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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2012**



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 115

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

## RENOVATIONS CONTINUE AT AUDITORIUM



**Construction continues at the Municipal Auditorium. Workers continue to make renovations to make the facility ADA accessible and are currently working on the east side exterior.**



HERALD photos/  
 Amanda Moreno



## Man who dumped son insane, Judge Harrison decides

### Herald Staff Report

SWEETWATER, Texas — A man who said voices told him to kill his 4-year-old son has been found not guilty of attempted capital murder by reason of insanity. State District Judge Glen Harrison made the ruling Monday and ordered Carlos Rico to be committed to the maximum security North Texas State Hospital in Vernon for examination. According to documents, Rico will be returned to a Nolan County courtroom within 30 days for assessment of his mental progress, at which time Judge Harrison will decide whether to keep him hospitalized. Sweetwater coach Al Hunt found the young boy, Angel,

on the side of Interstate 20 outside of Sweetwater in the early morning hours of June 28, 2011. Rico, who was eventually arrested in Saginaw, north of Fort Worth, told authorities he had choked the boy and left him for dead after "voices" told him to do so. Rico was arrested and later indicted on charges of endangering a child, injury to a child and attempted capital murder. Authorities said when Angel was found, he had more than 500 cactus spines in his body. Monday, a psychiatrist testified in court that Rico had had a psychotic episode when he tried to strangle his son. Testimony also indicated that Rico's mother was diagnosed with schizophrenia.

# Did you file a 2008 income tax return? If not, you could be in for extra cash

By **THOMAS JENKINS**  
 Staff Writer

According to local tax officials, some area residents may have a rather sizable refund coming to them — they just aren't aware of it. Refunds totaling more than \$1 billion may be waiting for as many as 1 million people throughout the nation who did not file a federal income tax return for 2008, according to AARP Tax-Aide Coordinator Ray Alexander. However, any hope of collecting that money will vanish in April.

"To collect the money, a return for 2008 must be filed with the IRS no later than Tuesday, April 17," Alexander explained. "The IRS estimates that half of these potential 2008 refunds are \$637 or more. "Some people may not have filed because they had too little income to require filing a tax return even though they had taxes withheld from their wages or made quarterly estimated payments. In cases where a return was not filed, the law provides most taxpayers with a three-year window

of opportunity for claiming a refund. If no return is filed to claim a refund within three years, the money becomes property of the U.S. Treasury." For 2008 returns, the window closes on April 17. The law requires the return be properly addressed, mailed and postmarked by that date. There is no penalty for filing a late return qualifying for a refund, according to Alexander. "Taxpayers seeking a 2008 refund should remember their checks may be held if

they have not filed tax returns for 2009 and 2010," Alexander advised. "In addition, the refund will be applied to any amounts still owed to the IRS, and may be used to offset unpaid child support or past due federal debts such as student loans. "By failing to file a return, people stand to lose more than refunds of taxes withheld or paid during 2008. Some people, especially those who did not receive an economic stimulus payment in 2008,

may qualify for the Recovery Rebate Credit." In addition, Alexander said many low-and moderate-income workers may not have claimed the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC helps individuals and families whose incomes are below certain thresholds. The thresholds for 2008 were: — \$38,646 (\$41,646 if married filing jointly) for those with two or more qualifying

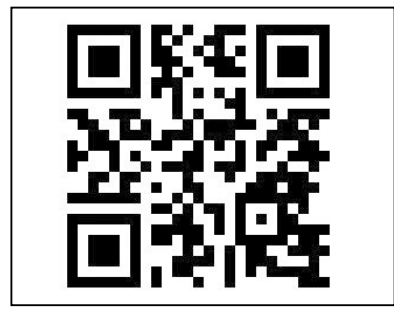
See **IRS**, Page 3

## ASB merges with Prosperity

Lubbock-based American State Bank announced Monday it would merge with a Houston-based regional financial holding company. For the first time in its 64-

year history, American State Bank will merge with a larger bank as it joins with Prosperity Bank to create the largest

See **ASB**, Page 3



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# Obituaries

## Felipe Lerma Villa

Felipe Lerma Villa, 69, of Big Spring, died Saturday, Feb. 25, 2012, at his daughter's residence. Vigil services will be 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2012, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 29, 2012, at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born March 12, 1942, in Big Spring, Texas, and worked for Dr. Pepper Bottling Company for 38 years, retiring in 2005. He was a member of the civil rights group "The Brown Berets" and coached baseball for much of his family. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Parish.

Survivors include four daughters, Viola Villareal and husband Manuel Perez of Big Spring, Carmen Estrada and husband Carlos and Nancy Villa, all of Stanton, and Veronica Perez and husband Carlos of Big Spring; three sons, Henry Villa of Midland, Luis Villa of Stanton and Richard Villa and wife Viola of Big Spring; one brother, Domingo Villa of Midland; one sister, Rosa Bustamante of Big Spring; 16 grandchildren, Eric Agurrie, Christopher Villa, Adam Villa, Jacob Villa, Michelle Villa, Leonardo Enrique Arras, Monica Estrada, Jonathan Estrada, Kathryn Estrada, Manuel Hernandez, Roxie Sykes, Julia Villa, Rico Villa, Brandi Villa, Eryn Villa and Isaac Perez; 14 great-grandchildren, Felisha Agurrie, Eric Agurrie Jr., Carisma Agurrie, Adam Agurrie, Isaac Agurrie, Isaiah Hinojosa, Aubrey Villa, Ava Villa, Keyden Villa, Mikaela Vasquez, Arianna Vasquez, Marissa Vasquez, Mackenzie Estrada and Bella Sykes; and one great-great-grandson, Nathaniel Contreras.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Enrique and Blasa Lerma Villa; a daughter, Cruz Villa; a grandson, Henry Villa Jr.; a sister, Filomena Hernandez; and a brother, Ramon Villa.

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

*Paid obituary*

## Police

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

- RENE SALAZAR-PEREZ, 26, of 610 S. Douglas St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- LANCE BRANDEN LOVELACE, 40, of 410 W. Cuthbert Apt. F, Odessa, was arrested Monday on charges of unlawfully carrying a weapon, evading arrest/detention, resist arrest search or transport deadly weapon and failure to identify giving false/fictitious info.
- BIANCA CHRISTINE RODRIGUEZ, 22, of 820 W. Eighth, was arrested Monday on a warrant for no drivers license when unlicensed and fail to appear.
- ANTONIO JESSE ESCAMILLA, 28, of 2010 Loop Rd, was arrested Monday on a warrant for no drivers license when unlicensed.
- HARASSMENT was reported: In the 1500 block of Vines Avenue.
- In the 3400 block of Old C-City Highway.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 800 block of S. Aylesford Street.
- THEFT was reported in the 300 block of Tulane Avenue.

## Police

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 69 inmates at the time of this report.
- ANTONIO JESSE ESCAMILLA, 28, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on a charge of no drivers license.
  - LANCE BRANDON LOVELACE, 40, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on charges of resist arrest search or transport deadly weapon, unlawful carrying weapon, evading arrest detention, fail to identify giving false/fictitious information.

## Janet Sue Harrington

Janet Sue Harrington, 58, of Big Spring died Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012, at her residence.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 29, 2012, at Mount Olive Memorial Park with Maj. Orville Chambless of the Salvation Army officiating.

She was born April 4, 1953, to Margaret (Becker) Atwell and Melvin Atwell in Big Spring, Texas. She grew up in Big Spring, graduating from Big Spring High School. She married Donnie Harrington and he preceded her in death. She retired from the Texas School Book Depository in Austin. She returned to Big Spring in 2008. She volunteered at the Salvation Army and was involved in other charities. She was family oriented.

She is survived by two grandsons: Adam and Anthony Stuckert of Big Spring; one aunt; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, a grandson and a sister, Shirley Atwell.

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

## Cynthia Kay Watts

Cynthia Kay Watts, 68, of San Angelo passed away Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012, at a local hospital. Family visitation will be from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 1, 2012, at Johnson's Funeral Home. The service will follow at 3 p.m. in Johnson's Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Nathaniel Hankins of First United Methodist Church officiating. Cynthia is survived by her brother, Michael Francis; and daughter, Amber Alexander of San Angelo; son, Todd Beckham of Conroe, Texas; and daughter Shauna Flett of Entiat, Wash.

## Deidra Whatley

Deidra Whatley, 84, of Bandera, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 27, 2012 at Bandera Rehabilitation and Health Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Ruben David Thomas

Ruben David Thomas, 85, of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 27, 2012 at Hospice House in Odessa. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of S. Gregg. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1800 block of Gregg. Service refused.
- FALSE ALARM was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Boulevard.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. Unknown transported.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1300 block of Wood. Unknown transported.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Douglas. One person was transported to SMMC.

