by media whenever he walked the hallways.

Baseball's new Big Fish were the talk of the winter

meetings, with teams wondering how close the Marlins were to an agreement with Pujols on a deal that could be worth \$200 million or more over 10 years.

St. Louis said it submitted a new offer Tuesday to keep Pujols. Agents for other players said they had heard the Angels were bidding, too.

Traditional big spenders such as the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox were reduced to spectators.

"They have a new stadium. They're excited about it, and it's good for baseball," former Marlins and current Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "They had hoped that they'd get the new stadium and they would be able to do those types of things. Our roster is pretty set. We have a lot of guys that

are on long-term deals. That's why maybe there's not a lot happening for us."

When the winter meetings were at the same hotel in 2005, Paul Lo Duca, Juan Pierre and Todd Jones followed Josh Beckett, Mike Lowell, Guillermo Mota, Carlos Delgado and Luis Castillo out of Florida as the Marlins cut payroll from \$56 million to \$21 million.

Now they're a different kind of team. Having already reached deals with All-Star closer Heath Bell (\$27 million for three years) and All-Star shortstop Jose Reyes (\$106 million for six), the Marlins' interest in Pujols is real. What's unclear is whether the first baseman is prepared to go to Miami or whether his talks with the Marlins were an attempt to push the Cardi-

nal higher.

"I know the ownership group is putting their best foot forward and trying to do everything that they can to make this possible," new Cardinals manager Mike Matheny said, "but I also know it's a complicated decision on both sides. There's a lot going on, a lot that I'm not even involved in, but I think it's clear to say that the St. Louis Cardinals would love to have Albert, and we'll see how it all plays out."

With the Angels, Pujols could take over as first base from Mark Trumbo, who is recovering from a stress fracture in his right foot and could be shifted to third.

"He's become a very profi-

See **PUJOLS**, Page 2B

## Leach introduced as Washington State coach

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — New Washington State coach Mike Leach said Tuesday that some people have been asking him why he wanted to take over a downtrodden program in a remote town in the Pacific Northwest.

His response?

"I think that's a stupid question," Leach said, drawing a roar from about 1,000 fans, players and marching band members at a rally where he was introduced on Tuesday. "You can win here and win big, I believe."

Leach, a former coach at Texas Tech, was hired last week to replace Paul Wulff, who was fired after going 9-40 in four seasons at Washington State.

Leach has been out of coaching the past two seasons. But he was 84-43 at Texas Tech, leading the Red Raiders to 10 bowl appearances in 10 seasons, before being fired in 2009 amid allegations he mistreated a player with a concussion.

On Tuesday, he thanked Washington State athletic director Bill Moos for hiring him and he thanked the coaches who came before him for laying the foundation for success.

He said he is contacting his former assistant coaches at Texas Tech as he seeks to fill out his staff. Leach said it's too soon to say whether he will keep any of Wulff's assistants.

Leach will make \$2.25 million per year in salary and other guaranteed income. His contract also includes bonus payments for things such as winning the Pac-12 championship or going to a BCS bowl that could push his pay to more than \$3 million. That includes \$25,000 for winning the Apple Cup against rival Washington.

Washington State could not have afforded Leach without revenue from a new Pac-12 television contract that will eventually pay each school up to \$20 million per year, Moos said.

Leach was at the top of Moos' list of candidates, in part because Moos wants a high-powered offense at

Washington State. While at Texas Tech, Leach's offense routinely led the nation in passing and set numerous records.

Leach was the offensive coordinator at Kentucky and Oklahoma before becoming the Red Raiders head coach in Lubbock in 2000.

In 2009, Texas Tech fired Leach two days after suspending him after it was alleged he mistreated receiver Adam James, who had a concussion. Leach denied the allegations and later sued for wrongful termination.

Leach has said he suspects an \$800,000 bonus he was due the next day was the reason he was fired.

