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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 133

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TUESDAY
MARCH 20, 2012




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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

These horses were seized from a home in the 100 block of Carey earlier this month after law enforcement responded to a tip they were being neglected. They will be auctioned Friday at the Big Spring Animal Shelter on Friday at 1 p.m. The horses' previous owner faces criminal charges for cruelty to animals.

Horses said neglected recovering, will be auctioned Friday afternoon

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Nearly one dozen horses seized from a home in the 100 block of Carey earlier this month have been awarded to the Howard County Sheriff's Office by the courts and will be auctioned later this week, according to law enforcement of-

ficials.

Howard County Sheriff Stan Parker said the horses have been awarded to the HCSO and are doing well and, according to the veterinarian currently caring for the animals, are expected to make a full recovery.

"They are in pretty good shape. According to the vet, they just need to be

fed and taken care of," Parker said. "We just need to get them good, caring homes so they can fully recover from everything."

Parker said an auction will be held at 1 p.m. Friday at the Big Spring Animal Control Shelter, located at 3605 E. See **AUCTION**, Page 3

Texas company could bury first nuke waste in April

BETSY BLANEY
Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Trucks carrying low-level radioactive waste from 38 states will likely be rolling along Texas highways as early as April, bound for permanent burial at a dump near Andrews.

The arrival of the low-level radioactive waste will end a years-long effort by a Dallas-based company, whose major-

ity owner is big-time political contributor Harold Simmons, to win permission from Texas officials to accept the waste at 1,340-acre tract of scrub brush terrain about 360 miles west of Dallas. Opponents say Waste Control Specialists has benefited from Simmons' connections to top Republicans, including Gov. Rick Perry.

The state's commission overseeing disposal of low-level waste in Texas

is expected to approve the final rule changes needed on Friday.

State lawmakers cleared the way with a new law passed in the last legislative session. State regulators still need to sign off on the burial site's construction.

Environmental groups have for years voiced concerns about the geology of See **WASTE**, Page 3

Authorities say abused youth was running from home

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Law enforcement officials say the 7-year-old child rescued early Sunday morning near a home in the 4900 block of S. Highway 87 was allegedly restrained using a straight jacket before attempting to run away.

In a press release issued Monday, Howard County Sheriff Stan Parker confirmed the boy had told law enforcement officers he was running away from home after having been allegedly restrained in a straight jacket by his parents, who were taken into custody shortly after.

"On Sunday at approximately 1:36 a.m. deputies with the Howard County Sheriff's Office were dispatched in reference to a small child riding a bike on Highway 87 in the dark," Parker said. "Upon arrival, deputies spoke to the child, age 7, and he advised he was running away from home."

"Contact was made with family members and they stated the child had been restrained using a straight jacket and they didn't know how he had gotten out. Upon further investigation, it was determined the living conditions of the residence were not suitable. Child Protective Services was called and took custody of three children, ages 7, 5 and 2."

Tamara Ruth Whitt, 26, of 4302.5 S. Highway 87, was arrested by the Howard County Sheriff's Office on charges of abandoning/endangering a child — criminal negligence (two counts).

A second individual, Edgar Dale Whitt, 54, also of 4302.5 S. Highway 87, was charged with two counts of abandoning/endangering a child — criminal negligence.

Parker said during the course of the investigation, a grisly discovery was made.

"As part of the investigation we were trying to determine who the father of the children were," Parker said.

See **CHILD**, Page 3

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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.

Upcoming in Big Spring

Today
What: Big Spring Art Association meeting featuring M. Douglas Walton.
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Howard County Library

Thursday:
What: Heritage Museum 42nd annual meeting. Tumbleweed Smith will be the keynote speaker.
When: 6 p.m.
Where: Heritage Museum Lobby

See **UPCOMING**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Linda J. Rodeheaver

Linda J. Rodeheaver, 63, of Warrenton, Mo., died March 15, 2012. A celebration of life will be announced at a later date.

She was the daughter of Francis Henry Franklin and Winnie Vernell Stephens Franklin.