Keep up to date on local news by visiting [www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)

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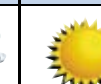
**C.E. Mike Thomas**  
Attorney at Law

c.e.mikethomas@gmail.com

432-263-4142  
501 Gregg St.  
Big Spring, Tx.

## Today's Weather

### Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 2/29	Thu 3/1	Fri 3/2	Sat 3/3	Sun 3/4
				
<b>80/42</b>	<b>77/45</b>	<b>80/50</b>	<b>67/34</b>	<b>64/40</b>
Cloudy early with partial sunshine expected late. High near 80F.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 40s.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	Windy with a few clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	Sunshine. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:15 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:43 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:14 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:43 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:13 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:44 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:12 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:45 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:10 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:46 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	75	45	t-storm	Kingsville	83	68	cloudy
Amarillo	67	33	windy	Livingston	75	64	t-storm
Austin	76	61	t-storm	Longview	73	64	t-storm
Beaumont	73	66	t-storm	Lubbock	71	37	pt sunny
Brownsville	82	69	pt sunny	Lufkin	75	65	t-storm
Brownwood	76	52	t-storm	Midland	80	44	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	77	68	t-storm	Raymondville	84	67	pt sunny
Corsicana	71	56	t-storm	Rosenberg	75	67	t-storm
Dallas	72	55	t-storm	San Antonio	80	63	t-storm
Del Rio	76	60	t-storm	San Marcos	77	62	t-storm
El Paso	67	39	windy	Sulphur Springs	71	60	t-storm
Fort Stockton	83	44	windy	Sweetwater	77	44	rain
Gainesville	68	47	t-storm	Tyler	72	62	t-storm
Greenville	69	54	t-storm	Weatherford	70	48	t-storm
Houston	75	67	t-storm	Wichita Falls	70	43	t-storm

### National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	67	55	pt sunny	Minneapolis	32	31	mixed
Boston	45	27	mst sunny	New York	47	36	sunny
Chicago	42	38	mixed	Phoenix	57	39	sunny
Dallas	72	55	t-storm	San Francisco	53	47	mst sunny
Denver	46	29	mixed	Seattle	47	37	rain
Houston	75	67	t-storm	St. Louis	57	52	rain
Los Angeles	60	42	sunny	Washington, DC	55	41	sunny
Miami	82	69	t-storm				

### Moon Phases



### UV Index

Wed 2/29	Thu 3/1	Fri 3/2	Sat 3/3	Sun 3/4
6	6	6	6	7
High	High	High	High	High

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

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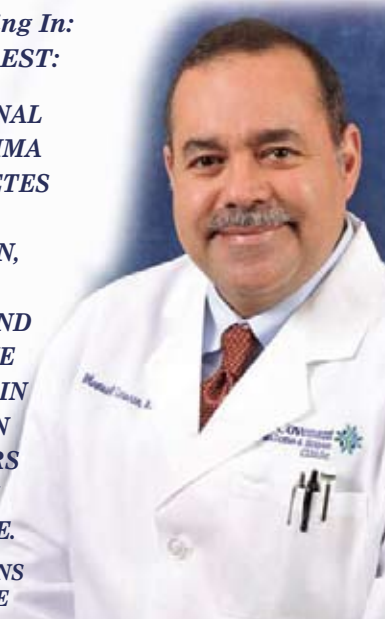
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## Take Note

• An account has been established at American State Bank to help defray medical expense for Brad "Ghost" Ugstad, a local resident who was severely injured in a motorcycle accident. All donations will be appreciated.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• As the 8th annual Powwow is coming near, organizers are seeking people interested in native American culture. The group is a family oriented organization that is looking to expand. You do not have to be native American to join. For comments, questions and answers, call Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125 or Connie Lesser at 432-816-6772.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and get two for one plus a rehab meeting.

• American Cancer Society will have its board meetings at noon on the second Tuesday of the month through April. Lunch will be furnished. Meetings will take place at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh.

• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Training will be provided and geared to your time frame. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Every 10 years, Texas requires that marks and brands be re-registered in the county or counties in which you operate. The re-registration period began Aug. 31 and runs through Feb. 29, 2012. At the conclusion date, all marks and brands that have not been re-registered are automati-

cally available for registration by another party. For additional information, contact the Howard County Clerk's Office at 264-2214 or 264-2213.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help. We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

• The Salvation Army is holding its annual heater drive and is in need of heaters. Community members can donate new or used heaters. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

• The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Free free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

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

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

don't want to. Flexible payment options.

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

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

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

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment.

Contact Marci Lykken at 267-2915 or the local ACS office at 432-683-6375.

## Support Groups

**TUESDAY**  
• Big Spring Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for those with Parkinson's Disease, Young Onset Parkinson's, caregivers, and those interested in learning more about the illness. There is time for socializing and information. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jody at 432-699-6640 or [midlandparkinsons@yahoo.com](mailto:midlandparkinsons@yahoo.com) or Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-2732.

• Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or [kerrirosenbaum9488@msn.com](mailto:kerrirosenbaum9488@msn.com)

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
• RSD (Reflex Symptomatic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**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.

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

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

**SATURDAY**  
• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month.

## IRS

Continued from Page 1

children  
— \$33,995 (\$36,995 if married filing jointly) for people with one qualifying child, and

— \$12,880 (\$15,880 if married filing jointly) for those with no qualifying children.

"Current and prior year tax forms and instructions are available on the Forms and Publications page of [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) or by calling toll-free 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676). Taxpay-

ers who are missing Forms W-2, 1098, 1099 or 5498 for 2008, 2009 or 2010 should request copies from their employer, bank or other payer," Alexander said. "If these efforts are unsuccessful, taxpayers can get a free transcript showing information from these year-

end documents by ordering it on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov), filing Form 4506-T, or by calling 800-908-9946."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@big-springherald.com](mailto:citydesk@big-springherald.com)

## ASB

Continued from Page 1

bank focused solely on Texas, pending stockholder and regulatory approval as early as July.

The American State Bank name will change to Prosperity Bank once the deal is accepted.

Already approved by the board of directors by both companies, the deal is valued at \$529.2 million, according to a PowerPoint presentation on the merger posted on Prosperity's website.

The deal marks Prosperity Bank's fourth merger and acquisition since early December. It acquired East Texas Financial Services in

December, and Texas Bankers Inc. in Austin and The Bank of Arlington, both in January.

The acquisitions will bring Prosperity's assets to \$14 billion.

"It is good news," said W.R. Collier, chairman and chief executive officer of American State Bank since 1974.

American State Bank is coming off its 15th straight year of record profits.

Collier said the merger will give customers more banking options with 215 banking centers across the state. In the Big Country, American State Bank has branches in Big Spring, Brownwood, Cisco, Comanche, Early, Gorman, Merkel and Snyder.

"It means for our cus-

tomers that they will be dealing with the same people they've been dealing with all along," Collier said. "This enhances our relationship with Abilene customers. For instance, if an Abilene customer has business in Houston, or Dallas, it just makes sense. (Our banks) will be all over."

Under the merger agreement terms, Prosperity will issue as much as 8,525,000 shares of Prosperity common stock plus \$178.5 million in cash for all outstanding shares of American State Financial Corp.

capital stock, according to a news release.

According to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp, American State Bank had a 15-percent market share in Abilene in June 2011, the latest statistics available.

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It ranks as the second largest bank in Abilene behind First Financial which had a 48-percent market share.

— Ethan Fowler, Education Reporter, Abilene Reporter News

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Janet Sue Harrington, 58, died Sunday. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Deidra Whatley, 84, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Ruben David Thomas, 85, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Sunday 10:00 AM.-5:00 PM

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

With You, Lord, our consistent and diligent efforts will pay off.

Amen

# Racial preferences in college admissions: Time to get going

Nothing the Supreme Court deals with is not political. But a case over affirmative action in college admissions has arrived at an especially political time. This is an election year. Working-class whites are considered swing voters, and the president running for re-election is both African-American and a beneficiary of the finest higher education our country offers. Come early fall, the Supreme Court will probably hear a case in which a white student, Abigail Fisher, claims that a race-conscious policy for admissions to the University of Texas violated her constitutional rights.

The case, Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin, centers on the 14th Amendment guaranteeing equal protection. A resident of Sugar Land, Texas, Fisher now attends Louisiana State University.

