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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 23 2012



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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Members of former local law enforcement officer Troy M. Hogue's family break ground at what will soon be the new Troy M. Hogue Law Enforcement Center, which will house both the Big Spring Police Department and the Howard County Sheriff's Office.

Family, officials break ground on Hogue Law Enforcement Center

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Family members of Troy M. Hogue — the fallen Texas Department of Public Safety trooper whose name has adorned the Big Spring Police Department's law enforcement center for many years now — broke ground on the joint law enforcement center that will bear his name Wednesday during an emotional ceremony.

With both Howard County and Big Spring officials looking on, members of Hogue's family turned the first ceremonial spades of earth at the site of the proposed law enforcement center, which will be added on to the newly constructed Howard County Detention Center, located on the city's west side.

The project, a joint venture between the county and the city, will eventually house both the Howard

County Sheriff's Office and the Big Spring Police Department, a move BSPD Chief Lonnie Smith called a giant step in the right direction for the citizens of the Crossroads area.

"Having both law enforcement agencies under the same roof means better service for the citizens the county and the city. To

See **CENTER**, Page 3

Yeats not only judge targeted by group

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

When 118th District Judge Timothy Yeats recently found out a complaint had been filed against him with the Texas Ethics Commission regarding alleged campaign finance violations committed during his 2010 bid for the bench, the freshman judge was surprised, to say the least.

What Yeats would later find out, however, was he wasn't alone.

Yates Since the complaint against Yeats became public, so have complaints against numerous other district judges across the state of Texas, all of them compliments of the Texas Ethics Advisory Board, a political action committee (PAC) located near the Houston area.

According to advisory board spokesperson William B. Elmer, the PAC is made up primarily of Republicans with ties to the Tea Party community and spends much of its time auditing campaign finance reports from all around the state looking for mistakes and violations.

"Obviously, we can't look at them all, but we look at a lot of them," Elmer said with a laugh from his home in Huntsville, Texas. "We primarily focus on campaign finance reports from Democratic candidates because those are the ones most likely

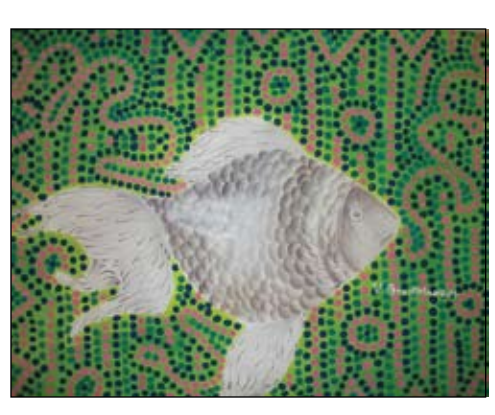
See **YEATS**, Page 3

Big Spring art students draw regional success

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

Fifteen Big Spring High School art students put their abilities against several hundred others at the annual Visual Scholastic Art Event recently at Odessa Permian. At the end of the competition, eight students walked away with regional medals.

They included: Thomas Bazaldua, Connor Furqueron, Sydney Hernandez, Remington Love, Autumn Moore, Adrian Olague, Ashtyn Payne, Savi Vela and Brad Wangard. Three students walked away with two medals.



Connor Furqueron's Grapes of Life

Those students were Furqueron, Payne and Vela.

Bazaldua, a junior at BSHS, entered the contest with a tempera painting of an eagle. His piece was titled "Wanbli," a Native American word for eagle. Furqueron entered the

See **ART**, Page 3

'God, Guns and Texas' book signing Saturday

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

Pioneer families make a mark wherever they go. Find out just how much history can be left behind in Janie Harrison's book, "God, Guns and Texas."

Heritage Museum will be hosting a book signing from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday to celebrate the release of the book.

"I have been working on it on and off for about three and a half years," Harrison said. "I started putting the history together for my children and grandchildren and then had several people tell me this would be interesting to more people than just family and it went from there."

"God, Guns and Texas" follows Harrison's maternal family history beginning in the mid-1700s.

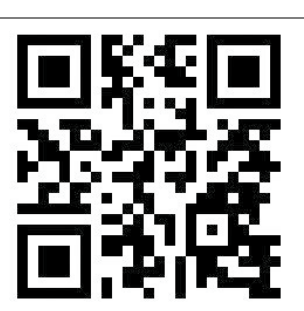
Described as a book driven by her romantic nature and a curiosity of ancestral history, the rich family heritage of love of God, love of country and love of family come through. The book not only traces a family history, with roots tied deep to Howard County and several other parts of Texas, but also includes accounts of historic events including the Civil War, early development of Texas and more.

"It's a little bit of family history, a memoir ... everything bonded together," Harrison said. "Kind of like a quilt."

While delivering the history of her family, Harrison adds pieces of her own life experiences as they fit in with the stories of her grandfathers.

"Hopefully, this will inspire people to learn about their families. Family is the most important thing,"

See **BOOK**, Page 3





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Obituaries

Ruby Phillips



Ruby Phillips, 87, of Garland, formerly of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2012, at Baylor Medical Center at Garland. The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at Westbrook Cemetery with the Rev. Joey Bacon officiating.

She was born July 12, 1924, in Mitchell County, Texas. She was a homemaker and had worked at Texas Instruments in Dallas. She had lived in Garland since 1965. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by two sons, Stanley Phillips and wife Verlinda of Big Spring and Ronald Phillips and wife Jennifer of Garland; two sisters, Ozelle Miller of Big Spring and her twin sister, Ruth Pike of Satche, Texas; five granddaughters; two grandsons; five great-grandsons and eight great-granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers; one son, Dewey Wayne Phillips on Dec. 28, 2001; and a granddaughter.

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

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. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

Police blotter

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

• JACKIE DOYLE RICHEY, 49, of 700 E. 15th St., was arrested Wednesday on charges of failure to report injury accident at once, driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction, no driver's license – when unlicensed and failure to appear.

• MINDY CARROLL LOPER, 34, of 3806 Galveston in Snyder, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of theft – shoplifting.

• CLARENCE NATHAN ROSS, 43, of 1805 Young St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.

• SHAQUITA BRIZHAY SNEED, 21, of Snyder, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.

• JOSE QUIROZ, 21, of 2519 Gunter Circle, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of no driver's license – when unlicensed.

• TAMMY CUSTER NEWELL, 54, of 1012 Bluebonnet, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• READ TIMMONS WHITE, 36, of 2004 State, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

• SANDRA SMITH TUITT, 53, of 2602 Ann Dr., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of assault – family violence.

• ADRIAN RAMIREZ ROCHA, 21, of 1111 Mulberry, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for cruelty to animals – failure to provide.

• CYNTHIA M. MIER, 32, of 1614 Cardinal, was arrested Wednesday on warrants for theft by check, failure to maintain financial responsibility, failure to use safety seat system with child, driving while license invalid and failure to appear (two counts).

• CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.

• THEFT was reported in the 200 block of W. FM 700.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 68 inmates at the time of this report.

• ADRIAN RAMIREZ ROCHA, 21, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for cruelty to non-livestock animals – failure to provide.

• CYNTHIA MARIE MIER, 32, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for theft by check – misdemeanor and municipal warrants for maintain financial responsibility, failure to use safety seat system with child, driving while license invalid, failure to appear, violation of a promise to appear and failure to appear.

• TAMMY CUSTER NEWELL, 54, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• MINDY DEANNE LOPER, 34, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

• SHAQUITA B. SNEED, 21, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify as a fugitive – giving false information, manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance in a drug free zone and a municipal warrant for no driver's license.

• CLARENCE NATHAN ROSS, 43, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.

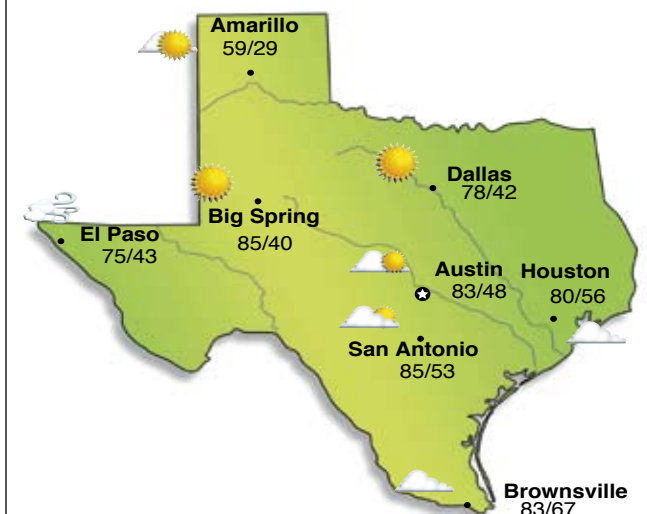
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 2/24	Sat 2/25	Sun 2/26	Mon 2/27	Tue 2/28
85/40 A mainly sunny sky. Very warm. High around 85F. Winds W at 20 to 30 mph.	61/35 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	64/42 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.	74/41 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.	67/40 Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 7:21 AM Sunset: 6:39 PM	Sunrise: 7:20 AM Sunset: 6:39 PM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 6:40 PM	Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 6:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 6:42 PM

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	79	40	sunny	Kingsville	89	63	cloudy
Amarillo	59	29	mst sunny	Livingston	82	49	pt sunny
Austin	83	48	pt sunny	Longview	80	44	windy
Beaumont	77	57	cloudy	Lubbock	71	31	windy
Brownsville	83	67	cloudy	Lufkin	83	49	pt sunny
Brownwood	84	44	mst sunny	Midland	83	40	sunny
Corpus Christi	83	62	cloudy	Raymondville	86	66	cloudy
Corsicana	78	42	sunny	Rosenberg	80	56	cloudy
Dallas	78	42	sunny	San Antonio	85	53	cloudy
Del Rio	85	50	cloudy	San Marcos	84	49	cloudy
El Paso	75	43	windy	Sulphur Springs	76	42	windy
Fort Stockton	84	40	windy	Sweetwater	80	39	windy
Gainesville	71	37	sunny	Tyler	79	43	windy
Greenville	75	40	sunny	Weatherford	75	38	sunny
Houston	80	56	cloudy	Wichita Falls	69	38	sunny

• JOSE QUIROZ, 21, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of no driver's license.