Survivors include her husband, Huey Rodeheaver; children, Lance Sanders and Lyle Wayne Sanders; step-children, Kirk Rodeheaver and Stephanie Theobald; sisters, Jackie Curtis, Bev McMahan and Jean Franklin; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or to Warrenton Elks Lodge 2662 in care of Pitman Funeral Home, 1545 Wentzville Parkway, Wentzville, MO 63385. Memories and condolences may be expressed at www.pitman-funeralhome.com



Erineo 'Eddie' Gomez

Erineo "Eddie" Gomez, 84, of Big Spring, formerly of Ackerly, died Sunday, March 11, 2012, at Texas Specialty Hospital in Lubbock. Prayer services will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at Le Fe Baptist Church with the Rev. Axel Chavez officiating. Burial will be in Ackerly Cemetery.

He was born June 28, 1927, in Thorndale, Texas, to Miguela and Antonio Gomez. He worked for numerous farmers in Ackerly for most of his life.

He is survived by one sister, Ydelia Gomez Baron of Kennewick, Wash.; and a brother, Guadalupe Gomez of Big Spring; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife Secundina Riojas Gomez; and three brothers, Fred Gomez, Antonio Gomez Jr. and Pablo Gomez.

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

Police/Sheriff/EMS

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

- RONALD LEE MONCADA, 47, of 2530 Hunter, was arrested Monday on a warrant from another agency.
- RAFAEL RIVAS, 31, of 1112 Lloyd, was arrested Monday on a warrant for theft – more than \$500 and less than \$1,500.
- KYLE LEE BROWNFIELD, 21, of 2204 Morrison, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana in a drug free zone – more than four ounces and less than five pounds.
- DAVID RIVERA JR., 26, of 1404 E. 14th St., was arrested Monday on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction, failure to appear and failure to display driver's license.
- CRYSTAL CLEAR LEE, 29, 1607 E. Sixth St., was arrested Monday on warrants for possession of a dangerous drug, criminal mischief and assault causing bodily injury.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported: In the 2700 block of Adams.
- THEFT was reported in the area of CO 36.
- BURGLARY OF HABITATION was reported in the 4100 block of Dixon.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 3200 block of Duke Avenue.

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 71 inmates at the time of this report.
- CRYSTAL CLEAR LEE, 29, was arrested Monday on charges of revocation of probation and imposition of sentence, possession dangerous drugs

judgment/sentence criminal, mischief between \$50 and \$500 judgement/sentence assault causes bodily injury.

- RAFAEL RIVAS, 31, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on a charge of theft of property between \$500 and \$1,500.
- RONNIE LEE MONCADA, 47, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on a parole warrant.
- FABIAN HENRY FLORES, 18, was arrested Monday by HCSO on a charge of capias/possession of drug paraphernalia.
- KYLE LEE BROWNFIELD, 21, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana between four ounces and five pounds in drug free zone.
- DAVID RIVERA JR., 26, was transferred to the county jail Monday by BSPD on charges of driving with license invalid with previous conviction/suspension without final restitution, violate promise to appear, fail to display drivers license.
- ANTHONY ROBERT SANCHEZ JR., 25, was transferred to the county jail by BSPD on charges of speeding in school zone, violate promise to appear, driving while license invalid (two counts), failure to appear (two counts) and theft of service by check.

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 600 block of Driver Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2100 block of Wason. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

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

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic 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.

- Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) will meet at 5:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Parish Hall. Guest speaker for the night will be Dr. Larry Fish, who will speak on the subject of macular degeneration.

The goal of VASG is to provide, through education and possibly services in the future, a sense of hope to people that have vision problems and help them and their care givers cope with vision loss. Some types of vision loss that the VASG hopes to discuss are: glaucoma, retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, cataracts, trauma, infectious processes and neurological deficits. VASG is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. For more information, call You can call us at 263-2501.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 3/22	Fri 3/23	Sat 3/24	Sun 3/25	Mon 3/26
76/47 Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	83/49 Sunshine. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 40s.	85/56 Sunny. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	87/61 Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 60s.	85/57 More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s.
Sunrise: 7:47 AM Sunset: 7:59 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 8:00 PM	Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 8:01 PM	Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 8:01 PM	Sunrise: 7:41 AM Sunset: 8:02 PM