In a separate case, Leach

has also sued ESPN Inc. and a Dallas public relations firm, accusing them of libel and slander after he was fired. James is the son of ESPN analyst Craig James.

Asked Tuesday if parents of recruits should worry about the concussion issue, Leach called the allegations "lies and falsehoods."

"Your son will not be mistreated," he said.

During his time away from coaching, Leach has put out two books, worked in television and hosted a satellite radio show.

He said he is thrilled to be back.

"All for one and one for all is the part you miss the most" about coaching, he said.

**NBA**

Continued from Page 1B

on Nov. 26. Lawyers for the owners and players are still finalizing the rest of the deal, with

both sides expected to vote on it Thursday before training camps and free agency open on Friday.

Aging teams such as the Celtics, Lakers and NBA champion Mavericks will have to

**Aging teams such as the Celtics, Lakers and NBA champion Mavericks will have to pace themselves, while younger teams such as Oklahoma City figure to be better prepared for the grind.**

pace themselves, while younger teams such as Oklahoma City figure to be better prepared for the grind.

"You're not going to have those breaks of three or four days that you sometimes got in the old 82-game schedule, when it was the normal regular schedule," former NBA coach and current analyst Mike Fratello said during

the schedule announcement on NBA TV. "Now with everything being compacted, games come that much more quickly, you've got to gear up back up again, you move onto the next one immediately."

The Denver Nuggets, hit hard by free agency with three of their players in China, face another difficult obstacle in the schedule. They play

five games in six nights spanning the new year, including a home-and-home set with the Lakers on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

The Nuggets do not host Carmelo Anthony, whom they traded to the Knicks last February. Deron Williams, sent from Utah to New Jersey days later, is scheduled to return to Salt Lake City on Jan. 14.

Other quirks of the schedule include:

—Toronto plays a franchise-record 19 games in 31 days in January, including five games in six days from Jan. 9-14.

—Cleveland has its longest homestand ever, nine games from Feb. 8-28 — including a visit

from LeBron James and the Heat on Feb. 17.

—Philadelphia plays its first five games on the road, its longest season-opening trip ever.

Miami will appear on ABC or ESPN 16 times, the most allowable, followed by 15 appearances apiece for the Lakers and Bulls. The Lakers and Celtics each appear a league-high 10 times on TNT.

The Nets' final game in New Jersey after 35 years before heading to Brooklyn will be April 23 against Philadelphia. The Kings could play their finale in Sacramento on April 26 against the Lakers without a plan for a new arena.

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**PUJOLS**

Continued from Page 1B

cient first baseman, and hopefully that comfort level, catching a ground ball and the activities you need to play there will translate over to third base," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said.

Elsewhere, Prince Fielder was still in play in the hitters' market, and C.J. Wilson and

Mark Buehrle were among the available starting pitchers on the second day of the four-day swap session, which has been relatively slow.

The New York Mets agreed to trade outfielder Angel Pagan to the San Francisco Giants for outfielder Andres Torres and pitcher Ramon Ramirez, and reached agreements with free-agent relievers Frank Francisco (\$12 million for two years) and Jon

Rauch (\$3.5 million for one year).

While the moves were not formally announced, Mets manager Terry Collins discussed them Tuesday.

The Chicago White Sox traded closer Sergio Santos to the Toronto Blue Jays for pitching prospect Nestor Molina, and the Minnesota Twins dealt right-hander Kevin Slowey to the Colorado Rockies for a player to be named.

When the meetings

reach their last full day Wednesday, roughly two dozen free agents must decide by midnight EST on salary arbitration offers from their former clubs. David Ortiz, who has said he wants to stay with the Boston Red Sox, appeared likely to accept.

AL champion Texas planned to meet Tuesday night with Wilson, the chatty left-hander who went 16-7 during the regular season but was 0-3 in October.

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**HOOPS**

Continued from Page 1B

lead into intermission. "The second quarter was the difference," Coahoma Coach Kim Nichols said. "We played a lot better and with a lot more energy in the second half, but we just dug ourselves too deep a hole in the first half."