As for President Obama — regardless of whether affirmative action served him, he clearly had the right stuff. Obama graduated from Harvard Law School magna cum laude and runs a highly competent presidency in tough economic times. If anything, he'd be an argument for affirmative action. Nonetheless, I hope the Supreme Court declares an end to race- and ethnicity-based preferences, and pushes the whole matter out of our lives.

## Christian conservatives are guarding the religious liberty

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution contains two clauses addressing religious liberty: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

It's a shame that in their modern misguided zeal to read the first clause as mandating a complete separation of church and state, liberals do great damage to the second clause and defeat the overarching purpose of both: ensuring religious liberty.

Ever since the so-called Christian right began its organized activism during the 1980s, liberals (and some others) have become increasingly nervous about (and critical of) Christian influence in politics, let alone the public square.

This issue has reared its controversial head during the Republican presidential primary because of candidate Rick Santorum's unashamed and outspoken commitment to his Catholic faith and Christian values. It's not just leftists who are complaining; many on the right are, as well.

For years, there has been an uneasy alliance inside the Republican "big tent," between those who embrace social conservatism and those who would just as soon see it deleted from the party platform. With our anxiety about the national debt, economic issues are naturally at the forefront of people's concerns. Some believe that those who are still articulating social issues in this period of crisis are at least annoying and possibly detrimental to the cause of electing a Republican who can build a wide enough coalition to defeat the primary culprit in America's race to bankruptcy: President Barack Obama.

I think it's a false choice to say that we conservatives must pick between economic issues

If Republicans have a pulse, they'll be whipping up resentments among working-class whites hit hard by the new economy. In recent years, Democrats have wisely moved away from specifically helping "minorities" to helping the middle class. This case could breathe life into an old wedge issue Democrats thought was mostly over.

Twelve years ago, two liberal scholars produced an important book titled, "Why the White Working Class Still Matters: America's Forgotten Majority." Authors Ruy Teixeira and Joel Rogers urged Democrats to trade race-based programs for class-based ones. They held that economically depressed whites, a group that includes office and retail workers, saw their values of equality, fairness and reward for effort under attack in racial preferences.

And politics aside, they had a point.

"It is very difficult intellectually," Teixeira and Rogers wrote, "to justify giving a break of hundreds of points on SAT scores to the daughter of upper-middle-class, highly educated blacks and giving nothing remotely similar to the daughter of poor white high school dropouts."

Since then, America's churning demographics have seen a flourishing black middle class and Latinos overtaking both whites and blacks in population growth. Asians, meanwhile, rapidly added to their numbers. The changes have been so fast that a 2003 Supreme Court decision seeking a middle ground on affirmative action may be obsolete.

In Grutter v. Bollinger, the

justices ruled 5 to 4 that the University of Michigan Law School could not use a point system to favor "disadvantaged minorities" but could consider race in efforts to achieve diversity. Writing for the majority opinion, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor speculated that attention to race would no longer be necessary 25 years hence.

But are they necessary in today's multiracial society? A class-based approach — giving preferences to students from low-income families — would disproportionately help poor minorities while not discriminating against others from similar circumstances.

The University of Texas had already gone some of the distance with its 10 percent rule: The top 10 percent of grads in every high school are automatically admitted. That benefits students from struggling district schools. Fisher placed below the 10 percent at her high school, which put her into another pool of applicants for which race became a factor.

If today's more conservative Supreme Court throws out racial preferences, that could be to the good. O'Connor was right that they should be temporary. Only her timing may have been off. And though Democrats may deem the case's timing unfortunate, they too should want this issue in their past.

To find out more about Froma Harrop, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).



FROMA HARROP



DAVID LIMBAUGH

and social ones. It's also a mistake to believe there is a clear dichotomy between economic conservatives and social conservatives. As I've written before, Reagan conservatism is a three-legged stool — economic, social and national defense issues — and the three are compatible and probably embraced by most Republicans.

Our center-right tent is big enough to include libertarians, economic conservatives who either are indifferent to social issues or consider themselves socially liberal, and so-called neoconservatives, who tend to emphasize national defense issues over the other two — although they might reject that characterization. We all must unite to defeat President Obama.

But with Santorum's rise in the polls, many are expressing their anxiety about his perceived religiosity and are depicting him as a threat to religious liberty.

Some are abuzz about his interview this past weekend with George Stephanopoulos on ABC's "This Week," in which Santorum stated that he does not believe separation of church and state is absolute.

He stated that the First Amendment's free exercise clause guarantees that the church and its members have as much right to try to influence policy as anyone else. And he's absolutely correct.

Not only are the words "separation of church and state" not contained in the Constitution but this phrase from Thomas Jefferson's letter to the Danbury Baptists does not mean what many people say it does.

The First Amendment's establishment clause says that Congress shall not establish a national church, because the Framers didn't want the government telling us whom or how to worship. Their overarching concern, then, was protecting religious liberty. The free exercise clause also strengthens the religious freedom guarantee.

The point is that both clauses are dedicated to religious liberty, and neither purports to ban religious expression from the public square or from the

mouths of public officials.

No matter how expansively one reads the First Amendment's establishment clause, no one, including Jefferson, would have made the ludicrous argument that presidents (or other public officials) must leave their worldview at the door of the White House and govern apart from it, as if that would be possible. Advocating policy positions based on one's worldview is light-years away from establishing — or even supporting — a national religion.

Christian conservatives are not the ones demonstrating intolerance and threatening the freedoms of religion and religious expression. They would never consider being so presumptuous and tyrannical as to try to silence those who disagree with them, ban them from the public square, or advance the spurious argument that they are not entitled to advocate policies based on their worldview.

Ironically, it is probably the secular left that is most responsible for the dramatic rise and persistent influence of the Christian political right in politics, with their gross judicial activism in abortion jurisprudence and their judicial tyranny coercing states to accept same-sex marriage against the will of the people. They are the ones who demonize as "homophobes" and "bigots" those seeking to preserve traditional marriage. Christian conservatives don't try to shut them up, but many are now trying to shut us up — through the specious application of the First Amendment, no less.

The last people anyone needs to fear on religious liberty are Christian conservatives, who are its strongest guardians. Above all others, they will fight to preserve everyone's right to express and practice his religion or non-religion as he pleases.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at [www.davidlimbaugh.com](http://www.davidlimbaugh.com). Visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).



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**Kid Scoop Together:**

**People Poetry**

Find a person in the newspaper that you admire and create a poem about that person using the poem formula below.

**Formula:**

Line 1: Tell who you are talking about.

Line 2: Describe the person with two adjectives connected by *and* or *but*.

Line 3: Use a verb and an adverb to show this person in a typical action.

Line 4: Create a comparison to show a special quality this person has.

Line 5: Use an *if only* phrase which expresses something you wish for regarding this person.

**Example:**

Fireman  
Strong and fearless  
Fighting courageously  
As brave as a gladiator  
If only I could be a hero.  
*By a sixth grader*

**Your Turn:**

Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3: \_\_\_\_\_

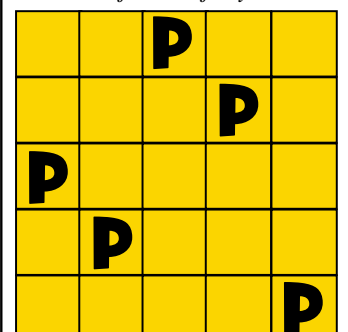
Line 4: As \_\_\_\_\_

as a \_\_\_\_\_

Line 5: If only \_\_\_\_\_

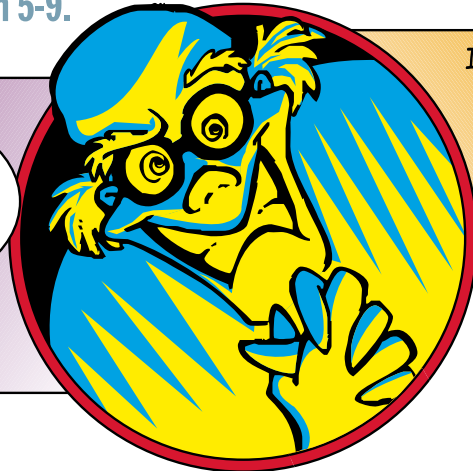
**Kid Scoo-doku™**

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word SUPER in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.



Newspaper in Education week is March 5-9.

THE PEOPLE OF ANYTOWN, USA  
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IT IS UP TO YOU TO RID ANYTOWN OF THE EVIL DOCTOR AND RETURN THE TREASURE TO ITS GOOD CITIZENS!