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	75	50	pt sunny	Kingsville	85	60	sunny
Amarillo	62	37	rain	Livingston	80	51	mst sunny
Austin	77	50	pt sunny	Longview	78	54	pt sunny
Beaumont	79	59	mst sunny	Lubbock	70	42	pt sunny
Brownsville	82	67	sunny	Lufkin	80	52	mst sunny
Brownwood	79	52	mst sunny	Midland	78	48	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	80	62	sunny	Raymondville	85	64	sunny
Corsicana	73	52	pt sunny	Rosenberg	80	56	mst sunny
Dallas	74	53	rain	San Antonio	79	51	sunny
Del Rio	84	56	sunny	San Marcos	78	50	sunny
El Paso	76	50	sunny	Sulphur Springs	74	54	rain
Fort Stockton	80	51	sunny	Sweetwater	74	48	pt sunny
Gainesville	70	49	rain	Tyler	77	53	pt sunny
Greenville	70	51	rain	Weatherford	74	49	rain
Houston	80	57	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	69	45	rain

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	79	58	pt sunny	Minneapolis	71	56	rain
Boston	85	54	sunny	New York	77	59	pt sunny
Chicago	78	59	t-storm	Phoenix	80	54	sunny
Dallas	74	53	rain	San Francisco	59	47	rain
Denver	61	40	cloudy	Seattle	45	35	rain
Houston	80	57	mst sunny	St. Louis	70	56	rain
Los Angeles	67	52	mst sunny	Washington, DC	77	57	pt sunny
Miami	81	69	pt sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Thu 3/22	Fri 3/23	Sat 3/24	Sun 3/25	Mon 3/26
8	8	8	8	8
Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very 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.

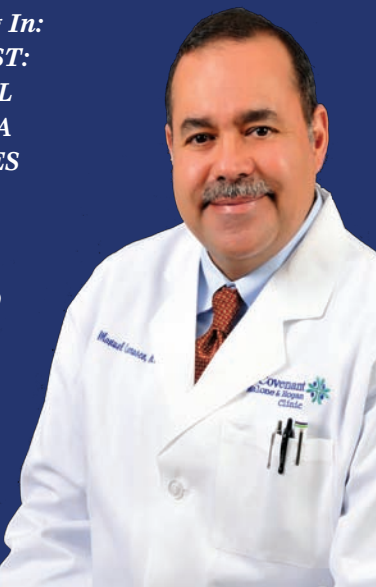
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AUCTION

Continued from Page 1

11th Place.
The horses were seized from a property in the 100 block of Carey, just outside of the city limits, March 7 after deputies responded to a citizen's complaint the horses weren't being properly cared for.
"When deputies arrived on the scene they discovered 12 horses in all. One of the horses, unfortunately, was already on the ground and in really bad shape," Parker said. "A veterinarian was called to the scene and it appeared the animal was suffering from the advanced stages of malnutrition. It's not something you ever want to have to do, but the animal had to be euthanized."

The remaining 11 horses were confiscated. Parker said the conditions at the property where the horses were being kept were far from ideal.

"There wasn't any feed or water for the animals and it was pretty obvious they hadn't been cared for in quite some time," Parker said.

Charges have been filed with the Howard County Attorney's office against the horses previous owner, Juan Moreno, for cruelty to livestock animals, a Class A misdemeanor. However, an arrest warrant has not been issued at this time, according to law enforcement officials.

Parker said area residents interested in purchasing the horses should come to the auction prepared to transport the animals home.

"Bring your money and your horse trailer," Parker said. "Folks should be ready to transport the horses from the animal shelter the same day they purchase them. These really are some beautiful horses, and they deserve loving homes. I feel like it's going to be a win-win situation."

For more information on the auction, contact the Howard County Sheriff's Office at 264-2244.

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

WASTE

Continued from Page 1

the site and about the potential for contamination of underground water sources they say are too close. A "nightmare scenario" exists, though, in transporting the waste to the site, said Karen Hadden, director of the Texas SEED Coalition.

"All of it is dangerous, but we are very concerned about highway accidents," she said. "There could be accidents in downtown Dallas or downtown Fort Worth and Houston. There is risk of radioactive contamination and exposure."

Company spokesman Chuck McDonald, who noted extensive testing at the site has shown it's safe, said accidents involving transportation of radioactive material are infrequent.

"It's actually a very good track record," he said.

Data from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration show that from 2003 through 2011 there were 72 incidents involving

trucks with radioactive material traveling on highways. One person died and the accidents caused \$2.4 million in damages.