• BROOKELYN PAIGE COKER, 19, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, failure to appear (two counts) and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• READ TIMMONS WHITE, 36, was booked into the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of S. Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the area of Pizza Hut. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3400 block of Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of N. Aylesford. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3300 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.

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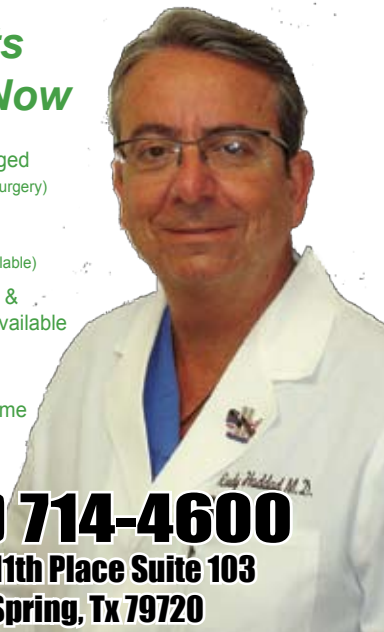
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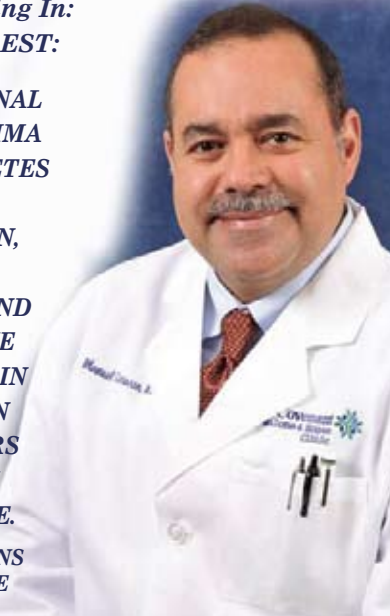
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Atlantic
Salmon
Fillets

Teriyaki Marinated
Grilled Salmon

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup loose brown sugar
- 3 Tablespoons canola oil
- 3 Tablespoons soy sauce
- 3 cloves fresh garlic, minced
- 1 1/2 Tablespoons fresh ginger, minced
- 4 Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets (approximately 6 - 8 oz. each)

Cook Time: 10 minutes per inch
Makes: 4 servings

1. In a baking dish, combine brown sugar, oil, soy sauce, garlic and ginger. Place salmon in dish. Turn fish several times, coating salmon with marinade on all sides.
2. Refrigerate 30 to 45 minutes.
3. Remove salmon from marinade.
4. Cook on foil sheet on medium hot grill, turning once during cooking, about 10 minutes per inch total cooking time.
5. Do not overcook.

State briefs

Driver charged after Texas wreck, 2 soldiers die

GEORGETOWN, Texas (AP) — Investigators say a driver has been charged in an alcohol-related wreck that claimed the lives of two Fort Hood soldiers.

The Williamson County Sheriff's Office says Ida Marie Fruster of Killeen was jailed Thursday on two counts of intoxication manslaughter with a vehicle. Bond was \$60,000 for Fruster. Online jail records did not list an attorney for her.

The Austin American-Statesman reports the one-vehicle accident happened Feb. 4 in Florence. The car went off a curve and hit a tree.

The Department of Public Safety says one passenger, Spc. Joshua Winn of Shreveport, La., was dead at the scene. Another passenger, Spc. Keandre Hall of Naperville, Ill., died Feb. 15 at a hospital from injuries suffered in the crash.

Fruster was charged Feb. 17.

Psychiatrist at East Texas state hospital quits

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A psychiatrist at a state hospital in East Texas has quit as he faced allegations of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at work.

The Austin American-Statesman reports Dr. Gary Paul Kula resigned Wednesday from Rusk State Hospital. Kula was notified Tuesday that disciplinary action had begun.

Documents from the Department of State Health Services indicate Kula on Feb. 14 appeared impaired and was slumped in his office chair. Co-workers witnessed the incident.

Kula has declined comment.

An agency spokeswoman says officials have no reason to believe that Kula treated patients while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Records show Kula in the early 2000s was sanctioned by the Oklahoma and Texas medical boards for sexual involvement with patients. He joined Rusk State Hospital in 2005.

Ex-officer in Texas stole from probationers

KERRVILLE, Texas (AP) — A former probation officer in Central Texas has pleaded guilty to stealing from people she was overseeing.

The penalty phase begins Thursday in Kerrville for Tanna Hurt.

Hurt on Wednesday reached a plea agreement on a charge of theft by a public servant, for an expected penalty of probation.

Hurt pleaded guilty to five counts of tampering with government records and 16 counts of forgery. Jurors will decide the punishment on those counts. Hurt could get two years in prison.

Prosecutors say the theft of money that probationers paid to Kerr County was discovered when two judicial districts merged in 2010. Hurt had been a probation officer since 2007.

Investigators have not released the specific amount of funds that were stolen, but the county collected \$43,000 from its insurers.

More than ton of marijuana in Texas load of limes

PROGRESO, Texas (AP) — Authorities say a load of limes in South Texas has yielded more than a ton of marijuana

U.S. Customs and Border Protection on Wednesday announced the seizure of about \$2.4 million worth of marijuana.

Investigators say an 18-wheeler hauling a commercial shipment of limes had a second inspection Tuesday at the Progreso International Bridge.

Officers discovered nearly 350 packages had been slipped into the shipment. Agents seized more than 2,400 pounds of marijuana.

Investigators say an unrelated bust a day earlier, in a commercial shipment of cucumbers, led to confiscation of more than 1,900 pounds of marijuana.

The street value of the packaged marijuana has been estimated at \$1.9 million.

Both tractor-trailer rigs have been seized.

4 gang members convicted in West Texas drug case

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — A federal jury in West Texas has convicted four gang members in a drug and racketeering investigation going back to 2006.

Prosecutors say 32-year-old Santos Almanza, 31-year-old Miguel Nieto, 40-year-old Carlos Hernandez and 36-year-old Ramon Morales were convicted Wednesday night of conspiring to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and marijuana.

Jurors in Midland also convicted Almanza, Nieto and Hernandez of racketeering-related counts.

All four men face up to life in prison.

Investigators say the Barrio Azteca gang has been blamed for drug trafficking, extortion and kidnapping in Mexico and in the U.S., including the Texas prison system.

YEATS

Continued from Page 1

to contain the kind of big spending we're targeting. In Judge Yeats case, however, we know he's a Republican, but as a judge we hold him to a higher standard."

The complaint filed against Yeats — which is signed by advisory board member Jim Doyle of Conroe, Texas — makes two allegations, the first being he misidentified several of the contributors to his campaign as "self employed," although the individuals do, in fact, own their own businesses. The second allegation — and the more serious — claims Yeats converted campaign funds to personal funds.

Yeats denies both allegations and said he expects to have his response submitted to the Texas Ethics Commission by the end of the week.

"The first complaint alleges I failed to properly identify contributors," Yeats said. "I listed the name and address of every contributor. On several occasions, I described the occupation of an individual who owned their own business or law firm as 'self-employed.' The complainant contends I should have listed the name of the business or law firm instead of designating the individual as 'self-employed.' I do not believe my answer was inaccurate or misleading. If the ethics commission believes that my answer was incomplete, I will be happy to provide additional information.

"The allegation which has garnered the most attention is the allegation I converted campaign contributions to personal use. This allegation is simply false. I properly reserved the right to reimburse myself for campaign expenditures from personal funds."

Elmer declined to comment regarding the second allegation, however, Doyle said the question has never been whether or not Yeats checked the box, but how the money was spent.

"Texas law says you have to provide all of the details regarding the expenditure, not just check a box," Doyle said. "If, for example, you stopped and filled up with gas, you would have to report the address of the gas station, how many gallons of gas you used, how much it cost ... you would have to provide all of the information.

"In the end, all of this will have to come down to the TEC. Once Yeats has turned in his response to the complaint, they will go over the facts in the matter and decide where to go from there."

According to Elmer, the Texas Ethics Advisory Board has approximately 70 complaints currently pending against district judges across the state, and not all of the judges are handling the accusations with the same level head as Yeats.

Upshur County district judge Lauren Parish, who is also the target of a Doyle-filed complaint, launched back at the group, calling them "tea party extremists" this week.

"As a result of these ridiculous allegations made by tea party extremists, elected officials such as myself have to sacrifice their job duties and obligations we have to our constituency in order to spend the time necessary to respond to such absurdities," Parish said.

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

CENTER

Continued from Page 1

have the Hogues here today and to have them take part in this ceremony means a great deal to us," an emotional Smith told the audi-

ence.

The project — which is estimated to cost approximately \$2.7 million, with the city of Big Spring chipping in \$1.7 million and the county picking up the balance — got under way earlier this month.

Jeff Heffelfinger, architect with Southwest Architects who also helped design and oversee construction of the new detention center, is also handling this project

According to County Judge Mark Barr, the

project could be completed as soon as six months from now, depending on how weather conditions cooperate.

"If we don't have any weather delays or problems with materials, we could see the project completed as early as

six months," Barr said. "For the sake of the construction project we're saying eight months, but we're hopeful it could be as early as six months."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

ART

Continued from Page 1

competition for the second year. Last year he also received regional honors and was one of the students who walked away with two medals this year. Olague, a junior at BSBS, is a third-time entrant in the contest. He submitted an oil portrait called "Cousin."