Tanner Ruiz scored 15 points and Aaron Acevedo scored 9 to lead the Bulldogs, who fell to 5-3 with the loss.

Coahoma returns to action at 10:30 a.m. Thursday when they face Sands in the first round of the Hooptown Classic in Stanton.

MCHS 14 24 11 12 - 61

CHS 8 9 8 9 - 34

**Roosevelt downs Forsan**

ACUFF — The Forsan Lady Buffaloes opened District 3-2A basketball play on a down note, dropping a 53-29 decision to Lubbock Roosevelt Tuesday night.

The third quarter proved decisive; holding a slim four-point lead at intermission, Roosevelt outscored Forsan 20-8 in the third to take control.

Cheyenne Galloway scored 10 points to lead the Lady Buffs, who fell to 6-4 overall with the loss.

Forsan returns to action at noon Thursday when they face Borden County's junior varsity

in the first round of the Borden County tournament in Gail.

FHS 6 8 8 7 - 29  
LRHS 10 8 20 15 - 53

**OTHER SCORES**

**Girls**  
Denver City 56, Coahoma 29  
Slaton 42, Stanton 33  
Garden City 41, Reagan County 25

**Boys**  
Reagan County 53, Garden City 41

To submit basketball results, contact Herald Sports Editor Robert Griffin at 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

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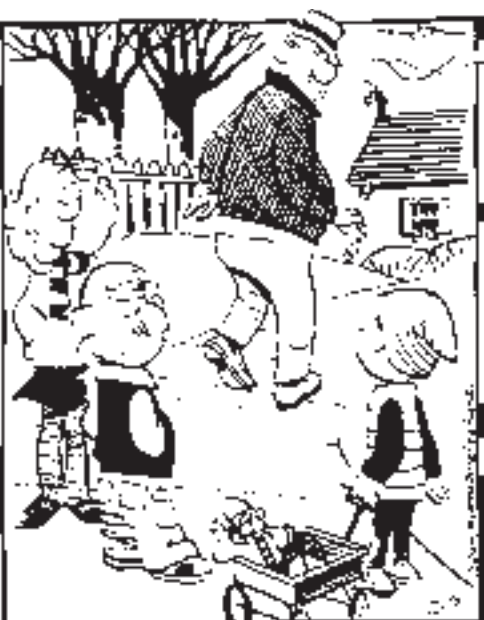
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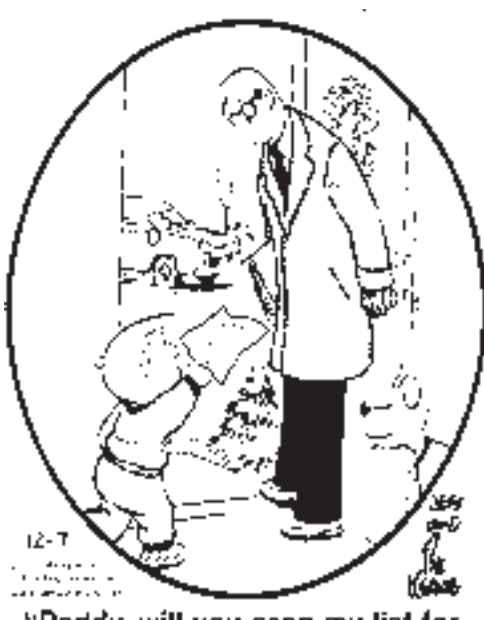
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6:PM	Jeopardy!	Quando Me	Two Men	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News Millionaire	Seinfeld	Dr. Diana CCM	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Sons of Guns		UFC Un-leashed	The Mental-ist	Movie: Doing Hard Time, Sticky Fingaz	ANT Farm	College Basketball	College Basketball: Arizona at Florida.
7:PM	Middle Suburg.	Familia-Suerte	The X Factor	Survivor-Pacific	Una Maid en	All Night Harry's Law	Fam. Guy	Upd Baruch	Moments to Remember: My Music Number 204	Top Model	Sons of Guns	Movie: A Christmas Carol, Edward Woodward	UFC Un-leashed	The Mental-ist	Movie: Silent Witness, Anne Heche	Random Ultimate	College Basketball	College Basketball: Xavier at Butler.
8:PM	Family Happy	Fuerza-Des-tino	Daughter	Criminal Minds	Flor Salvaje (SS)	Harry's Law	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest		Top Model	Sons of Guns		UFC Un-leashed	Movie: Silent Witness, Anne Heche	Movie: Half Past Dead 2	Random	College Basketball	
9:PM	Revenge	Rosa de Guadalupe	Simpsons How I Met	CSI: Crime Scene	La Casa de al Lado	Law & Order: SVU	Big Bang		60s Pop, Rock & Soul (My Music)	Cops	Moonshiners	Movie: A Christmas Carol, Edward Woodward	UFC Un-leashed	Leverage	Movie: Doing Hard Time	ANT Farm		
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met	News Letterman	Noticias Sin Senos no	News Jay Leno	Conan	McGee L. Moore		King South Pk	Sons of Guns		UFC Un-leashed	Leverage	Movie: Doing Hard Time	Random	NFL Live	SportsCenter
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta que el Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Office	Yohanan		South Pk	Moonshiners		UFC Un-leashed	Movie: Silent Witness, Anne Heche	Wendy Williams	Wizards	Baseball SportsNation	SportsCenter
12:AM	Extra	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Roseanne	Sons of Guns	Movie: Intolerable Cruelty	UFC Un-leashed	Leverage	Movie: Doing Hard Time	Good	NFL's Great-est Games	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	La Jaula	American	Ent	Pagado	(:06) Today	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest		Focus 4	Sons of Guns		UFC Un-leashed	Leverage	Movie: Doing Hard Time	Random		