That compares with almost 64,000 incidents involving flammable/combustible liquids — the leader in hazardous materials accidents in the nine-year span. Seventy-six people have died in those incidents, which caused \$319.5 million in damages.

There is no requirement to notify law enforcement officials along routes trucks will travel with the low-level waste, said Chris Van Deusen, spokesman for the Texas Department of State Health Services, which oversees the transportation of the waste.

One state legislator said he wonders whether those living along the routes are ready, were an incident to occur.

"Transportation of this waste is not route-restricted, and we don't know whether local emergency response teams are prepared for such a scenario," said Texas Rep. Lon Burnam, a Democrat from Fort Worth.

Waste Control, which also stores, processes

and manages hazardous wastes at the site, has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to open the dump. In 2009, the state issued two licenses to the company to bury low-level radioactive waste, making it the nation's only dump for all classes — A, B and C — of nuclear debris and the first low-level site to open in 30 years.

One license pertains to a compact between Texas and Vermont that allows for disposal of radioactive materials such as uranium, plutonium and thorium from commercial power plants, academic institutions and medical schools. Last year, though, lawmakers approved allowing low-level radioactive waste from 36 other states to be buried in West Texas.

Petitions to bury waste from the compact states and the three dozen other states must be approved by the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Disposal Compact Commission, whose meeting is Friday, on a case-by-case basis.

The other license deals with similar materials from sites run by the U.S. Department of Energy, such as Los

Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, Hanford Site in Washington state and other federal facilities.

Simmons, who is the world's 100th wealthiest man with \$9 billion on this year's Forbes list, has given Perry's campaigns \$1.1 million during his time as governor. The governor is responsible for appointing environmental commissioners.

"That's been the pattern all along," Hadden said. "When you've a billionaire at the helm of Waste Control Specialists and many lobbyists on the payroll, things tend to go your way."

She pointed to last fall when Waste Control was allowed to use stock from a publicly-traded sister company, Titanium Metals, to fund a trust to cover potential liability at the radioactive waste facility. The license required the company to provide \$140 million in financial assurance.

The federal government in the early 1980s began urging states to build low-level nuclear waste landfills, either on their own or in cooperation with other states by forming compacts.

CHILD

Continued from Page 1

"The family had only moved to Big Spring about two years ago, which was making that somewhat difficult. However, after speaking to them for a while, it was discovered that Edgar Whitt — who is

Tamara Whitt's father — had fathered at least one of the children with his daughter. That's when the decision was made to file additional charges against Edgar Whitt."

Edgar Whitt was later charged with prohibited sexual conduct — incest, a second-degree felony, according to Big Spring

Police Department arrest records.

Parker declined to comment on the physical condition of the children at this time or whether there is evidence of physical abuse or molestation.

"I can't comment on that right now, as this is an ongoing investigation," Parker said.

"We're preparing this information to be turned over to the district attorney's office."

According to officials with the Howard County Detention Center, bond has been set for Edgar Whitt at \$5,000 for each count of abandoning/endangering a child — criminal negligence and \$15,000 for prohibited

sexual conduct — incest, a total of \$25,000.

Bond for Tamara Whitt has been set at \$5,000 for each count of abandoning/endangering a child — criminal negligence. Neither had bonded out as of this morning.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

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

UPCOMING

Continued from Page 1

Saturday, March 24:
What: 48th Rattlesnake Roundup

When: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Where: Howard County Fairgrounds
Cost: Adults: \$5, Children: \$3
Snake shows, demonstrations, races and free arts and crafts show.

What: 3rd annual Three-Man Scramble United Way Golf Tournament

When: 1 p.m. shotgun start
Where: Big Spring Country Club
Cost: \$70 per person plus cart
Register by calling the pro shop at 267-5354.

Sunday, March 25:
What: 48th Rattlesnake Roundup
When: Noon to 5 p.m.
Where: Howard

County Fairgrounds
Cost: Adults, \$5, Children \$3
Snake shows, demonstrations, races and free arts and crafts show.

What: 3rd annual Three-Man Scramble United Way Golf Tournament
When: 1 p.m. shotgun start
Where: Big Spring Country Club
Cost: \$70 per person plus cart
Register by calling the pro shop at 267-5354.