VASE is a state-wide contest sponsored by Texas Art Educators Association/UIIL. Regional and area competition is held annually in Feb-

ruary. This year, there were more than 300 entries from Region 18 — state-wide there are between 10,000 and 32,000 — and only 14 advanced to state competition. Each student has their work put through an interview process with a professional artist. A set criteria is used to determine their ranking with 60 percent being art work and 40 percent being interview

"This process gives the student a chance to articulate about their work and feelings portrayed in their creations," Judy Tereletsky, BSBS art

teacher, said.

In order to have an art piece submitted to the competition, the student's work must have been completed under the instruction of a TAEA member within the year following the last event. Each piece is judged on the student development of the work, purpose and research of past artist's influence, techniques, supplies and execution of the work, elements of design, principles of design, aesthetics and critical judgment used to create the work, personal expression and how well the

student integrated and organized all of these philosophies.

"The students grow tremendously from attending VASE and it often gives them ideas and confidence to try new things learned at the workshops presented at the event by professional artists as well as going through the juror interview," Tereletsky said.

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

BOOK

Continued from Page 1

Harrison said. "When you find out about your family, you find out about yourself."

Harrison's book will be available during the signing, and will also be available at the Heritage

Museum, located at 510 Scurry St., afterward. For those wanting to order online, the book is available at Amazon.com.

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

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sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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Ruby Phillips, 87, died Wednesday. The family will receive friends from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at Westbrook Cemetery.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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Ron Midkiff Publisher... Ext. 250
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Rick Nunez Advertising Manager... Ext. 229
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AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

We live in a world of information overload. In less time than it takes to read this article, you can learn about a professional basketball star, a famous singer, and the latest political scandal.

With so much information so readily available, it is imperative that we discipline our approach to knowledge. We can spend so much time pursuing the trivial that we neglect the eternal. Our exposure to information must be filtered: *Is this truth or fiction? Will this help me better serve God? Will this information help my family and friends obey Jesus?*

Be careful that you are not just learning more ways to be foolish!

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Wednesday Class.....7:00 PM

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

Using water in the best way possible

Rain and moisture has been lacking around the Crossroads area for the past year, but thankfully, recent snowfalls and rain showers have helped add a little moisture to the soil surrounding us.

The lack of rain has taken a toll and destroyed the vast colors and greenery that once spread throughout community lawns. However, just because a good portion has been lost doesn't mean it all has to be lost.

There are still ways to care for what still exists and is still trying to thrive. There are ways we can conserve the water we do have and help support the landscape that exists.

When it comes to the water situation, making every drop count is the key. Water can go a long way, when you think outside the box. The fight that is upon us is something that has to be taken as a whole. If the community can combine resources and efforts, the results will show greater than if we try and act alone.

Some tips to help landscapes and the lack of water situations are as follows:

- Don't waste water. Catch excess water from the sink, bathtub or other run-off.
- Use mulch on inside and outside plants in order to keep the water in the soil longer.
- Decorate your lawn with less grass and more water efficient plants (not just cactus), add rock, concrete, stream beds, etc.
- When you do have a chance to water make sure you provide a deep water to the plants, trees and shrubs to help ensure a deeper root system.
- Prune shrubs and trees properly so that they do not use more water than required to survive.
- Turn off water if not in use, especially when showering and brushing your teeth.

There are several efforts that can be made to help the situation.

It is the lack of effort that will worsen the situation we are already in.

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.

- 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

We can steer clear of the thorns, Lord,
when we walk with You. Amen

Fight over reproductive rights

The air is still thick with outrage over President Barack Obama's attempt to require all employers to provide insurance coverage for people who desire (or need) birth control.

Catholic bishops and their fellow travelers exploded in righteous indignation over a proposal that would have required religious institutions (but not churches) to offer employees the same contraception coverage required of other, secular institutions under the Obama health plan.

The administration backed off in the face of a firestorm of protest, retreating to a compromise that would provide the insurance without requiring religious organizations to pay for it.

Even so, Republicans are still denouncing the original plan as a violation of the freedom of religion guaranteed by the Constitution.

I don't see it.

The original Obama mandate didn't require Catholics or anyone else to use birth control. That's a personal choice. What it did was keep institutions from denying their employees a right that's guaranteed by law. That's not a denial of freedom. It's an expansion of it.

The Constitution is there to protect the rights of individuals, not the right of institutions to deny rights they find offensive.



DONALD KAUL

I've always thought, in my cynical way, that the Catholic case against birth control was at best self-serving — a way of flooding the voting pool with Catholics — and at worst loopy.

If you really and truly believe abortion is the ultimate evil, how can you be against contraception, the great enemy of abortion?

Obama relied on the recommendation of the Institute of Medicine, an independent group of doctors and researchers, in crafting his proposal.

Birth control, the Institute stated, isn't a mere accessory to a self-indulgent life, but a medical necessity to ensure the health and well-being of women. And it presented facts to prove this point.

About half of pregnancies in the United States are unplanned, the Institute estimated, and nearly 40 percent of those end in abortion. Providing easy access to birth control could dramatically lower those numbers and save money besides.

Sounds reasonable, right?

From the reaction of the Catholic hierarchy and its friends on the reactionary right, you would have thought the White House had ordered a convent of nuns burned at the stake.

"This is a direct attack on religious liberty and will not stand in a Romney presidency," Mitt Romney said. He has also promised to end federal programs that provide family planning services to millions of women.

Rick Santorum would like to see birth control made illegal altogether. How's that for keeping government out of your life?

Conservative Christian leaders

and others try to make the case that religion is under siege in this country, and that liberals are attacking their rights.

Actually, it's the other way round. Liberals aren't trying to make anyone do anything. You want to use contraception? Fine. You don't? That's your right. You also have a right to an abortion if that's what you want.

Same with gay rights. If you want to marry someone of the same sex, that's OK with us. Nobody's forcing you.

Despite proclamations to the contrary by conservative Christians, a majority of Americans aren't ready to surrender their hard-won reproductive rights. The Susan G. Komen Foundation for the Cure found this out the hard way when it decided to stop its payments to Planned Parenthood.

The foundation was responding to pressure from anti-choice groups that oppose Planned Parenthood's abortion services. Plans to disrupt its popular Races for the Cure and boycott sponsors were in the works. When Komen's decision to cut off support for one of the nation's biggest providers of breast cancer screenings for uninsured low-income women produced a swift, huge outcry and a gush of financial contributions to Planned Parenthood, the foundation reversed course.

Who's besieging whom here?

The Constitution doesn't merely guarantee freedom of religion. It also guarantees freedom from religion.

OtherWords columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. otherwords.org

Republicans are not cheering

The most notable factor in the Republican presidential race thus far is the depth of despair into which Republican voters have sunk.

They cannot find a candidate. Faced with a Democratic incumbent who appears shockingly weak to them, the Republicans have been unable to find a big nominee with a big voice to oppose him.

Instead, they are finding a series of small nominees with squeaky voices. Some think the Republican problem is that its voters have failed to "coalesce" around a single candidate. That is not the problem.

The problem is that there is no candidate around whom Republicans can coalesce. The field is not just weak, it is barren.

The GOP is now the party of woulda, coulda, shoulda. If only this governor had run. If only that person had not dropped out early. If only there had not been so many debates to introduce the candidates to the American people long before the candidates were ready to be introduced.

Today, what ushers forth from the throats of loyal Republicans is not a cheer, but a sigh.

The GOP nominating race has been reduced to four men.

One, Ron Paul, is really running to explain libertarianism to the American people, make it seem more mainstream, less scary and more acceptable when it comes time for his son, Rand Paul, 49, a Republican senator from Kentucky, to run for president.

One, Newt Gingrich, has already exploded in a puff of moon dust, a victim not so much of his ideas, as of his own bitterness and lack of self-discipline.

One, Mitt Romney has burned through an incredible amount of money convincing Republicans he is not really one of them. No matter how many opponents he has plowed under — Michele Bachmann, Rick Perry, Jon Huntsman — there has always been a new one to spring up.

As a recent Daily Kos blog post

neatly summed it up: "Mitt Romney spent \$33 million (in January) destroying Newt Gingrich, and all he got was Rick Santorum in return."

Which leaves the Republicans with Rick Santorum atop the polls. And while this has gladdened the hearts of some "true" conservatives, others in the party look at the fall match-up — Rick Santorum vs. Barack Obama — and see a boy going up against a man.

In a long, balanced and very good analysis of Santorum in Sunday's Washington Post, Dan Balz reports: "Privately, strategists in both parties predict huge problems for Santorum. A GOP strategist, who spoke on condition of anonymity in order to be candid, predicted that Santorum would be 'eviscerated' by the Democrats in a general election."

Oh, is that all?

There are the fantasists who think that somebody — Sarah Palin, Chris Christie, Mitch Daniels, Jeb Bush — can ride into the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., in late August and ride out with the nomination.

But that's not going to happen.

The party is not going to turn its back on a candidate who has made the long, hard, expensive slog through the primary process, enduring the debates, appealing to voters and amassing delegates, in favor of somebody who swoops down and tries to gain victory without breaking a sweat.

Republicans don't roll that way. Maybe they should this year. But they won't.

The Republicans have faced the same unappetizing choice from the beginning: In a year in which the economy could play the pivotal role in the election, the party can either nominate Mitt Romney or take the economy off the table.

Santorum would be happy to talk about faith (he's for it), abortion (he's against it even in cases of rape and incest) and birth control ("I don't think it's a healthy thing for our country," he says) all day long.

And do you know who would be even happier? Barack Obama. Obama would be delighted to make this election about anything but the economy.

Santorum has an economic plan. He has a jobs plan. He has an energy plan. He has positions like, "Hydraulic fracturing has turned oil shale into an economically viable resource."