COMPLETE EACH OF THE NEWSPAPER ACTIVITIES ON THIS PAGE TO HELP THE TOWNSPEOPLE!

**Leap tall buildings in a single bound!**

Find a word from the newspaper that starts with each letter in the words on the building.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple directions, match initial sounds, read single and multi-syllabic words.



Here I come to save the day!

Kid Scoop readers are Super Readers!  
ZAP! your way through today's newspaper for a POW!erful good time!

**ME! A SUPER HERO!**

Look through the newspaper for five or more words that describe you. Glue the words to the cape. Draw your face.

Standards Link: Health: Develop a positive self image.



**Super Reader – Faster than a speeding train!**

Look through the newspaper for numbers to put on each box on the train so that the equation equals 100. (For younger Super Readers, look for numbers that add up to 10 or 20.)



**Extra! Extra!**

**FIND THE TREASURE!**

Find Anytown's treasure. Use the classified ads to find objects to help you get past each obstacle.

- A river filled with alligators.
- Ten vicious guard dogs.
- A bolted, locked steel door.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: skim and scan.

FEB \_ \_ ARY  
COL \_ R \_ \_ D \_ \_ S CALEND \_ R

**Conquer the Spelling Demons**

Look through the newspaper for the missing letters of these common spelling demons (above).

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Recognize and use knowledge of spelling patterns.

ANSWERS: COLOR, FEBRUARY, DOES, CALENDAR

**Cape Capers**



On a separate sheet of paper, use one letter from each of the three capes to make as many words as possible. Can you find these words in the newspaper? Can you find another word in the newspaper that rhymes with each word? Write the rhyming words next to your words.

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell 3 letter short vowel words correctly.

**Double Double Word Search**

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

- SPEEDING
- SUPER
- TREASURE
- ANYTOWN
- SINGLE
- TRAIN
- SAVE
- CAPE
- STOLEN
- LEAP
- DESERVE
- FIND
- READERS
- DOGS
- ZAP



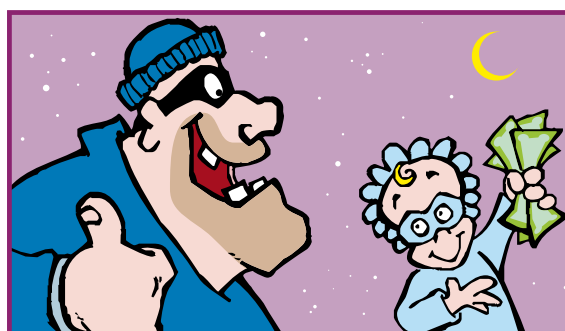
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognizing identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

**BEYOND Kid Scoop**

**You Earned a Vacation!**

Now that you have saved Anytown, USA from Dr. Duh, you deserve a vacation! Draw a picture of a suitcase and "pack" it with things you'd like to take, using pictures and words from the newspaper.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: follow multiple-step directions.



**What did the thief name his son?**

ANSWER: Robin.

**Write On!**

**Sell That Book**

What is your favorite book? Write a paragraph telling other kids why they should read it.



# Bird Poop: Flight of the hawk

Some days, the gray, February sky offered no relief from the monotony of winter. Outside her kitchen window, endless rows of plowed fields offered no relief.

With the next cold front she knew would come clouds of swirling dirt.

She and her husband had no choice but to plant a crop later in the spring that would probably never see a gin. As she wondered if the drought would ever end, she noticed the unexpected arrival of a large hawk atop a fence post near the house.

When her dogs started barking at the stranger, she opened the door. Startled, the bird flew parallel to the ground for about a hundred yards. After settling down upon the ground, the raptor quickly realized the dogs were becoming more brazen in their attempt to guard their home.

Taking flight again, the hawk rose about four feet off the ground. Then it set back down. Spreading its wings defensively, it leaned back on its rump. With feet extended and talons exposed, it cautioned the dogs to keep their distance.

Fortunately, her well-trained pets obeyed her shout to "Come here." When close enough, she grabbed their collars and walked them around the corner of the house. To the dogs, the clicks of their leashes meant they'd be spending some time tethered and away from their only amusement of the morning.

As she returned to the yard she noticed the hawk was in the same spot as when she left. Although it had closed its wings and was standing upright, it did not move as she walked to the back door

and entered the house.

Calling from Stanton, a woman related her surprise at having a large hawk land in her yard. "Seems to favor its left leg and is rather lethargic," she said. Since she was coming our way, she offered to deliver it.

In our driveway, she continued her story. Although the hawk had half-walked, half-hopped away from her, and flapped its wings in protest, she had been able to throw an old blanket over it. Making sure its feet were pointed away from her, she had carried it to a large dog carrier and ushered it inside.

Glancing into her container, Art and I realized how fortunate the woman had been. When healthy, an adult red-tailed hawk could be formidable. Obviously, the raptor was too weak to resist.

Its brown upper parts, creamy under parts, streaked belly, and rufous tail were typical of its species. While it was magnificent in coloration and size on the outside, we wondered about its inner struggles.

The delivery of the hawk had been timely. With an approaching arctic front and a forecast for sleet and snow, the woman could purchase her groceries and return home safely.

Underweight, the red-tail offered little resistance to our wrapping it in a towel. Force-feeding with a tube was difficult, but necessary. With each feeding, it wiggled and squirmed. In spite of the nutrition it was receiving, the raptor would stand stoically at the back of its carrier when the process was completed.

As the weather wors-



Courtesy photo

**Weighing two and a half to three pounds, the red-tailed hawk frequents open country, mountains, rangeland, and desert terrain. Its diet includes rabbits, mice, rats, snakes, and carrion.**

ened, delivery to the wildlife center in Lubbock was delayed. Although the bird seemed to stare holes through us in a zombie-like trance, it was making progress. Its returning strength was evident whenever we had to handle it.

Finally, solid food could be chanced. Having thawed the smallest of baby mice, I placed several at the back of its throat.

When it swallowed them, we felt it might be the beginning of its chance to recover. As its ability to ingest the tiniest and most tender morsels increased, we reached the time when we had to discover if the bird would eat on its own.

Four small mice, that could easily be swallowed whole, were placed in the carrier. An hour later we noticed they had been consumed. More were offered later in the day. They, too, disappeared.

At least we had been able to support the red-tail's dietary needs while it began its recovery. Often, a common problem we had encountered in birds was

their being too weak to tear food or eat.

With the promise of sunshine and high 30s, we headed north. Volunteer Gail Barnes planned to take the hawk to their veterinarian that afternoon.

After a complete full-body scan, bacterial pneumonia was cited as the cause for the downing of the raptor. Antibiotics and anti-inflammatory medications were prescribed.

By the middle of March, the robust red-tail, with its indomitable spirit, was exercising in the flight cage. Muscle tone and stamina were being strengthened.

Having been challenged by infection and starvation, the raptor was given its freedom east of Lubbock at Ransom Canyon. It rose gracefully in elevation to soaring heights. Soon, the bird's distinctive call would pierce the silent sky.

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

## Scotland Yard & Wall Street

I heard some folks discussing the current Sherlock Holmes movie recently and the question of why the English police service is in a place called Scotland Yard.

I thought I knew the answer to that question but I did a bit of searching just to prove myself right and found some additional information that was quite interesting.

The police in England, which is the territorial police force responsible for Greater London, is known as the Metropolitan Police Service and was located at 4 Whitehall Place in 1829. A rear entrance was located on a street called Great Scotland Yard which became the public entrance to the police station. This entrance became simply known as Scotland Yard and over time, this nickname stuck. But how the street got the name of Scotland Yard is an interesting story. It seems that in the 10th century, before the union of the two countries, hostilities between England and Scotland were a continual threat.

So, in an attempt to ease the hostilities, the English King gave a piece of land in London to the Scottish king, asking him to build a castle on it and use it as his London residence. The land was set aside for the Kings of Scotland, but the castle was never built.

Over the years, the site was nicknamed 'Great Scotland Yard,' and by 1830, The Times newspaper was using the nickname and referring to the police as 'Scotland Yard'. As the police force expanded and the number of policemen or "bobbies" increased, new buildings in Great Scotland Yard and Whitehall Place were needed.

Then in 1884, the area was targeted by Irish Republicans and was damaged by a bomb. So in 1890 the government purchased a new site for the police headquarters but the old name stuck and the new building became known as the New Scotland Yard.

I guess an American version of this would be the development of Wall Street, which has a historical origin. Wall Street is a direct reference to a wall that was erected by Dutch settlers on the southern tip of Manhattan Island in the 17th century.