Tuesday, March 27
What: State of the Community Series Luncheon
When: 11:30 a.m.
Where: East Room at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum
Cost: \$12
Speakers will include representatives from BSEDC, city of Big Spring, CRMWD and

Howard County.

Thursday, March 29
What: Healthy Woman — "You are not alone" Sexual assault awareness.
When: 5:30 p.m.
Where: Scenic Mountain Medical Center 4th Floor Activity Room
RSVP to Kim Howell at 268-4842 or Anita Cline at 268-4721.

Friday, March 30
What: Hoop, Goals and Dreams
When: Starts at 9 a.m.
Where: Dorothy Garrett Coliseum
Cost: Free admission

Saturday, March 31
What: Big Spring Symphony presents 'Pops Celebration' with special guest Paul Williams
When: 8 p.m.
Where: Municipal auditorium
Cost: \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$5 for students

Tickets can be purchased at Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, KBST, KBYG, Big Spring Herald, Heritage Museum, Blum's Jewelry, Faye's Flowers and Western Banks.

What: Koko Loco Arts and Crafts Bazaar
When: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: Kokopellis, located at 4007 Chaparral Rd.
Cost: Free admission

Sunday, April 1
What: Koko Loco Arts and Crafts Bazaar
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: Kokopellis,

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ANSWERS

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

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Erineo "Eddie" Gomez, 84, died Sunday, March 11, 2012. Prayer services will be at 7:30 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at Le Fe Baptist Church. Burial will be in Ackerly Cemetery.

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Ron Midkiff Publisher... Ext. 250
Bill McClellan Managing Editor... Ext. 230
Rick Nunez Advertising Manager... Ext. 229
Robert Smith Circulation Manager... Ext. 252
Tony Hernandez Production Manager... Ext. 256

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan
Managing Editor

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

Steve Reagan
Staff Writer

Amanda Moreno
Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins
Staff Writer

ADDRESSES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

• BARACK OBAMA

President
The White House
Washington, D.C.
20500

• KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C.
20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-5922

• JOHN CORNYN

U.S. Senator
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Washington, D.C.
20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-2934

• RANDY NEUGEBAUER

U.S. Representative
19th Cong. District
1510 Scurry
Big Spring
Phone: (432) 264-0722

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Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

• JIM LANDTROOP

State Representative
Texas 85th District
P.O. Box 1105

Big Spring, 79721
Phone: (432) 517-9894

• KEL SELIGER

State Senator
Texas 31st District
401 Austin, Suite 101
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Phone: (432) 268-9909

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Expensive care that hurts patients

The biggest challenge for fixing American health care isn't finding more money. It's learning not to spend money on the wrong things. The solution, conservatives say, is simple: Have patients bear more of the costs now being covered by private or government insurers. The concept has merit, except for this: How on earth can we mortals know we don't need something when the god wearing the stethoscope says we do?

Guidelines are needed, and this is a job for government working with medical experts. To advance the process, here are examples of some low-hanging fruit of waste, ripped from the news:

— Obesity surgery for teenagers. The New York Times reported on a 17-year-old — 5 feet tall and 271 pounds — who could have lost her excess weight through diet and exercise but didn't try very hard. So a New York state program for low-income people paid \$21,369 for an operation whereby a surgeon placed a silicon band around her stomach to curb feelings of hunger.

After losing only 34 pounds, the girl began again downing chips and chocolate with abandon. She was almost back to where she started.

Psychological factors often underlie serious weight problems. Until obese young people — who have time on their side — deal

with the emotional part, subjecting them to surgery is cruel and a crying waste of money.

— MRIs for athletes with minor pains. MRIs can detect tumors and help doctors confirm their suspicions. But they also find "problems" that, while best ignored, nonetheless provide a pretext for expensive medical intervention.

As an experiment, Dr. James Andrews, a sports medicine orthopedist in Gulf Breeze, Fla., did MRI scans on 31 fit and happy professional baseball pitchers. He found abnormal shoulder cartilage in 90 percent of the athletes. Based on the scans, he could have operated on nine out of 10 of them — totally unnecessarily.

Insurers pay over \$1,000 for an MRI scan.

The operation to fix the insignificant problems highlighted costs a lot more.