But, having attended several of his speeches, I can honestly report hearing much more about conservative values than about hydraulic fracturing.

Romney is hoping that his party wakes up, blinks once or twice and says: "Rick Santorum is really electable as president? In what parallel universe?"

And to make that point, Romney is bringing in his big gun: Donald Trump.

Some (well, me, actually) think Romney's campaign made a huge mistake in making a splashy show of accepting Trump's endorsement in early February (I would have hid under a bed), demonstrating that it was so disconnected from the real world that it actually thought Trump was something other than a TV showman and buffoon.

Now, according to ABC's Michael Falcone, Romney has dispatched Trump to Michigan to do radio interviews in the Flint-Saginaw market, Traverse City, Lansing, Detroit and other places where Trump normally wouldn't be caught dead.

What Romney thinks this will accomplish is unknown. This campaign, Trump became known for his championing of the utterly discredited "birther" movement when he said on March 30 last year: "I have a birth certificate. People have birth certificates. He (Barack Obama) doesn't have a birth certificate. He may have one, but there is something on that birth certificate — maybe religion, maybe it says he's a Muslim, I don't know. Maybe he doesn't want that. Or, he may not have one."

And this is the guy Romney wants fronting for him in Michigan?

No wonder Republicans are sighing.

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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World Briefs

Romney looks for votes and Santorum for money as they jockey for advantage in primaries

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — A bitter and often personal debate behind them, Republicans Rick Santorum and Mitt Romney are shoring up their campaigns in different ways ahead of a series of crucial presidential primaries.

Romney is paying the most attention to Michigan, his birthplace and the site of an unexpectedly tight race with Santorum, by attending a tea party rally Thursday night in an effort to get more conservative support. He has campaigned confidently in Arizona, so much so that he has not aired any television ads in the state.

Santorum, meanwhile, is focusing for the moment on raising money for his cash-strapped operation. He is hoping for an upset in Michigan, which would cap a rebound that began two weeks ago when he won caucuses in Minnesota and Colorado and a nonbinding primary in Missouri.

The 20th debate of the primary season offered the GOP hopefuls their final face-to-face outing on a national stage before contests over the next 12 days that may well winnow the field. Arizona and Michigan host primaries Tuesday, followed by caucuses in Washington four days later. Ten states will cast ballots on Super Tuesday, March 6.

Polls show Santorum leading the field nationally and in several states. Romney and rivals Ron Paul and Newt Gingrich used the nationally televised forum Wednesday night to challenge Santorum, who repeatedly found himself in the hot seat over his record on spending, home-state projects known as earmarks, and support for a federal education law.

Obama to address rising gasoline prices in Florida, pitch his multiple-source energy policy

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is confronting Americans' anxiety over rising gasoline prices by drawing attention to his energy policies and taking credit for rising oil and gas production, a greater mix of energy sources and decreased consumption.

Obama is heading to Florida on Thursday to promote an energy strategy that the administration says will reduce dependence on foreign oil in the long term. But Obama's pitch will also have a subtext: that the federal government can do little to halt the current rise in gasoline prices.

Obama will speak at the University of Miami and tour the school's Industrial Assessment Center, which trains students as industrial energy-efficiency experts. The program is one of 24 across the country.

White House advisers believe Obama needs to address the recent spike in gasoline prices, even though they see it as a cyclical occurrence. The current \$3.58 per gallon is the highest price at the pump ever for this time of year.

Obama aides worry that the rise in prices could reverse the country's economic gains and the president's improved political standing. A new Associated Press-GfK poll shows that though Obama's approval rating on the economy has climbed, 58 percent

disapprove of what he's doing on gas prices.

Militant attacks in Iraq spread across 12 cities in a few hours, killing 50 people

BAGHDAD (AP) — A rapid series of attacks spread over a wide swath of Iraqi territory killed at least 50 people on Thursday, targeting mostly security forces in what appeared to be another strike by al-Qaida militants bent on destabilizing the country.

The apparently coordinated bombings and shootings unfolded over four hours in the capital Baghdad — where most of the deaths were — and 11 other cities. They struck government offices, restaurants and one in the town of Musayyib hit close to a primary school. At least 225 people were wounded.

"What is happening today are not simple security violations — it is a huge security failure and disaster," said Ahmed al-Tamimi, who was working at an Education Ministry office a block away from a restaurant that was bombed in the Shiite neighborhood of Kazimiyah in northern Baghdad. He described a hellish scene of human flesh and pools of blood at the restaurant.

"We want to know: What were the thousands of policemen and soldiers in Baghdad doing today while the terrorists were roaming the city and spreading violence?" al-Tamimi said.

Two government spokesmen declined immediate comment.

Obama administration seeks online privacy protections with voluntary but enforceable rules

NEW YORK (AP) — The Obama administration is calling for stronger privacy protections for consumers as mobile gadgets, Internet services and other tools are able to do a better job of tracking what you do and where you go.

Administration officials outlined a proposed "Consumer Privacy Bill of Rights" on Thursday and urged technology companies, consumer groups and others to jointly craft new protections. Such guidelines would initially be voluntary for companies, but those that agree to abide by them could be subject to sanctions for any violations.

"As the Internet evolves, consumer trust is essential for the continued growth of the digital economy," President Barack Obama said in a statement. "That's why an online privacy Bill of Rights is so important. For businesses to succeed online, consumers must feel secure."

The effort comes as companies have found more sophisticated ways to collect and combine data on your interests and habits. Beginning next week, for instance, Google will start merging data it collects from email, video, social-networking and other services when you're signed in with a Google account.

The growing use of smartphones and tablet computers adds another dimension to the tracking. Location information can give service providers insights into where you spend your time and, if you have friends who use the same services, whom you tend to hang out with in person.

Newark mayor calls for probe of NYPD spying on Muslims; calls report 'deeply offensive'

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — The mayor of New Jersey's largest city called for state authorities Wednesday to investigate a widespread spying operation conducted in Newark's Muslim neighborhoods by the New York Police Department that he characterized as "deeply offensive."

At about the same time Newark Mayor Cory Booker made his remarks, Gov. Chris Christie, once New Jersey's top federal law enforcement official, called the surveillance "disturbing" and said Attorney General Jeffrey Chiesa was already looking into the reports.

In mid-2007, the NYPD's secretive Demographics Unit fanned out across Newark, photographing every mosque and eavesdropping in Muslim businesses. The findings were cataloged in a 60-page report, obtained by The Associated Press, that served as a police guidebook to Newark's Muslims. There was no mention of terrorism or any criminal wrongdoing.

Officials reacted strongly on Wednesday. Booker and Newark's current and former police directors said they were misled by the NYPD, which they said asked a limited number of questions but didn't hint at the depth or breadth of the planned investigation.

"If anyone in my police department had known this was a blanket investigation of individuals based on nothing but their religion, that strikes at the core of our beliefs and my beliefs very personally, and it would have merited a far sterner response," Booker told The AP.

Stepmother, grandmother charged in death of Ala. girl forced to run 3 hours as punishment

ATTALLA, Ala. (AP) — Roger Simpson said he looked down the road and saw a little girl running outside her home but didn't give it another thought. Police, however, said the man witnessed a murder in progress.

Authorities say 9-year-old Savannah Hardin died after being forced to run for three hours as punishment for having lied to her grandmother about eating candy bars. Severely dehydrated, the girl had a seizure and died days later. Now, her grandmother and stepmother who police say meted out the punishment were taken to jail Wednesday and face murder charges.

Witnesses told deputies Savannah was told to run and not allowed to stop for three hours on Friday, an Etowah County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman said. The girl's stepmother, 27-year-old Jessica Mae Hardin, called police at 6:45 p.m., telling them Savannah was having a seizure and was unresponsive.

Simpson said he saw a little girl running at around 4 p.m., but didn't see anybody chasing or coercing her.

"I saw her running down there, that's what I told the detectives," Simpson said from his home on a hill overlooking the Hardins. "But I don't see how that would kill her."

Spin doctors needed:

Forecasting tornado season severity not quite possible yet, say experts

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the month of March looming, tornado chasers are already watching the Southeast as a nasty storm brews with the potential to spin off a batch of tornadoes.

But if funnel clouds develop Thursday or Friday as some forecasters believe, they won't be the first. This tornado season got an early and deadly start in late January when two people were killed by separate twisters in Alabama. Preliminary reports showed 95 tornadoes struck last month, compared with 16 in January during a particularly stormy 2011.

The season usually starts in March and then ramps up for the next couple of months, but forecasting these storm seasons is even more imprecise than predicting hurricane seasons. Tornadoes are too small and too short-lived for scientists to make seasonal predictions. They don't develop like blizzards and hurricanes, which are easier to project.

They pop in and pop out. The storms that give them birth may last only a few hours. Hurricanes and blizzards are lumbering beasts that spend days moving across the satellite maps. When a hurricane approaches, coastlines get days warning to evacuate. With a tornado, if the weather service can let people know 20 minutes in advance, it's considered a victory.

"The Joplin (Mo.) tornado (that killed 158 people last May) wasn't violent until just about the time it got to the hospital," said Harold Brooks, a research scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Severe Storms Laboratory, in Norman, Okla. "Even when you're in the field, there are still times when you're surprised by the intensity of the event and how quickly it started."

Holy orders: Ohio church includes drive-thru blessing among annual Ash Wednesday services

CINCINNATI (AP) — An Ohio church is offering a drive-thru Ash Wednesday blessing for parishioners pressed for time or reluctant to come inside the church for the Lenten observance.

The Rev. Patricia Anderson Cook of Mt. Healthy United Methodist Church in suburban Cincinnati offered the ashes Wednesday evening for people of all faiths beginning around 5 p.m. in the church parking lot. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Christian season of Lent, which concludes after 40 days with the celebration of Easter, and the faithful traditionally have a smudged cross drawn on their forehead.