During this time, a war between the English and Dutch threatened to spill over onto the island's American colonies. So the Dutch, located at the southernmost part of the island, decided to erect a defensive wall. Although this wall was never used for its intended purpose, years after its removal it left a legacy behind in the name.

By the way, this area didn't become famous for being America's financial center until the end of the 18th century, when 24 of the United States' first and most prominent brokers signed an agreement that outlined the common commission-based form of trading securities.

Occurring under a buttonwood tree, this marked the beginnings of the investment community of Wall Street and the creation of the New York Stock Exchange.

Since then, "Wall Street" has come to denote much more than a street; it now represents the stock market and all its associated financial institutions. And as the saying goes, "Now you know!"

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

Contact the Herald at  
newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

## Mesothelioma

may occur 30 to 50 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial and construction workers, along with their families (second hand exposure) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, lung cancer or gastro cancer (throat, stomach, colon). Call us for professional insight.

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## 2 kids in bedroom sometimes better than 1

(AP) — In the Panebianco house, sharing a bedroom is about more than saving space.

Gerri and Sam Panebianco have chosen to put their sons, 3-year-old J.P. and 2-year-old Eric, in the same room because they want them to become good friends and develop social skills.

"We want them to un-

derstand what it's like to navigate shared space and to be happy sharing space," said Gerri Panebianco, an owner of Little Crown Interiors, which specializes in designing children's rooms, in Orange County, Calif.

Through her work, she has seen many parents making a similar choice, deciding that having kids share a room is good preparation for college and marriage. "This is a skill that they feel children

should be learning early," she said.

Of course, in many families with more children or smaller homes, sharing a bedroom is also a necessity.

Today's tough economy has caused many families to stay in smaller homes longer, said Jim Badgley, managing broker of Windermere Real Estate in Kirkland, Wash.

"I know they've outgrown their house," but they're not moving, he said.

Stefanie Nieves and her husband, Eddie Morales, have no plans to sell their two-bedroom, starter home in Perth Amboy, N.J. — even though they now have two children.

"We can't really move, so we have to make the space work," she said.

Her children, 3-year-old Elias and 18-month-old Mia, share a bedroom. The kids have responded well to the arrangement, she said.

"They have the best relationship," she said.

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# HC women swamp conference leaders

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

HOBBS, N.M. — The Howard College women's basketball team tossed a huge monkey wrench at the Western Junior College Athletic Conference Monday night.

On the same night they were mathematically eliminated from postseason play, the Hawks decided to play spoiler in a major way by crushing WJCAC leader New Mexico Junior College, 67-51, Monday night.

Howard's win creates a bit of a logjam at the top of the league standings — the loss drops NMJC into a tie with Midland College with identical 9-2 marks, while Odessa College is only a game back at 8-3.

The Hawks improved to 18-11 overall and 4-7 in conference play with the win.

Howard dominated throughout the game, racing out to a 35-14 lead at the half. The most telling statistic was the Hawks' 43-31 advantage in rebounding

(the edge in the decisive first half was 26-9).

HC Assistant Coach Jamie Fisher called the team's performance its best of the season.

"They played with a lot of intensity," Fisher said. "They executed very well both offensively and defensively. They took control of the game from the start and played with a lot of emotion."

Point guard Kali Jer-

See **HAWKS**, Page 12



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Rico Richardson (12) guards a New Mexico Junior College ball handler during their basketball game Monday night in Hobbs, N.M.

Howard College's Zeslie Johnson (21) attempts a shot during the Hawks' Western Junior College Athletic Conference game against New Mexico Junior College Monday in Hobbs, N.M.

## Sports Calendar

TODAY

### Baseball

Big Spring at Abilene High School, 4 p.m.

Crane at Coahoma, TBA.

### Softball

Big Spring at Midland Greenwood, 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma at Post, TBA.

Colorado City at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.

### Boy's basketball

Garden City vs. Ira, Class 1A Div. II regional quarterfinal, 7 p.m., Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Grady vs. Valley, Class 1A Div. II regional quarterfinal, Wolfforth (time TBA).

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

# All-District 3-2A team announced

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Athletes from Coahoma, Forsan and Stanton were well-represented on the recently released All-District 3-2A basketball team.

Stanton's Tara Patterson and Jennifer Henley were both named to the girls' all-district first team, while Coahoma senior Jennifer Castilaw was joined by Cheyenne Galloway and Raegan Haggard of Forsan on the second team.

Coahoma's Minnie Goodblanket, Forsan's Maria Ortiz and Stanton's Selah Ramsey were named to the 3-2A all-defensive girls' team.

On the boys' squad, Stanton senior Nathan Koonce was named defensive most valuable player of the district this season, while his teammate, junior Scott Smith, was named co-newcomer of the year with Keyshawn Hawkins of Denver City.

Making the 3-2A first team from this area were Coahoma junior Tanner Ruiz, Forsan senior Patrick Robles and Stanton senior Ethan

Mauldin.

Jacob Echavarria and Aaron Acevedo of Coahoma were named second team all-district along with Forsan's Bryson Phillips and Stanton's K.J. Glaspie.

Here are the athletes named to the All-District 3-2A Basketball Team:

### GIRLS

MVP — Jasmine Brainard, Sr., Lubbock Roosevelt

Offensive MVP — Kacie Whitley, Jr., Lubbock Roosevelt

Defensive MVP — Luran Meeks, Sr., Colorado City

Newcomer of the Year — Karli McCord, Fresh., Slaton

First Team

Heather Merket, Soph., Colorado City; Miranda Reyna, Sr., Colorado City; Shahala Hawkins, Sr., Denver City; Calli Stephens, Soph., Denver City; Janna Adkins, Jr., Lubbock Roosevelt; Carly Welch, Sr., Lubbock Roosevelt; Kelsey Copeland, Sr., Slaton; Shay Felton, Sr., Slaton; Alexia Talley, Soph., Slaton; Jennifer Henley,

Jr., Stanton; Tara Patterson, Sr., Stanton

Second Team

Jennifer Castilaw, Sr., Coahoma; MaKenzi Kimball, Soph., Colorado City; Cheyenne Galloway, Sr., Forsan; Raegan Haggard, Soph., Forsan; Devon Newberry, Jr., Denver City; Jaci Zingerman, Jr., Denver City; Mikayla Welch, Soph., Lubbock Roosevelt; Haily Berry, Jr., Post; Taliea Maxwell, Fresh., Slaton; Kelli Pate, Fresh., Slaton

All-Defensive Team

Minnie Goodblanket, Sr., Coahoma; Megan Bullard, Sr., Colorado City; K'Lynn Pate, Sr., Denver City; Maria Ortiz, Soph., Forsan; Desiree Guiterrez, Jr., Lubbock Roosevelt; Shirley Araiza, Sr., Post; Ashlee Green, Jr., Slaton; Selah Ramsey, Sr., Stanton

Honorable Mention

Stanton: Jennifer Beasley, Sr.; Kendra Graham, Jr.; Whitney Brantley, Soph.

BOYS

MVP — Derek Gainey, Sr., Colorado City

See **3-2A**, Page 12

# Fire and rain: Kenseth wins wild Daytona 500

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Well, NASCAR certainly knows how to make a prime-time impression.

Rain, fire and Tide laundry detergent all factored into a Daytona 500 that will go down as the most bizarre in NASCAR history.

And Brad Keselowski tweeted most of it live. From his race car. Then he provided another update minutes after crashing at 190 mph.

And oh, yeah, Matt Kenseth picked up his second Daytona 500 title.

"You would think after 65 years and running all the races that NASCAR has run ... that you've seen about everything." NASCAR Presi-

dent Mike Helton said. "You do think about, 'Oh, my gosh, if that can happen, what else can happen?'"

The first Daytona 500 to be postponed took more than 36 hours to complete after rain pushed it from its scheduled Sunday afternoon start to Monday at lunch, and ultimately turned it into the first ever NASCAR race in prime-time television.

Then Juan Pablo Montoya crashed under caution into a safety truck filled with about 200 gallons of jet fuel, and the collision caused a massive fireball that scorched the track and will be the most indelible image of the 54th running of the "Great American Race."

What did they use to clean

it up? Tide laundry detergent, of course.

Seriously.

The two-plus hour stoppage turned into a tweet-up of sorts, as the drivers climbed from their cars and crowded around Keselowski, who had pulled out his phone to provide real-time updates to his fans by posting photos and answering questions. His number of followers ballooned from about 65,000 at the start of the race to almost 200,000 by the time the fire was extinguished and racing could resume.