— Regular bone density tests for all women over 65. By the time women hit age 65, bone loss leading to osteoporosis progresses very slowly. If their bone density is found to be normal for their age, they don't need bone density tests every two years, which Medicare covers, according to The New England Journal of Medicine.

And when all this testing finds only mildly lower bone densities, the women are often overprescribed bisphosphonates, such as Fosamax. Bisphosphonates can cause rare but gruesome side effects. They make far more sense for older women with osteoporosis.

— Stents for patients with stable heart pain. Patients showing symptoms of a heart attack often

undergo angioplasty, involving the insertion of a metal tube called a stent. But about one in eight angioplasties are done on patients with stable angina who are showing only minor chest pain, according to an article in The Journal of the American Medical Association.

For these patients, another study showed, stents didn't do any more good than oral medications — and the operations themselves pose some risk. One doctor in Maryland reportedly extracted \$3.8 million from Medicare for implanting nearly 600 medically unnecessary stents.

I almost forgot to mention double CT scans, whereby hospitals administer two computerized tomography scans to a patient in the course of a single day. CT scans are both expensive and expose patients to high levels of radiation. Medicare pays whatever. A hospital in Tulsa, Okla., was found to have double-scanned 80 percent of its Medicare chest patients in 2008.

Note that the above examples involved not only wasted money but subjected patients to potentially harmful "treatments." Want to curb medical spending? We've hardly scratched the surface.

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.

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They call these accomplishments

If you read through the Washington Monthly's list of Obama's top 50 accomplishments, you'll quickly understand why my brother, Rush, properly wanted him to fail.

When Rush said he wanted Obama to fail, everyone knew he was talking about his policies, and for those few who pretended otherwise, he explained it a thousand times: He wanted his policies to fail because his policies are disastrous for America.

Obama has certainly failed to exhibit leadership at very important points, such as his taking a pass during budget negotiations and his legendary vacillation at key foreign policy junctures. But in terms of the general, statist direction of the country, he is captain of the sinking ship.

Obama wasn't kidding when he promised to fundamentally transform America, and he has succeeded in doing so, to the everlasting detriment of the country. Four more years of this and it's hard to imagine what kind of shape we'll be in.

Paul Glastris, Ryan Cooper and Siyu Hu co-wrote the piece for the Washington Monthly. If you want to see just how far apart red America and blue America are, you must examine their list, recognizing that they are actually bragging about these "accomplishments."

Let's take a quick look at just a small fraction of these items:

— He passed Obamacare.

As we've elsewhere noted, he represented that he would bend the cost curve down and make health care more accessible. Already we've discovered that the costs are double Obama's projections, and people are losing their own plans in droves, contrary to his promises. Further calamity awaits as the law goes into effect.

— He passed the stimulus. Can you believe that Glastris, Co-

per and Hu are bragging about Obama's having spent almost a trillion dollars when America is on the financial precipice? Much of it was squandered in political payoffs and waste and dedicated to failed green projects. There were no shovel-ready jobs. Precious little was spent on infrastructure, despite Obama's promises, and the overall result was that the American economy lost millions of jobs — even after you factor in the jobs that were allegedly "saved or created." Obama can move the goal posts until the cows come home, but the one he set himself — that unemployment wouldn't rise above 8 percent — has been as demonstrably wrong as any in the annals of presidential pledge breaking.

— He improved America's image abroad. Are the authors serious? He has repeatedly offended our allies and pandered to our enemies, with the net result of alienating both groups.

Professional pollsters say he is less popular on the Arab street than was President George W. Bush.

— He "kicked banks out of the federal student loan program." And this is a good thing? He originally muscled out private banks through an abuse of federal authority in order to steal this money from the private sector to count toward Obamacare scoring when he needed to pretend it would be deficit-neutral. What did he do with this \$60 billion in illusory savings? He pledged \$40 billion of it to inflate student loans and used the other \$20 billion to deceive the Congressional Budget Office in its scoring. Worse still, by increasing these student loans, Obama will create the opposite effect of what he's advertising: the middle class will have to pay more for education because these increased subsidies to universities will cause more tuition inflation. The middle class will also bear the brunt of the increased number of failed loans Obama's executive orders make inevitable, as taxpayers will subsidize the increased shortfall.