Bridget Spittler, the church's secretary and building manager, said the church had received a lot of positive feedback for offering the drive-thru ashes.

"Some people may not be too comfortable coming in for a serious service," she said, adding that people with severe arthritis or other ailments that make attending the service uncomfortable also appreciate the drive-thru opportunity.

The pastor will provide a church brochure and a Lenten booklet, and the church offers a traditional Ash Wednesday service inside at 7 p.m.

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Metal artists once welders

MOLLY M. FLEMING

Daily Citizen

SEARCY, Ark. — Fire and metal may not sound like traditional ways to create art, but two women in the welding program at the Arkansas State University campus in Searcy can make these elements into masterpieces.

Carolyn Hendrix of Cabot and Amanda Wyman of Pangburn both entered the ASU-Searcy welding program with hopes that that they would use their welding skills for industrial projects.

That was before they found out they would get to use their creativity to make whatever they desired.

"I entered the program because I had spent eight years in the military doing sheet metal work," Hendrix said. "I had always been interested in welding, so I thought this was a good time to start."

Wyman said she started because she knew of the career opportunities available with welding certification.

"It's a good way to make money," Wyman said.

Once the women had been in the program for a while and achieved various certifications, their instructors gave them more freedom to create whatever pieces they wanted. The women combined their efforts and started working on a number of pieces that were inspired by Arkansas nature.

Welding instructor Terry McKinney said he is impressed with the women's welding work.

"It's marvelous," McKinney said. "It's great how they can put their minds together and do that. They do great work. They have a good imagination."

A woodpecker created by Hendrix was put on display in one of the buildings on campus, and it caught the eye of Chuck Davis, director of the U.S. Small Business Administration of Little Rock.

Davis was so intrigued by Hendrix's

work that he encouraged the pair to submit their work for display at the Thea Foundation Art Gallery.

"He's been our mentor," Hendrix said. "He believes in us and sees a lot of potential in us."

"I'm so glad he did because we are really starting to find our way and find our own style now," Wyman added. "I feel like we're getting better all the time."

The women will have their work on display at the Thea Foundation in North Little Rock from April 19 to May 3.

In the meantime, they will be working diligently to get pieces ready for the show. They have also sold some pieces, with prices ranging from \$200 to \$700.

"Most of our pieces are a combined effort, but we also have some of our own work," Hendrix said.

The women said the technique of making their art is an old fashioned way of working. They hammer out all of their pieces instead of using a machine.

Both women agreed that making art with their welding skills is a welcomed change of pace from traditional welding work.

"I love this \$100 million times more than I ever would love a traditional welding job," Wyman said.

When the women are not in the shop working on their latest welding piece, they are at home — being moms.

"My kids are really impressed with the work," Hendrix said. "I hope it will inspire them to step out of their comfort zone and try something new."

The women credit their success in the field — one dominated by men — to those who have supported them at ASU-Searcy. They will graduate in May and already have plans to open their own welding shop to create more metal art pieces.

"We are really thankful for Career Pathways and our advisor for their support," Wyman said.

Lack of hands fails to hinder Michigan teen from feeling love

JERRY WOLFF

The Oakland Press

METAMORA TOWNSHIP, Mich. — Michelle Champagne feared she'd never feel the loving embrace of her daughter who was born without hands and left arm below the elbow.

"I was holding her the first night in the hospital bed and rubbing her cheek and feeling sad she might not be able to grab or touch me," said Champagne, of Oakland County's Metamora Township. "She then pinned my hand between her arms and touched my cheek. At that moment, I knew there was nothing this child wasn't going to be able to do with her life."

And Katie Champagne has proven her mother's words to be prophetic.

"I don't think I'm disabled. I just figure out a way to do everything," said Katie, a home-schooled 11th grader and co-captain of Oxford High School's equestrian team.

"When I'm riding it feels great," Katie said.

"It's second nature to me."

She has learned to compensate for her lack of hands by using her intelligence, strong legs and core body strength to ride. Katie started riding horses at age 4 and started competing in equestrian events five years ago. She competes in four different disciplines of riding with the Oxford team.

"What's amazing is she and her horse work so well together," said her father, Lt. Col. Doug Champagne. "People think she's going to have trouble opening gates during obstacle course competition but she just finds a way to reach down and open them by leaning way over and using her forearm."

She also plays the piano, texts and types on a keyboard.

"When Katie gets up on her horse, she's equal to anybody else," Doug Champagne said. "She puts her game face on and is like any other athlete. She gets down to business."

Katie once wore prosthetic limbs but has learned to live without them.

"I don't want to diminish the value of prosthetics," her father said. "They are of great value to military personnel who return from combat missing limbs. They need them and it is good they are available."

During the summer the 17-year-old volunteers eight weeks at Lake Ann Camp, a Christian camp outside of Traverse City.

"We want Katie to share her story and share her beliefs about God with as many people as we can," Doug Champagne said.

Her mother called Katie an "inspiration to everybody."

"There's nothing Katie won't try or succeed at," Michelle Champagne said.

As for her future, Katie is not worried.

"My reason for being created is to show God's love through my life and he'll be there every step of the way," she said.

Okla. couple make lube shop-dress shop combo work

ENID, Okla. (AP) — A common theme in small-business development is diversification of a business' services and products. Debbie and Marvin Henricks of Enid took that theme to a new level when they combined an oil change station and a ladies' bou-

tique into a symbiotic business venture that has boomed over the past six years, and now is preparing to expand into a new location.

The strange pairing of high fashion and used motor oil started in 2005, when Debbie introduced some stylish sandals to

the patrons of Enid Super Lube.

Debbie was helping Marvin run the couple's Enid Super Lube on North Grand at the time, and got the idea to sell fashion items to waiting customers after her mother's return from vacation in California.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury and Mars agitate the interpersonal dynamic. Explosive word combinations come easily to mind and sometimes even easier out of the mouth, skipping the mind altogether. The best way to prevent these word bombs from causing injury is to keep them in a safe place far away from the influences that might inspire you to use them.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's OK to need help, and there should be no shame in it. Do be careful to ask the right person, though — which is to say the one with the expertise that most matches your problem.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There will be ups and downs as life comes to you in its concentrated form. Sometimes this causes you to feel heavier in your boots, and moments later it's as though your heart is as buoyant as a balloon.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll get the stretch of space and quiet you need in order to do your

best. Take advantage of it! Don't fritter your minutes away on emails and the Internet. Do the thing that will have lasting impact.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You don't have to wait for a problem to get really big before you ask for help. The response time to your problem will be determined by a mysterious algorithm having nothing to do with your problem's size.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You will enjoy being around that rare kind of person who has had the requisite share of follies and misfortunes and yet chooses not to talk about them unless it's absolutely relevant to what's going on now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The one who compliments and assures you is also trying to persuade you in some way. Take it all in stride. Let your trust build over time. More will be revealed about the situation tomorrow.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Good fortune stems from your artistic talent or your deep sense of justice. Great fortune stems from your ability to fuse those parts of your personality in one project or mission.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your emotional evolution is in progress. This could be the day you make peace with what you cannot understand, an act that will free up your energy for truly fulfilling pursuits.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll distinguish yourself as a person of exemplary character and talent. You'll do this by rendering a better and more complete service than the one that is asked of

you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll be assimilating bits of inspiration that have been coming to you over the past few weeks. The process results in highly original thinking. Write down some of those interesting ideas.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Is confession really good for the soul, or does it just involve more people in the problem? You have a stellar sense of how to actually fix things, which is better than talking about them any day.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Get some exercise, and you'll be unstoppable, especially professionally and socially. What you don't accomplish with good manners you'll make up for with fast reflexes.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 23). Certain of yourself, you'll know the right thing, and you'll do it. March brings spontaneous moods and interesting predicaments, too — some of them quite lucky. You'll tell the story for years to come. A partner in play comes along in April. July shows you advancement through study. A powerful mentor helps. Aries and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 33, 39 and 15.

COMMUNICATION TIPS FOR THE MERCURY/MARS OPPOSITION: Mercury is in Pisces, and it's easier for all signs to read into what's being said and draw a more or less accurate conclusion as to what is really meant by it. No one is more adept at picking up the "vibes" than the water signs (Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces), who are now even more sensitive than usual. It may help these signs to be aware of their own sensitivities and thereby protect themselves to a greater degree. One way is not to ask questions they don't really want to know the answer to. For example: "Do these pants make me look fat?"

In a broader sense, there are topics that are best avoided altogether. Religion, race, culture and politics are the obvious ones. Not so obvious would be personal preferences having to do with art, music, physical characteristics and general matters of taste. Save it for the weekend when things will have cooled down.

As for the rest of the zodiac, the main thing is to soften your language patterns so they cannot be construed as overly aggressive. Always start with a compliment. Always use "please" and "thank you." Turn on those smiling eyes.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Happy 18th birthday to the now former child star Dakota Fanning, whose work gets more varied and interesting as she gets older. The precocious Pisces has played darlings and brats, rock stars and vampires, and with her moon in the sign of entertainment, she'll keep stretching into new characters for as long as the spotlight shines her way.

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

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HOLIDAY
MATHIS

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

What Can Defeat Me?

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 8 5 3
♥ K J 8 2
♦ K 4
♣ A Q 7

WEST
♠ —
♥ 10 7 4 3
♦ J 10 9 7
♣ J 9 6 5 3

EAST
♠ Q 10 9 6
♥ 9 5
♦ Q 8 6 5 2
♣ 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 7 4 2
♥ A Q 6
♦ A 3
♣ K 10 8

The bidding:
North East South West
1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass
2♠ Pass 6♣

Opening lead — jack of diamonds.
A surprisingly large number of players show a lack of respect for safety plays. What is particularly annoying about this attitude is that their casual disrespect usually doesn't cost them a blessed farthing because the remote situation that they should be trying to protect against seldom occurs.