"I thought it was pretty funny," said Dale Earnhardt Jr., who had his losing streak hit 130 races when he came up short in his bid to chase down Kenseth in a two-lap overtime

sprint.

"That was kind of fun actually, standing around on the back straightaway. We did take the phone and put it to some use and looked up the weather."

When the 500 finally ended in the early morning hours Tuesday, the two-week Speed-Weeks odyssey wasn't over: Fox closed the North Carolina airports, stranding drivers and teams at Daytona for yet another night.

"Now believe it or not I can't go home," fourth-place finisher Denny Hamlin posted on Twitter. "Fogged in. Yet another night in Daytona."

The endurance race will be long over by the time the television ratings come in later Tuesday. No one was sure

what to expect as Fox made the unprecedented decision to show the race in prime time — the best case scenario once rain washed it out on Sunday. NASCAR originally rescheduled for Monday afternoon but scrapped those plans in the morning based on more rain.

With a 4.5 overnight rating on Fox's coverage of Sunday's rain delay, vice chairman of Fox Sports Media Group Ed Goren wasn't sure what to expect Monday night.

"We are in the middle of February ratings sweeps, and there are significant successful shows on other networks," Goren said. "The question becomes, 'Will the

See **500**, Page 12



## BIG SPRING HERALD

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We will be buying  
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Call (432)213-6802 or  
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Helena Chemical Company, a  
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but will consider training. Re-  
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**DAY'S INN** needs Housekeep-  
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**DELIVERY, ASSEMBLY,**  
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driver's license & good driving  
record. Apply at Branham  
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opportunities, visit our Big  
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**NOW HIRING** Concrete Finish-  
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Join our professional cleaning  
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**Physical Requirements:** Must  
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**Other Requirements:** Must be  
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One year (2040) hours of experi-  
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Apply at Workforce Center  
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son:

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Pre-employment

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**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

On this day in 1883, the first vaudeville theater opened, beginning a tradition of entertainment that still can be readily seen in most modern entertainment. The lazy feel of a void-of-course Taurus moon could prompt you to take in more than the usual amount of passive amusement and enjoy it to the fullest extent.



HOLIDAY  
MATHIS

April 19). You tend to take responsibility, bring in the money, put food on the table and keep relationships in good standing. What would you do if you found out that it is also your job to have fun?  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You'll be reminded of an interesting truth: Events don't have to be planned to be a success. The spontaneous twists, goofs and challenges make things better. Your good time hinges on an element of surprise.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). The pursuit of self-knowledge is often happening on a subconscious level for you, but today it will be foremost on your mind. The better you can understand yourself the better you can create emotional closeness with others.  
**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You are only ambitious to a degree. You know when you are content, and you stop there. That's a gift. So many people suffer because they can't recognize when enough is enough.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You feel focused and want to stay on task. But something will happen to interrupt and tempt you. Opportunities for pleasure must be seized. Otherwise, they come less often. If you don't enjoy your life, who will?  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You want things to go your way, but you also realize the possibility that there's something even better that might occur if you remain open-minded. It takes maturity to stay flexible.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll get what you didn't expect. Don't write this off as some kind of mistake. Be resilient. Discover the value in life's odd offerings. And if there is no apparent value, consider that there might be a message or lesson instead.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). "Posers" abound. People who can talk a good game don't fool you, though. You actually walk the walk, and you know the difference. Others won't be so savvy, and you may have to intervene on their behalf.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Many valuable discoveries have

been made by chance rather than contemplation. However, chance favors the actively contemplative, as well as those taking risks and putting their names into the hat several times.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're in awe of people who have a talent that you do not possess. Others are in awe of you for the exact same reason, though you are so used to your own talents that you may not even see them as anything remarkable.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll lead the action. Even though you have a strong sense of discovery, it will take you a few minutes to warm up to new situations. Take the time you need to get comfortable.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). No one gets through life by being good at one thing and one thing only. Your efforts to diversify will serve you well. You'll be brave enough to try new things and wise enough to realize early on what's for you and what isn't.  
**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 28). You go into the year with a strong, determined attitude. In April, a softness takes its place as loved ones strike a chord in your compassionate heart. Your warmth inspires commitments. You'll make connections, join groups and lead people in June. A windfall happens in April, July and December. Aquarius and Taurus people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 1, 22, 38 and 13.  
**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** "Broadway Baby" Bernadette Peters performed the challenging role of Mama Rose in "Gypsy" more than 500 times and received a standing ovation at the Tony Awards that lasted more than two minutes when she performed in spite of being sick with a serious respiratory infection. For the soulful Pisces with Mars, Saturn and Pluto all in Leo, the sign of the entertainer, the show must go on.  
*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.*  
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**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 Exterra 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

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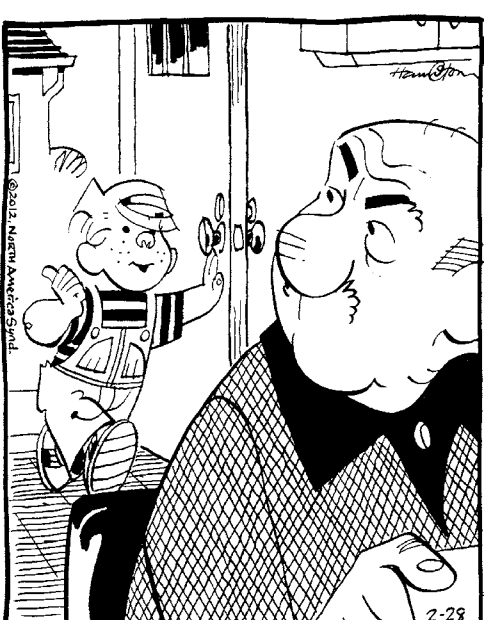
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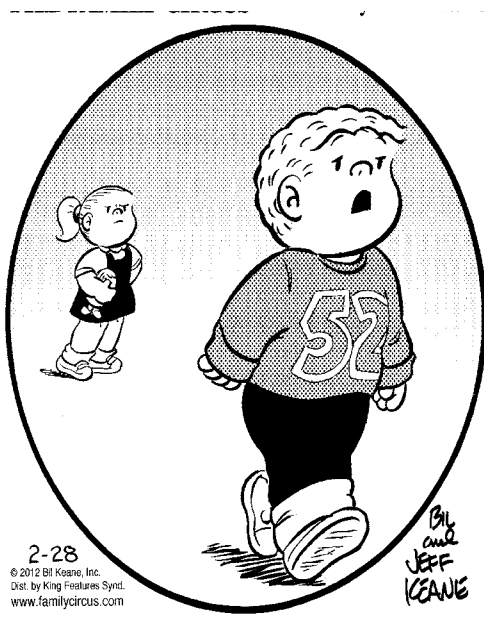
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Two Men CBS	News	Noticias	News	King	Scrivner	Charlie Rose	Til Death King	American Chopper	CSI: Miami	Ink Master	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Una Familia con Suerte (SS)	Big Bang	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	Alan Lee L. Moore	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Dirty Jobs	CSI: Miami	Ink Master	Bones	Good Austin	College Basketball	College Basketball	
7:PM	Last Man Standing	El Talismán (SS)	American Idol	NCIS (DVS)	Una Maid en	The Biggest Loser	Big Bang	Upd	The Amish: American Experience	Heart of Dixie	American Chopper	Movie: The Godfather, Part II, Diane Keaton	Ink Master	Movie: Rush Hour 3, HiroYuki Sanada	Together Together	ANT Farm	NBA Coast to Coast	College Basketball: Florida at Vanderbilt.
8:PM	The River	La Que No	Simpsons	Unforgettable	Relaciones Peli	Parenthood	Big Bang	Alewine	Light of the Southwest	Ringer	American Chopper	Ink Master	Southland	Game	Game	Good	Goose	SportsCenter
9:PM	Body of Proof	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Chevalme Dr.	Charlie Rose	King	Dirty Jobs	Ink Master	CSI: NY	Game	Together	Austin	Goose	SportsCenter
10:PM	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Sin Senos no	Jay Leno	Office	Ministerios Vida	World	South Pk	Ragin' Cajuns	Auction	Southland	Wendy Williams	Wizards	NFL Live	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Office	Roseanne	T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk	Ragin' Cajuns	Auction	CSI: NY	Movie: Everdayday Black Man, Chris Ayles	Good	NBA	SportsCenter	
12:AM	Extra	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd	Roseanne	All-Star Dealers	The Detona-tors	Ink Master	Rizzoli & Isles	ANT Farm	ANT Farm	SportsNation	SportsCenter	
1:AM	Paired	La Jaula	Fam. Guy	Prostate	Pelicula: El	(:06) Today	Seinfeld	Alewine	Homecoming	The Detona-tors								