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MR. WILSON ISN'T OVER THE HILL. HE COULDN'T EVEN GET UP THE HILL."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

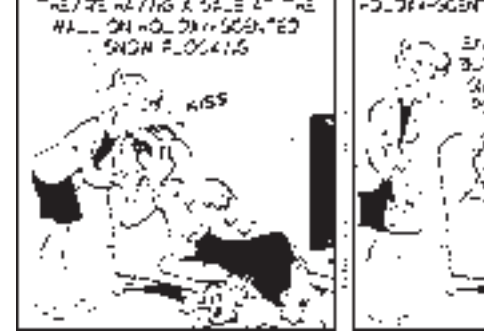


"Daddy, will you scan my list for Santa and e-mail it to Grandma?"

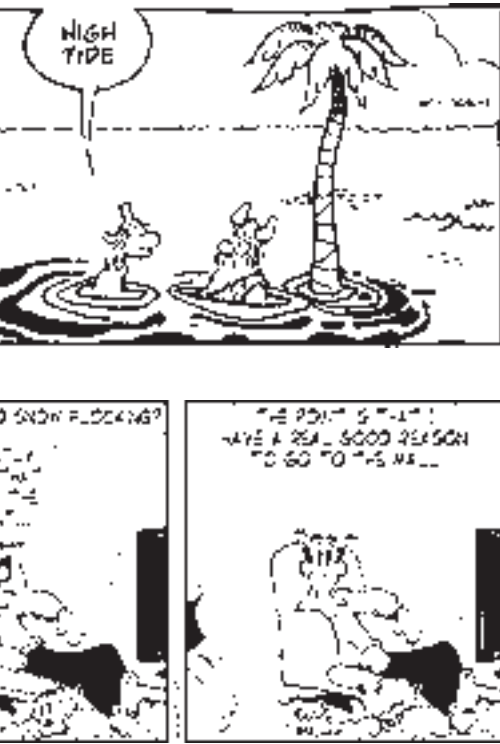
HAGAR



BLONDIE



WIZARD OF ID



BC



AGNES



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 7, the 341st day of 2011. There are 24 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese navy launched a surprise attack on the U.S. Navy base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as part of a plan to preempt any American military response to Japan's planned conquest of Southeast Asian territories; the raid, which claimed some 2,400 American lives, prompted the United States to declare war against Japan the next day.