However, lightning sometimes does strike, and when that happens, these players often wind up bemoaning their fate. For example, consider this deal where South gets to six spades and secs — or should sec —

that the only way the slam can be lost is if he loses two trump tricks.

So, instead of dismissing this "remote" possibility, South should instead concentrate all his thoughts on how to overcome a 4-0 trump division, if that unlikely distribution happens to exist.

Accordingly, he should win the diamond lead in dummy and return a low trump. When East follows with the six, South should play the seven, being perfectly willing to lose the trick to the nine, ten or queen in order to assure the slam beyond the shadow of a doubt.

In the actual deal, the safety play pays off, and South avoids going down one. Playing the ace on the first trump lead would be correct if East produced the nine, ten or queen at trick two, or if East showed out on the first trump lead. In all of these cases, South could then limit himself to either one trump loser or none with proper play. (In the actual case, if East played the nine or ten, South would next lead a spade to the jack and later finesse against East to hold himself to one trump loser.)

This frame of mind — where declarer hopes for the best but prepares for the worst — is often crucial to achieving a winning result. There is no good reason to incur an unfavorable outcome that could have been avoided.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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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				6			
	9	7		6	8	5		
	3		4		7		1	
7	1		5					6
			9	4	3			
	4				6		2	9
	7		8		1		9	
		6	3	7		2	4	
		3				7		5

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Mavs fall to Lakers

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Andrew Bynum had a huge smile on his face after he grabbed a rebound of his own miss and got fouled on an attempted putback.

Not long after making both those free throws that put the Los Angeles Lakers ahead to stay, Bynum was running after teammate Derek Fisher to give him a big hug following a 3-pointer.

Bynum had 19 points and 14 rebounds, including several big plays in the final 5½ minutes, as the Lakers hit the halfway point of their season with a 96-91 victory over the defending NBA champion Dallas Mavericks on Wednesday night.

"Andrew was great," coach Mike Brown said.

The free throws by Bynum broke an 82-all tie with 5:29 left and put the Lakers (20-13) ahead to stay after 13 ties and 10 lead changes.

After the Mavericks failed to take advantage of a turnover by Kobe Bryant when Jason Terry gave it right back, Bynum was underneath the basket with the ball. But he instead passed it to Fisher in the left corner for a 3-pointer. Bynum was smiling broadly when he chased down and hugged Fisher when Dallas called timeout.

Fisher, whose driving short jumper with 3:41 left ended a 9-0 run and made it 89-82, had

given Bynum a pep talk before the game.

They were also thinking about the playoffs against Dallas last season.

"We got swept last year, and it was on our minds," Bynum said.

There was also Bynum's alley-oop dunk from Bryant with 1:05 left that stretched the lead to 93-86. The Lakers then held on despite missing six consecutive free throws after that.

Bryant missed two free throws with 37 seconds left. After Dirk Nowitzki's tip-in got Dallas within 93-91, Pau Gasol was fouled and missed both of his free throws with 20 seconds left.

"I'm a little overweight, I'm too young to have a heart attack," Brown said after watching all those misses.

But Matt Barnes grabbed the rebound after Gasol's second miss and was quickly fouled himself. He ended the Lakers' charity-line slump with two free throws.

"That was big," Fisher said. "The way last season ended, this game was big for a lot of us."

Gasol had 24 points for the Lakers, while Bryant and Fisher each had 15. Bryant shot 4 of 15 while being held 14 below his NBA-leading scoring average, and was scoreless until two free throws with 10 seconds left in the first quarter.



Howard College's Calvin Godfrey (20) shoots during the Hawks' game with South Plains College earlier this season. Howard and South Plains meet again tonight in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The women's game begins at 5:45 p.m., followed by the men's contest at 7:45 p.m.

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Baseball

Big Spring at Lubbock Cooper tournament (vs. Hereford at 11 a.m.; vs. Canyon at 3:30 p.m.).
Forsan at Albany tournament, TBA.

Softball

Big Spring at West Texas Classic, Midland, TBA.
Coahoma at West Texas Classic, Midland, TBA.
Forsan at Lubbock Christian High School tournament.
Howard College at Weatherford College (DH), 4 p.m.

Women's basketball

South Plains at Howard College, 5:45 p.m.

Men's basketball

South Plains at Howard College, 7:45 p.m.

Golf

Forsan girls at Denver City tournament.

Tennis

Big Spring at Tall City Invitational, Midland.
Forsan hosts Junior Varsity Tennis Tournament.

FRIDAY

Softball

Big Spring at West Texas Classic, Midland, TBA.
Coahoma at West Texas Classic, Midland, TBA.
Forsan at Lubbock Christian High School

See **SPORTS**, Page 12

Donald's early exit a surprise

World No. 1 ousted at Match Play Championship

By **DOUG FERGUSON**

AP Golf Writer

MARANA, Ariz. — The good Tiger Woods knocked in a 50-foot birdie putt and drove onto the par-4 15th green, both times to erase a deficit. The bad Tiger Woods took three trips into the desert to lose the hole, once having to hit a shot left-handed.

After all these adventures, Woods had no trouble picking the most important shot he had Wednesday in the Match Play Championship.

"Probably the putt on 18," he said.

It was an 8-foot putt up the hill. It gave him a par, and a hard-earned win over Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano in the opening round. And it allowed him to return Thursday to Dove Mountain, the only objective at this

wild tournament.

Luke Donald won't have that privilege.

For the first time since he first qualified for this World Golf Championship in 2005, the world's No. 1 player was beaten in the first round. There is no such thing as an upset, not even for the No. 1 seed, given the 18-hole No. 1 and the quality of players.

Even so, not many saw this coming.

Only a year ago, Donald turned in the most dominant performance ever in the Match Play Championship. He never trailed the entire week, and none of his matches ever reached the 18th hole.

Turns out Donald won't be playing the 18th hole this week, either.

He never led against Ernie Els,

and started dropping shots in bundles on the back nine until it was time to remove his cap and shake hands on the 14th green.

Els won, 5 and 4, becoming only the third No. 64 seed to win a match since this event began in 1999. Peter O'Malley beat Woods in 2002 at La Costa, and Ross McGowan defeated Steve Stricker two years ago at Dove Mountain.

"I don't think it would have mattered who I played today. I just didn't play well," Donald said. "I struggled. I gave away too many holes and made too many mistakes. You can't do that in match play against anyone, let alone Ernie."

Donald, coming off a year in which he became the first player to capture the money title on

See **MATCH**, Page 12

Ex lacrosse player found guilty of murder

By **STEVE SZKOTAK**

Associated Press

CHARLOTTEVILLE, Va. — In a trial that revealed the lives of elite athletes at a top-notch school, a former University of Virginia lacrosse player faces 26 years in prison for the beating death of his former girlfriend amid a swirl of betrayal, distrust, anger and a culture of drinking.

The prosecutor who meticulously and methodically constructed

the case against George Huguely V in the May 3, 2010, beating death of Yeardley Love spoke glumly late Wednesday about a trial that put on display a much-diminished athlete and the horrific injuries he inflicted upon the young woman he professed to love. It played out before two families shattered by the experience.

"There's nothing to make good the terrible tragedy done to the Love family," prosecutor Dave Chapman said

under an umbrella in a drenching rain outside the courthouse. "We hope they feel some solace."

Jurors deliberated about nine hours before returning a verdict on the murder count, then recommended that Huguely serve 25 years. The maximum prison term for second-degree murder is 40 years.

The 24-year-old defendant from Chevy Chase, Md., could have received a life term if convicted of first-degree murder. He

also was found guilty of grand larceny, with the jury recommending one year in prison.

Circuit Judge Edward Hogshire set an April court date for sentencing matters before formal sentencing, expected to be held in summer. He is not bound by the jury's recommendations, but Virginia judges typically heed jurors' wishes.

Huguely was found not guilty of four oth-

See **MURDER**, Page 12

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PART TIME position available for "Handy Man". Need to paint, mud & tape and minor carpentry work. Mon.-Fri.. Call (432)267-8310.

PART-TIME MAINT Tech needed for property in Big Spring. Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. 20 hrs/week plus Vacation. Fax resume to (432)264-1761.



Pediatric Private Duty Nurse needed in Big Spring for growing department!! Part-time, Night position available.

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NOW HIRING COOKS. MUST BE AVAILABLE DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

THE SALVATION Army boys & girls club is seeking Program Coordinator Monday-Friday. Child development experience necessary. Apply at 811 West 5th.

Help Wanted

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RUSSELL CELLULAR in Big Spring Texas is hiring for a store manager and wireless sales representatives. To learn more about Russell Cellular and to apply please go to: www.careerbuilder.com
Keyword Search: Russell Cellular

RUSTY'S OILFIELD Service in Stanton has immediate openings for Mechanic, CDL Driver, Roustabout Pushers and Helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

Secretary/ Receptionist with Quick Book experience preferred, but will train. Salary DOE. Please send resume/application to P.O. Box 2684, Big Spring TX. 79721.

TRUCK DRIVER

Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. The position requires high school diploma or equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:

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Help Wanted

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

Physical Requirements: Must be in general good health and vision must be correctable to 20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye. The ability to distinguish basic colors is required. Emotional and mental stability is required.
Other Requirements: Must be able to pass State and Federal Backgrounds and Credit Checks.

Experience Requirements: One year (2040) hours of experience in the armed forces or coast guard which involved significant performance of guard duty of detainees or prisoners; or the equivalent experience in a federal, state, or local government, or private organization which involved protecting/police duties, or college level training in courses such as corrections or police science may be substituted for experience at the ratio of two hours of instructions for one hour of experience.
Apply at Workforce Center (1001 Birdwell Ln., Howard College- Charles Warren Bld. 106), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

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3312 AUBURN- 3 Bedroom, 1 bath. Needs fixing up \$22,500. Call (432)267-1000.