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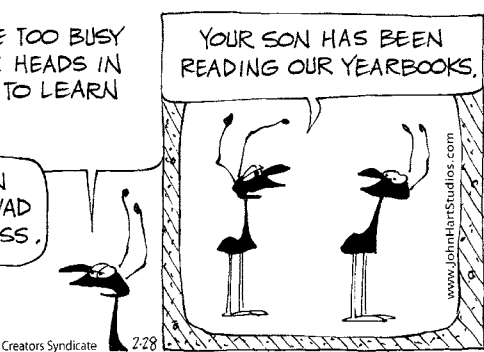
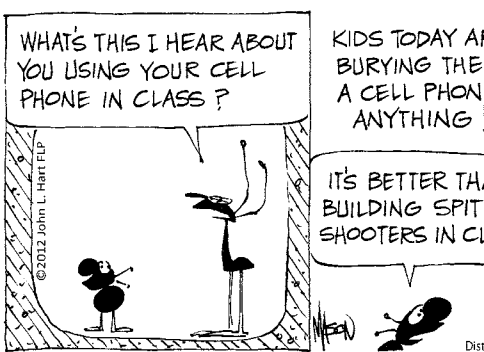
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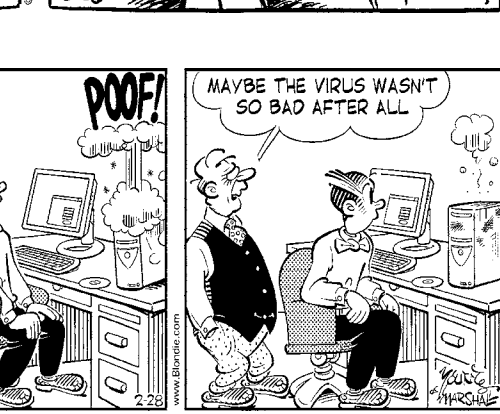
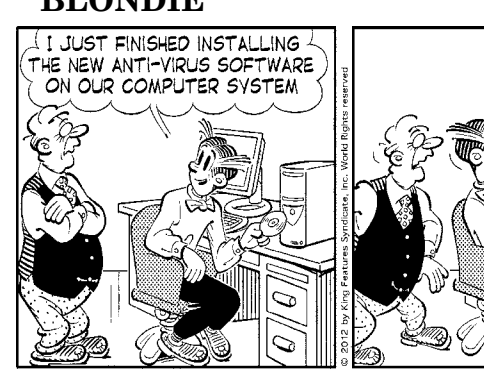
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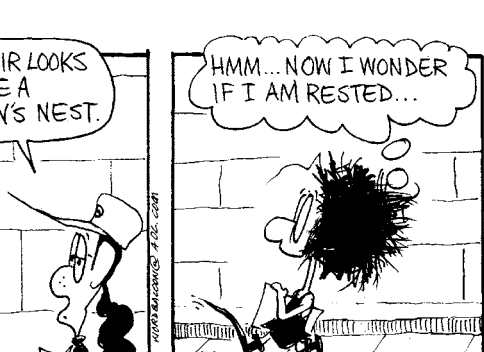
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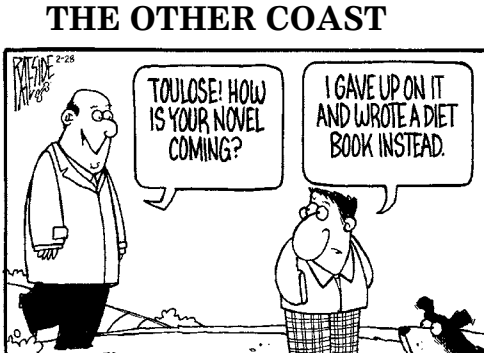
SNUFFY SMITH



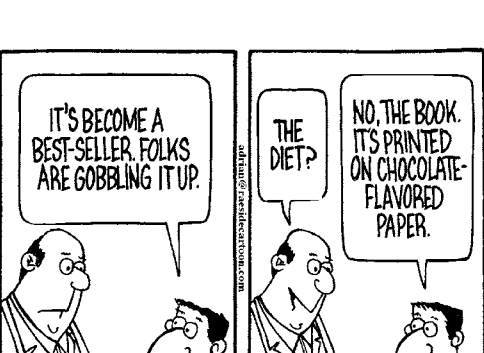
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BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 28, the 59th day of 2012. There are 307 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 28, 1942, the heavy cruiser USS Houston and the Australian light cruiser HMAS Perth came under attack by Japanese forces during the World War II Battle of Sunda Strait; both were sunk shortly after midnight. (The Houston lost 693 men while the Perth lost 353.)

On this date:

In 1844, a 12-inch gun aboard the USS Princeton exploded as the ship was sailing on the Potomac River, killing Secretary of State Abel P. Upshur, Navy Secretary Thomas W. Gilmer and several others.

In 1849, the California gold rush began in earnest as regular steamship service started bringing gold-seekers to San Francisco.

In 1861, the Territory of Colorado was organized.

In 1911, President William Howard Taft nominated William H. Lewis to be the first black Assistant Attorney General of the United States.

In 1951, the Senate committee headed by Estes Kefauver (ES'-teez KEE'-faw-vuhr), D-Tenn., issued an interim report saying at least two major crime syndicates were operating in the U.S.

In 1953, scientists James D. Watson and Francis H.C. Crick announced they had discovered the double-helix structure of DNA, the molecule that contains the human genes.

In 1960, a day after defeating the Soviets at the Winter Games in Squaw Valley, Calif., the United States won its first Olympic hockey gold medal by defeating Czechoslovakia's team, 9-4.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon and Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai issued the Shanghai Communiqué, which called for normalizing relations between their countries, at the conclusion of Nixon's historic visit to China.

In 1975, more than 40 people were killed in London's Underground when a subway train smashed into the end of a tunnel.

In 1986, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme (PAHL'-meh) was shot to death in central Stockholm. (The killing remains unsolved.)

In 1993, a gun battle erupted at a compound near Waco, Texas, when Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents tried to serve warrants on the Branch Davidians; four agents and six Davidians were killed as a 51-day standoff began.

Today's Birthdays: Producer Saul Zaentz is 91. Actor Charles Durning is 89. Architect Frank Gehry is 83. Actor Gavin MacLeod is 81. Actor Don Francks is 80. Actor-director-dancer Tommy Tune is 73.

Answer to previous puzzle

BRACE	EMIT	GAME
RELAX	NASA	EDEN
ANISE	FILM	TIDE
TOTEMPOLE	ATEAM	
PAR	TIGHTLY	
SOLSTICE	FREE	
THOU	REV	INHALF
ANGRY	DIM	TONER
GOOFUP	CAD	ONEA
TKO	TRICKERY	
BISHOPS	ISO	
ASHEN	PUNCHLINE	
LOAN	TINE	OUTER
LURE	STIR	SKIER
STET	PETS	TENDS

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Suburban grassy spaces
  - 6 Toast toppings
  - 10 Hammer target
  - 14 Incite (disturb the peace)
  - 15 Shower-gel additive
  - 16 A single time
  - 17 High-IQ club
  - 18 Motel's swimming spot
  - 19 Looked at
  - 20 Brunch offering
  - 23 Highway divisions
  - 24 Bad habit
  - 27 Most recent
  - 31 Allow to go free
  - 33 Commotions
  - 34 Narrowly
  - 37 Sci-fi vehicle: Abbr.
  - 38 Windy City baseball team
  - 42 Snake-like fish
  - 43 Did piano maintenance
  - 44 Metal thread
  - 45 Like formal clothing
  - 47 Insurance brokers
  - 49 Lake near Niagara Falls
  - 50 Heavy rope
  - 53 Gift carton
  - 59 First part of a play
  - 62 Take creases out of clothes
  - 63 Wisdom tooth, e.g.
  - 64 Sword fight
  - 65 Noisy
- DOWN
- 1 Young sheep
  - 2 Square footage
  - 3 Airplane part
  - 4 Rudolph's red feature
  - 5 Plays for time
  - 6 Osaka's country
  - 7 Without an escort
  - 8 Frames of mind
  - 9 Offer at retail
  - 10 "You can't get out here" sign
  - 11 Unspecified amount
  - 12 Frozen cubes
  - 13 Acted as a guide
  - 21 Occupied a chair
  - 22 In plain sight
  - 25 Your aunt's kid
  - 26 Physical exertion
  - 27 Tied, as shoes
  - 28 Stick (to)
  - 29 Hard worker
  - 30 Upper-left keyboard key
  - 31 Luau garland
  - 32 Supposedly sly animals
  - 34 Heavy weight
  - 35 Dazzle
  - 36 Advanced degree: Abbr.
  - 39 In between ports
  - 40 Fellow
  - 41 Mom of a 1 Down
  - 46 Largest Italian island
  - 47 \_ carte (menu phrase)
  - 48 Berlin native
  - 50 Computer data holder: Abbr.
  - 51 Approximately
  - 52 Wall Street buys
  - 54 Irritate
  - 55 Cooked and ready to serve
  - 56 Extinguished, with "out"
  - 57 Rowboat implements
  - 58 Medical photo
  - 59 TV commercials, e.g.
  - 60 Use scissors
  - 61 Hot herbal drink