On this date:

In 1787, Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1796, electors chose John Adams to be the second president of the United States.

In 1808, electors chose James Madison to be the fourth president of the United States.

In 1836, Martin Van Buren was elected the eighth president of the United States.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

EAR'S RABBIT SKIT  
PULL APART A JOE  
ISLE DENIM TELE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
TOO SIN  
TAB ISOLATE RFD  
AVAIL TOP BANANA  
BOHN STOLE ANTI  
DIGGLE SINKER  
YDS ACREAGE TRAY  
BTU RDE  
SUPER INTENDENT  
ENCL INAWE ICER  
LUCI NOTON THE C  
MBAS CROSS SORE

HI AND LOIS



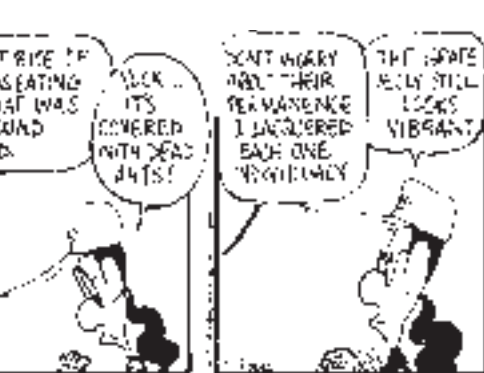
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEETLE BAILY



Newsday Crossword

SITTERS by S.N.  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.slanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Paramarian pal
  - 6 Deep sleep
  - 10 Keats or Byron
  - 14 Buccolic
  - 15 Morally wrong
  - 16 Court panel
  - 17 Audibly
  - 18 Do business
  - 19 Discreet cue
  - 20 Rarely used substitute
  - 23 10 Across creator
  - 24 Barbershop sweepings
  - 25 "My mistake"
  - 27 And so on: Abbr.
  - 30 Very inexpensive
  - 31 Summer zodiac sign
  - 32 Hint
  - 34 French author Albert
  - 38 Overly critical spectator
  - 42 Fall zodiac sign
  - 43 Honor with a party
  - 44 Not strict
  - 45 Went wrong
  - 47 Lacking refinement
  - 50 Canine in competitions
  - 53 Paint holder, perhaps
  - 54 Reach the limit, with "out"
  - 55 Excessive TV watcher
  - 60 Commando weapons
  - 62 Coll's mother
- DOWN**
- 1 Kuwaiti, for one
  - 2 Stubborn coast
  - 3 Strong metal
  - 4 Lacking retirement
  - 5 No longer in fashion
  - 6 Fragrant wood
  - 7 Discontinues
  - 8 Southeastern NBA team
  - 9 Asser. without proof
  - 10 N ghtwear, for short
  - 11 Needing to reorder
  - 12 Wear down
  - 13 Worked at a keyboard
  - 21 Benevolent witchcraft
  - 22 Urban inwader
  - 26 Proust's god
  - 27 Mideast airline
  - 28 Actress Hatcher
  - 29 Search thoroughly
  - 30 Found a remedy for
  - 33 Pool patrons' protector
  - 35 "Tuna" sandwich
  - 36 Nevada neighbor
  - 37 Alluring
  - 39 Ship stainers
  - 40 "Call" starts with one
  - 41 Prepare to golf
  - 46 Rent sharer
  - 48 Residences
  - 49 Call a career
  - 50 Like blue tooth
  - 51 Brown eye color
  - 52 Zinc ornament
  - 53 The ones nearby
  - 56 Rugged rock
  - 57 Tennis pro Kournikova
  - 58 Follow closely
  - 59 Mirra deposits
  - 61 Farm female