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Owner Finance 1510 Sunset 3 bed 1.5 bath, detached garage. \$40k Call 325-277-4923.

Legals

Open-House Style Public Meeting Texas Rural Transportation Plan 2035

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, will host an open-house style public meeting for the development of the Texas Rural Transportation Plan 2035. This plan will identify the transportation needs for all modes in rural Texas through 2035. In addition, the plan will include a prioritized list of highway projects that will allow TxDOT to focus its limited planning funds on the most needed highway projects.

The purpose of this meeting is to present the criteria and process used to evaluate the highway projects, the findings for the non-highway modes, and to solicit comments and input to aid in the further development of the plan. Information will be available for viewing at the meetings including exhibits and handouts about the status and results of the study. Representatives from TxDOT will be in attendance to discuss the development of the plan and answer questions. Forms will be provided for submitting written comments.

The open-house style public meeting in the Abilene District area will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2012 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the TxDOT Sweetwater Maintenance Office located at 7526 North I-20, Sweetwater, Texas 79556. Information regarding additional meeting locations throughout the state can be found at www.txdot.gov key word: rural plan 2035 or by calling the project's toll-free information line at 1-855-TX-RURAL (1-855-897-8725).

For those unable to attend the open-house style public meeting, written comments can be submitted on the project website at: www.txdot.gov key word: transportation plan 2035; by email at: TPP_txtranplan@dot.state.tx.us or by mail to: Peggy Thurin, P.E., Project Manager, Texas Rural Transportation Plan 2035, 4544 Post Oak Place, Suite 224, Houston, Texas, 77027.

Persons with special communication or accommodation needs may call Blair Haynie, P.E., CFM, at (325)676-6810 for assistance. Requests should be made no later than three days prior to the meeting. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate needs. #7263 February 23, 2012

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Legals

Notice of Proposed Acquisition of Certain Bank Assets And Assumption of Liabilities

Notice is hereby given that The Pecos County State Bank, Fort Stockton, Texas has made application to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for its written consent to acquire certain assets of and to assume certain liabilities to pay deposits made in the Van Horn, Texas branch (located at 1800 W. Broadway) of Western Bank, Coahoma, Texas. Following consummation of this transaction, The Pecos County State Bank will operate the above mentioned location as a branch of The Pecos County State Bank. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director (DOS) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at 1601 Bryan Street, Dallas, TX 75201 no later than 30 days after notice. The non-confidential portions of the application are on file in the Regional Office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application will be made available upon request. #7264 February 9, 16 & 23, 2012

Legals

Sale of Vehicles

The Howard County Appraisal District, 315 S. Main Street, Big Spring, Texas will accept sealed Bid proposals for the sale of one (1) 2001 Nissan Xterra for a minimum bid of \$4,500. The odometer mileage reads 70,830, or; one (1) 2005 Ford Truck, for a minimum bid of \$8,000. The odometer mileage reads 99,700. Sealed bids will be accepted until 3:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 14, 2012. Sealed bids will be opened at the Howard County Appraisal District Board of Directors regular meeting on Wednesday, March 14, 2012.

The vehicles will be sold "as is" without any warranty. The vehicles can be seen at 315 S. Main Street, Big Spring, Texas weekdays between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. If you desire to bid on these vehicles, please send a sealed bid with the envelope clearly marked "BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF VEHICLE". Any bid received without being clearly marked will be rejected. Address your bid to: Howard County Appraisal District Board of Directors P.O. Box Drawer 1151 Big Spring, TX 79721-1151 OR bring it by 315 S. Main Street, Big Spring, Texas before 3:00 P.M. March 14, 2012. #7274 February 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, and 29, 2012

DON'T PAY to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.

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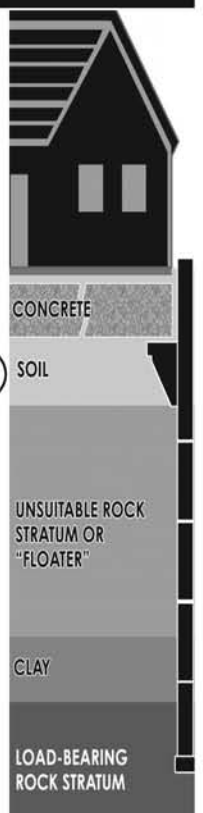
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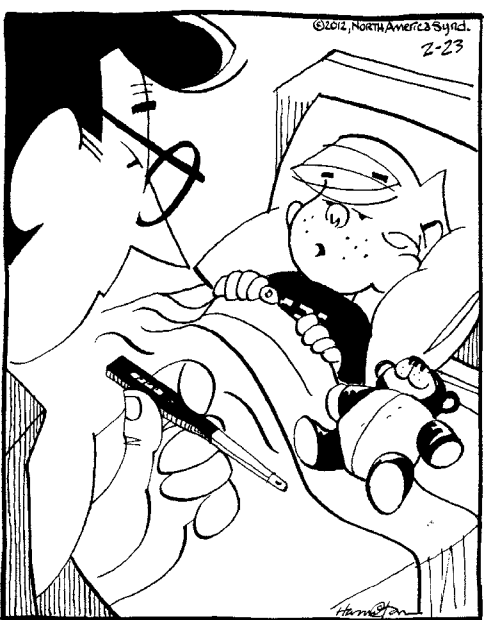


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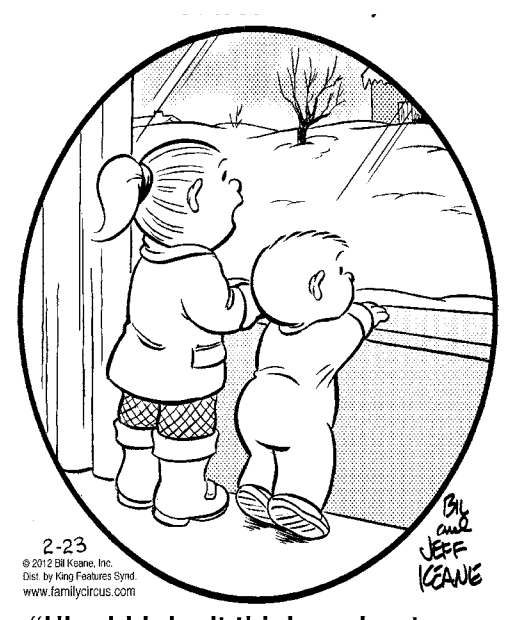
	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWTT (14)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)
3:30	Jag Juicy	Alma	Judge G.	CBS /	Noticias	Inside E.G.	Frierias	Acquire	Cyber	Til Death	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
5:30	News	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
6:30	Jeopardy!	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
7:30	Wipeout	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
8:30	Grey's Anatomy	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
9:30	Private Practice	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
10:30	Nightline	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
11:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
12:30	Extra	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon
1:30	AM Paid	Alma	Two Men	News	Noticias	News	King	Israel	Charlie Rose	King	Cash Cab	CSI: Miami	Jail	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Wizards	NFL32	Faraon

DENNIS THE MENACE



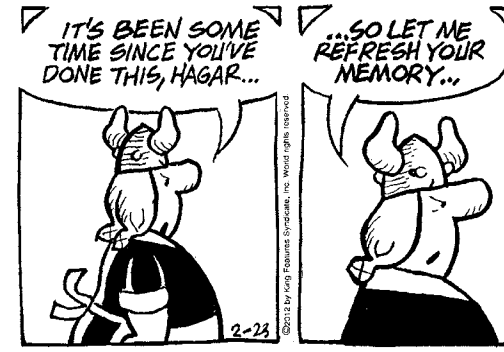
"If you took my temperature, when will I get it back?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Uh-oh! I don't think my boots are as deep as the snow."

HAGAR

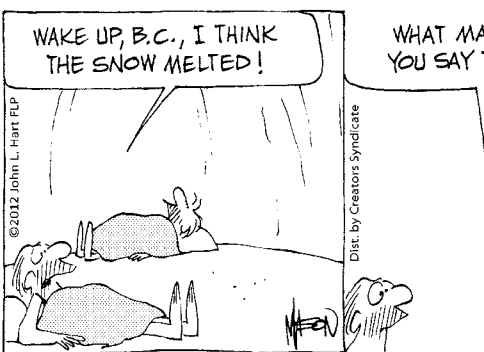


BLONDIE

HAGAR



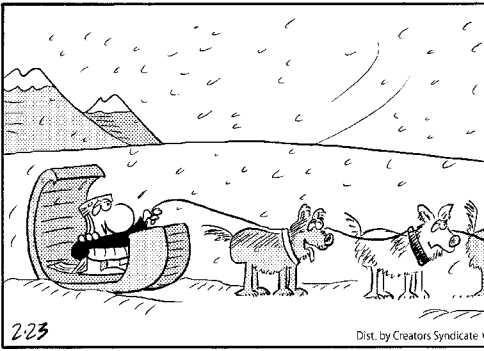
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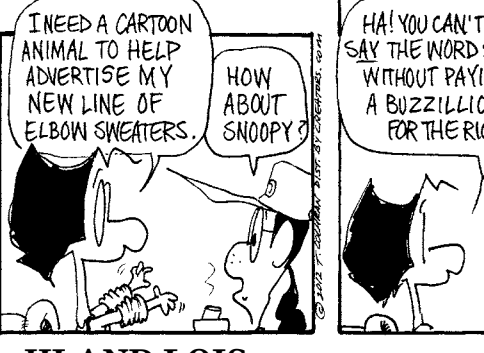
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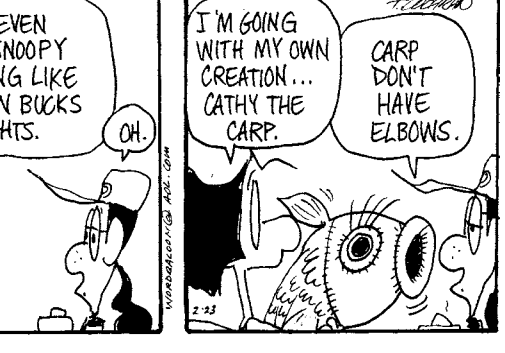
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