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13					
14					15				16								
17					18				19								
20					21			22									
					23			24		25	26						
27	28	29	30					31				32					
33						34	35	36				37					
38					39	40					41						
42				43							44						
45			46						47	48							
									49		50	51	52				
					53									55	56	57	58
59	60	61							62					63			
64									65					66			
67									68					69			



# Sandusky seeks delay in his sex-abuse trial

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Jerry Sandusky's lawyer on Monday asked the judge in his child sex-abuse case to delay the start of his criminal trial until mid-July, saying he needed more time to prepare.

Defense lawyer Joe Amendola said the additional two months would help him contact and interview witnesses, subpoena records and hire experts. Earlier this month, Judge John Cleland tentatively scheduled jury selection in the former Penn State assistant football coach's trial to begin May 14, with jurors chosen from State College and

the surrounding area. Sandusky, 68, faces 52 criminal charges he sexually abused 10 boys over a 15-year period.

Amendola said prosecutors have been providing him with investigative materials that have produced a number of potential witnesses who have to be located, and that defense experts will need time to review documents.

He said prosecutors do not object to the request, but messages left after hours Monday for a spokesman for the state attorney general's office were not immediately returned.

# 500

Continued from Page 7

loyal NASCAR audience find us? The casual fan seems to have caught on Sunday for the storylines and the season, but the casual fan who was with us yesterday, now in prime time, has other options.

"So, let them race, and let's find out what happens."

What happened was a show like no other, beginning from the second lap of the race, when five-time NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson was caught in an accident that also collected Danica Patrick, ruining her Daytona 500 debut.

From there it was 25 lead changes among 13 drivers, 10 cautions, and that really big fire.

"The thing that comes into my mind is NASCAR just can't catch a break." Earnhardt said. "We're trying to deliver, and we just have some unfortunate things happen such as the rain delay, potholes in the track a couple of years ago. We're a good sport, and we're trying to give a good product."

Kenseth and Roush Fenway Racing teammate Greg Biffle took over the lead following the fire stoppage with 40 laps to go.

Montoya was driving alone under caution when something broke on his car. He spun hard into a safety truck, and the collision caused an instant explosion.

Montoya, who said his helmet was singed in the fire and his foot ached, said he felt a vibration in his car before the accident.

"I've hit a lot of things — but a jet dryer?" he said. "It just felt really strange, and as I was talking on the radio, the car just turned right."

Jet fuel — the safety truck held 200 gallons of kerosene — poured down the surface of Turn 3 at Daytona International Speedway after the accident, creating a fiery lasting image of NASCAR's biggest race of the year.

Journeyman driver Dave Blaney was leading at that time because he had not pitted, and all the drivers surrounded him and Keselowski as they lingered outside their parked cars during the cleanup.

Blaney's lead was short-lived, however, as he pitted for gas as soon as racing resumed. Kenseth took over the lead, with Biffle behind him, and the race went green with 34 laps remaining.

# 3-2A

Continued from Page 7

City  
Offensive MVP — Clancy David, Jr., Denver City  
Defensive MVP — Nathan Koonce, Sr., Stanton

Co-Newcomers of the Year — Keyshawn Hawkins, Soph., Denver City; Scott Smith, Jr., Stanton  
Coach of the Year — Barry Kimball, Colorado City

First Team

Mason Milligan, Soph., Denver City; Khaleed Brown, Jr., Denver City; Sir Hollis, Sr., Slaton; Tanner Walter, Sr., Slaton; Quaylon Fitts, Jr., Slaton; Tanner Ruiz, Jr., Coahoma; Patrick Robles, Sr., Forsan; Tylor Lorenz, Sr., Colorado City; Jason

Rodriguez, Sr., Colorado City; Benny Jones, Sr., Colorado City; Jasper Johnson, Sr., Lubbock Roosevelt; Quade Keith, Sr., Lubbock Roosevelt; Corbin McDonald, Sr., Post; Andres Chavez, Jr., Stanton; Ethan Mauldin, Sr., Stanton

Second Team  
Ivan DeLaRosa, Jr., Denver City; Caleb Heinrich, Sr., Slaton; Kazen Thomas, Sr., Slaton; Jacob Echavarría, Sr., Coahoma; Aaron Acevedo, Jr., Coahoma; Bryson Phil-

lips, Sr., Forsan; Bailey Spencer, Sr., Colorado City; Levi Sherrill, Jr., Lubbock Roosevelt; Nathan Jacquez, Sr., Lubbock Roosevelt; Dalton Holley, Jr., Post; K.J. Glaspie, Fresh., Stanton

# 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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

# Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

## No Time to Relax

North dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ A 10 5  
♥ A J 6  
♦ Q 10 9 5 4  
♣ K 7  
**WEST**  
♠ 7 4 3 2  
♥ Q 8 3  
♦ A 6  
♣ 10 9 5 3  
**EAST**  
♠ K 9 8  
♥ 4  
♦ 8 7 2  
♣ A Q J 6 4 2  
**SOUTH**  
♠ Q J 6  
♥ K 10 9 7 5 2  
♦ K J 3  
♣ 8

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1♦ 2♣ 2♥ 3♠  
3♥ Pass 4♥

Opening lead — ten of clubs.  
**Declarer can very easily** go down one in four hearts if he approaches the play of this hand too casually. But if he takes care to protect himself against the built-in dangers the deal presents, he is virtually certain to come out on top.

**South can see** two unavoidable losers — a diamond and a club. He also sees he is in danger of losing a trump trick to the queen (if he mis-guesses how to play the suit) and a trick to the king of spades, if East has that card. But because it is possible

to discard two spades eventually on dummy's diamonds, South should take steps to make sure he gets that opportunity.

**First**, let's see what happens if declarer approaches the play carelessly. East wins the club lead and continues with a club, trumped by South.

**If declarer now cashes** the A-K of hearts, hoping the queen will fall, he can no longer make the contract. Thus, if he leads a diamond, West wins and shifts to a spade. If South attempts the spade finesse, he goes down immediately, while if he puts up the ace and tries to run the diamonds, West ruffs the third diamond and leads a spade to East's king for down one.

**Observe the difference** if declarer cashes the trump king at trick three and then leads a heart to the jack. He doesn't know whether the finesse will succeed, but the critical point is that he doesn't care one iota if it loses. If East is able to win with the queen, he cannot lead a spade through dummy, and South then has time to establish the diamonds.

**As it happens**, the trump finesse wins, and declarer ends up making five. But even if the finesse were to fail, declarer's willingness to lose a trump trick to East greatly improves his chances of making the contract.

Tomorrow: First things first.  
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# HAWKS

Continued from Page 7

rell led all scorers with 26 points, while Porche Young and Zeslie Johnson each added nine points for the Hawks.

"Kali did a very good job," Fisher said. "She didn't force her shots. Instead, she took what New Mexico's defense gave her. In fact, you could say that about the whole team (Monday). Kali played like we expected her to play all year."

"Defensively, we held them from the get-go. We kept them off the boards and took control of the game that way."

The Hawks conclude the 2011-2012 season at home Monday against WJCAC cellar-dweller Frank Phillips College. Game time is 5:45 p.m.

## Men's game

The Howard College Hawks and NMJC Thunderbirds are now neck-and-neck in the battle for second place in the conference standings.

The T-Birds created the deadlock by downing Howard, 57-54, Monday night.

Howard and NMJC are tied for second place in conference with identical 9-4 league marks with one game left in the season. Both squads have clinched a spot in next month's Region V basketball tournament, but exact seeding has yet to be determined.

The Hawks conclude the regular season at home Monday against Frank Phillips College, while NMJC plays at Snyder against Western Texas College.

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

## sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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