— He boosted fuel efficiency

standards. Keep in mind that his Environmental Protection Agency did this through an administrative ruling when Congress would not pass his Draconian cap-and-trade bill because it would have had a crushing economic impact on the economy.

— He protected two liberal seats on the Supreme Court, which speaks for itself.

— He achieved the New START, by which he granted Russia major concessions for little in return, making us more vulnerable to other threats by unilaterally reducing our nuclear capabilities when other nations are expanding their capabilities and terrorists are in hot pursuit of these weapons.

— He trimmed our missile defense. This is just frighteningly irresponsible.

— He invested heavily in renewable technology. Solyndra, anyone?

— He killed the F-22 when China and Russia are developing their next-generation fighters. Under what sane rationale?

What has he done about the most egregious problems facing America, discretionary and entitlement spending? Absolutely nothing. And we're headed for a colossal train wreck. I can't quit obsessing over this, and I'm frankly shocked that everyone else isn't obsessing over it 24/7 when our national survival hangs in the balance.

Are the Bush-hating liberals correct; are there now two Americas? Remember that these are being touted as accomplishments, not failures.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His latest book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for fiction for its first two weeks. Follow him on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

With You, Lord, our future can be bright.
Amen

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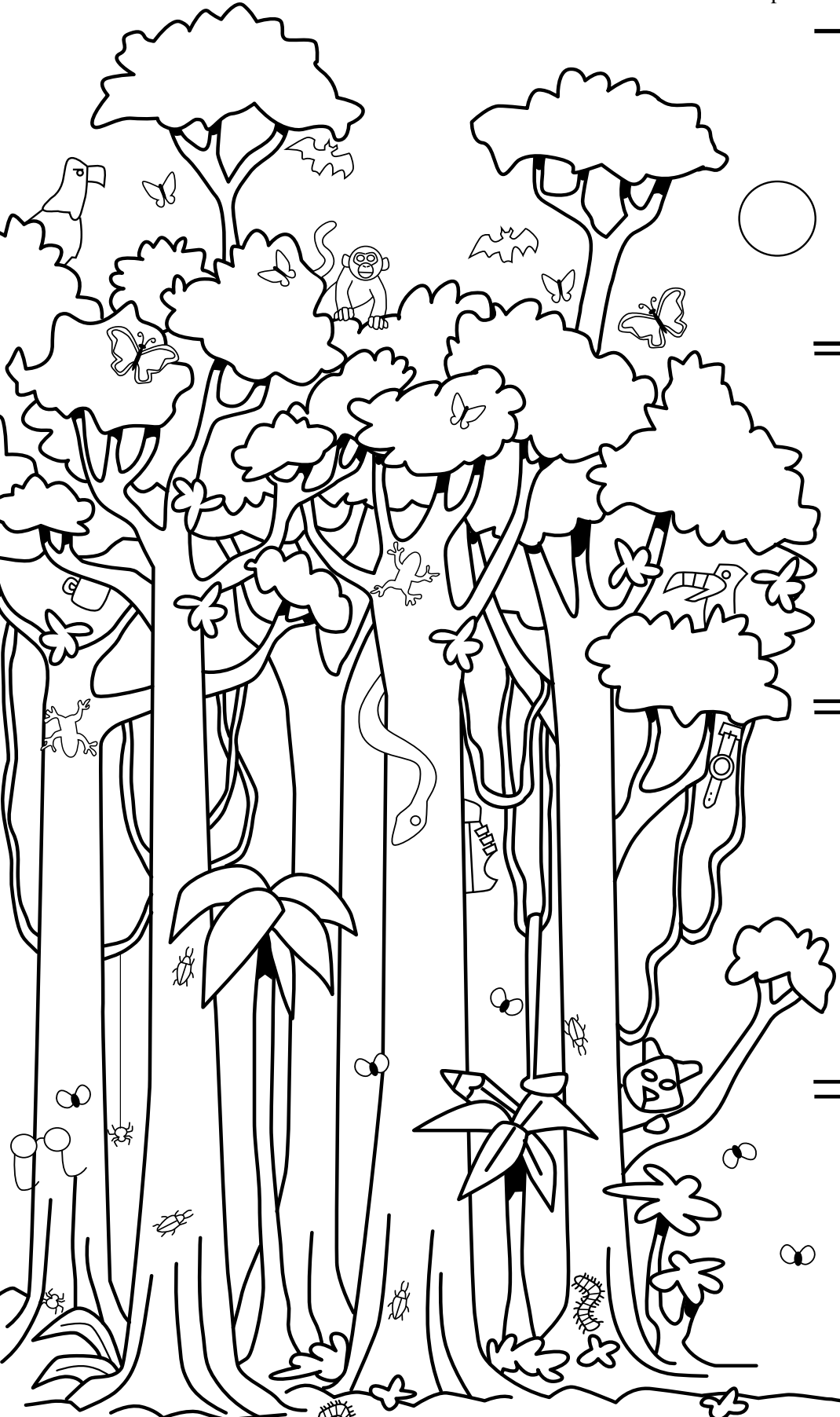
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Kid Scoop Together: Monkey Math