THE OTHER COAST



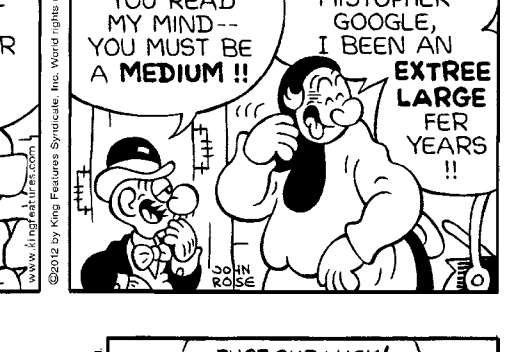
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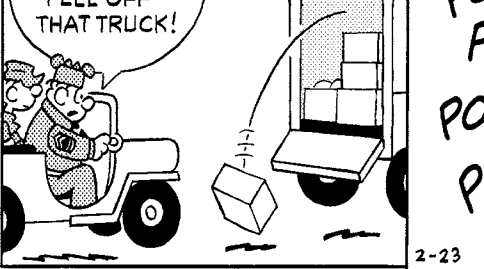
SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Feb. 23, the 54th day of 2012. There are 312 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 23, 1942, the first shelling of the U.S. mainland during World War II occurred as a Japanese submarine fired on an oil refinery near Santa Barbara, Calif., causing little damage.

On this date:

In 1685, composer George Frideric Handel was born in Germany.

In 1836, the siege of the Alamo began in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1848, the sixth president of the United States, John Quincy Adams, died in Washington, D.C., at age 80.

In 1861, President-elect Abraham Lincoln arrived secretly in Washington to take office, following word of a possible assassination plot in Baltimore.

In 1870, Mississippi was readmitted to the Union.

In 1927, President Calvin Coolidge signed a bill creating the Federal Radio Commission, forerunner of the Federal Communications Commission.

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima captured Mount Suribachi.

In 1954, the first mass inoculation of children against polio with the Salk vaccine began in Pittsburgh.

In 1965, film comedian Stan Laurel, 74, died in Santa Monica, Calif.

In 1970, Guyana became a republic within the Commonwealth of Nations.

In 1981, an attempted coup began in Spain as 200 members of the Civil Guard invaded Parliament, taking lawmakers hostage. (However, the attempt collapsed 18 hours later.)

In 1992, the XVI Winter Olympic Games ended in Albertville, France.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Peter Fonda is 72. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Fred Biletnikoff is 69. Author John Sandford is 68. Singer-musician Johnny Winter is 68. Country-rock musician Rusty Young is 66. Actress Patricia Richardson is 61. Rock musician Brad Whitford (Aerosmith)

is 60. Singer Howard Jones is 57. Rock musician Michael Wilton (Queensryche) is 50. Country singer Dusty Drake is 48. Actress Kristin Davis is 47. Tennis player Helena Sukova is 47. Actor Marc Price is 44. Rock musician Jeff Beres (Sister Hazel) is 41. Rock musician Lasse (loss) Johansson (The Cardigans) is 39. Actress Kelly Macdonald is 36. Actress Emily Blunt is 29. Actor Aziz Ansari is 29. Actress Dakota Fanning is 18.

Thought for Today: "Men are more often bribed by their loyalties and ambitions than by money." — Robert H. Jackson, U.S. Supreme Court Justice (1892-1954).

Answer to previous puzzle

DOME	BOSS	PLANT
AVID	ANTI	ROVER
BANE	BEAK	EMORY
LINE	IN THE SAND	
XED	BEN	
PAINTS	DEBT	PTA
ADDER	FREE	BOIL
THE SAME	OLD	GRIND
COAT	ILLS	RANGE
HCL	FALL	OUSTER
SAM	APE	
INCLINED	PLANE	
SNOT	OREO	MERE
ANTONE	RIPS	IRIS
POKER	METE	DONT

Newsday Crossword

TAKE TWO by David W. Cromer
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Be in a cast
 - 4 Like gymnasts
 - 9 Neglect to include
 - 13 A question of method
 - 14 Betrays eager anticipation
 - 16 Apple or pear
 - 17 Inventor Whitney
 - 18 DNA's shape
 - 20 Chanted words
 - 22 Renowned
 - 23 Filmmakers' family name
 - 24 Rat race
 - 25 Lone Ranger's farewell
 - 27 Settle accounts
 - 28 Cameron neighbor
 - 32 Badminton gear
 - 33 Hoo-ha
 - 35 Image receiver
 - 36 Smooth-talking
 - 38 Reeves of Speed
 - 40 Oklahoma city
 - 41 Very
 - 43 Percussion instrument
 - 45 Highly skilled one
 - 46 Pine product
 - 47 "Spanking" condition
 - 48 Not as common
 - 50 Dragged from behind
 - 52 Sanctified
 - 53 Carnivorous plant
 - 56 Giant of French modern art
 - 59 Attachment on some mufflers
 - 61 Train or truck or tractor
 - 62 Tractor on a map
 - 63 Summon stentoriously
 - 64 Costs

- 65 Chaz Bono's mom
 - 66 One of the Celtic nations
 - 67 Obviously abashed
- DOWN
- 1 Throat-clearing sound
 - 2 Liter-bottle buy
 - 3 Minneapolis and St. Paul
 - 4 Give an oration to
 - 5 Bad-joke response
 - 6 Letters from debtors
 - 7 High-arching shot
 - 8 Queen of mysteries
 - 9 Ball club's day off
 - 10 Counterspy
 - 11 Poker declaration
 - 12 Part of a cell-phone service plan
 - 15 Highway hauler
 - 19 Depend (on)
 - 21 Overly
 - 24 Not parked outdoors
 - 25 Wrath
 - 26 Do research
 - 27 Slapstick projectile
 - 29 Sirius, for instance
 - 30 Out of action
 - 31 Public Citizen cofounder
 - 34 It may stop a fight
 - 35 Operate
 - 37 More likely to crumble
 - 39 Immediately
 - 42 Nighttime noise
 - 44 Picturesque caves
 - 47 Dewey, to Donald
 - 49 Three-time heavyweight champ
 - 51 Like some fake fruit
 - 52 Rashness
 - 53 Bank acct. guarantor
 - 54 Luxurious
 - 55 New Haven institution
 - 56 Consider, with "over"
 - 57 Filled with
 - 58 Examined
 - 60 Just like

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MURDER

Continued from Page 7

er charges, including breaking and entering and burglary. Jurors could have returned lesser verdicts of involuntary or voluntary manslaughter.

Huguely, pale and 30 or more pounds lighter from his playing days on U.Va.'s nationally recognized lacrosse team, cast his gaze downward during sentencing as Love's mother and sister told jurors of their lives since Love's death.

Sharon Love tearfully testified that her daughter's death was an "unbearable" tug on her life. "Every year that goes by I'd like to know what she'd be doing now," she said.

Love's sister, Lexie, 28, described painful reminders of her kid sister's absence.

"A song will come on the radio and I'll just burst out in tears," she said, sobbing. Her sister's death, she said, "left a large hole and nothing will fill it."

In a statement, the Love family said the

passing of time has not eased the sorrow of her loss.

The defense did not present any witnesses at the sentencing hearing.

"No person is the sum of the worst decision he ever made," one of Huguely's defense attorneys, Rhonda Quagliana, told jurors before they began deliberating his punishment.

After comforting Huguely inside the courthouse, co-defense counsel Francis McQ. Lawrence said he was disappointed by the jury's verdict.

MATCH

Continued from Page 7

the PGA Tour and the European Tour, has not finished among the top 30 in the three tournaments he has played this year. The last time that happened was in August 2009.

"It's a terrible ride home, believe me," said Els, who has lost five times in the opening round. "I feel for Luke. He's got a lot of pressure on him. Yeah, I know exactly what it feels like."

Matteo Manassero decided to approach this week with no pressure at all. That changed when he build a

3-up lead on Webb Simpson, then had a string of one-putts on the back nine for birdies and par to hold him off.

Everyone feels pressure at some point.

Rory McIlroy was feeling it right after Donald left the course. The U.S. Open champion seized control by winning four straight holes, and he was 3 up with three holes to play. Then came a bogey on the 16th, and the 17th. Suddenly, he was 1 up and playing the 18th hole against George Coetzee, and he popped up his tee shot that made par a challenge.

Luckily for McIlroy, his opponent failed to take advantage.

SPORTS

Continued from Page 7

tournament, TBA.

Howard College at Temple Classic, TBA.

Baseball

Big Spring at Lubbock Cooper tournament, TBA.

Forsan at Albany tournament, TBA.

Boy's basketball

Stanton vs. Childress, Class 2A area playoff, 6:30 p.m., Abernathy.

Grady vs. Petersburg, Class 1A Div. II area playoff, 6:30 p.m., Post.

Garden City vs. Fort Davis, Class 1A Div. II area playoff, 6:30 p.m., Imperial.

Lubbock Coronado vs. San Angelo Central, Class 5A area playoff, 6 p.m., Garrett Coliseum.

Denton Ryan vs. El Paso Riverside, Class 4A area playoff, 6 p.m., Big Spring High School.

Rankin vs. Bronte, Class 1A Div. II playoff, 8 p.m., Garrett Coliseum.

Golf

Big Spring boys at Midland tournament.

Big Spring girls at Sweetwater tournament.

Forsan girls at Denver City tournament.

Tennis

Forsan hosts Varsity Tennis Tournament.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 235, or e-mail reporter@bigspring-herald.com

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