Spider monkeys are racing to the treetops. Each monkey can only climb as far as the last correct math problem on its tree. Start at the bottom and see who wins.

The Rainforest LIFE IN LAYERS

As many as 30 million kinds of plants and animals live in the rainforest. The trees and other plants that make up the rainforest grow together so densely that they create layers, each with different climate characteristics. Read about the layers. Then follow the directions to color the rainforest picture.



Upper Canopy 65' - 100' +

In the upper layer, the tops of the tallest trees form a canopy that spreads out over smaller trees and plants. Some of these trees grow to be 200 feet high. Plenty of sunlight reaches this layer, making it the hottest layer of the rainforest.

ANIMALS: Eagles, monkeys, bats and butterflies

Color the sky blue, the treetops bright green and the trunks brown.

Lower Canopy 30' - 65'

This is the most colorful of the layers. Since the upper canopy shades the harshest sunlight, this lower canopy receives a filtered light in which flowers and vines grow. The vines grow from tree to tree, forming a woven maze.

ANIMALS: Snakes, toucans, treefrogs

Color this layer with bright flowers and a mixture of greens.

Understory 5' - 30'

Only patches of sunlight reach through the upper layers to the understory, or mid-zone. Shrubs and small trees grow in this shady, damp layer.

ANIMALS: Jaguars, leopards, insects

Color the plants green and brown and darken the spaces between.

Forest Floor 0' - 5'

The rainforest floor is very dark and damp. Only 2% of all sunlight can reach here because of the plants above. The temperature stays around 80° F all year.

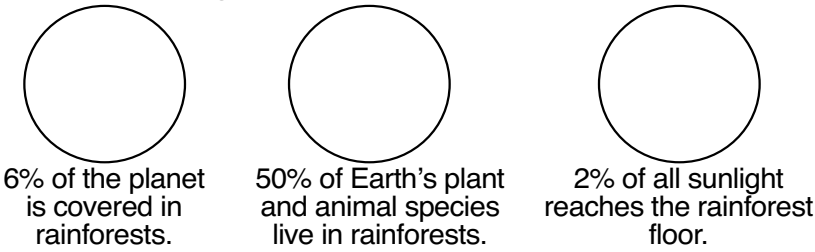
ANIMALS: Giant anteaters, sloths

Color the plants dark green and spaces between very dark.

Find It!

Look closely. Hidden in this rainforest is a shoe, a pencil, a cup, eyeglasses, a watch and a golf club.

Make a circle graph to illustrate each fact.



Extra! Extra! No Place Like Home

Write a classified ad for a habitat for a rainforest animal. Read the Homes for Sale in the Classified Ad section of the newspaper for ideas. Use abbreviations where possible.

Standards Link: Writing: Use a variety of forms in writing.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Rainforests are a source of food, medicine and products you may use in your home. Use the code to discover some of them.

A = ✓	N = ✕						
B = *	O = ♣						
C = ♠	P = ♣						
D = ♣	Q = ♠						
E = ♣	R = ♣						
F = ♣	S = \$						
G = ♣	T = ♥						
H = ♣	U = ♣						
I = ▲	V = ♣						
J = ○	W = ♣						
K = ☆	X = ♣						
L = *	Y = ♣						
M = ♣	Z = ♣						

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.



Play an online rainforest game to discover more food origins. Go to: www.kidscoop.com/kids

Double Double Word Search

RAINFOREST
FILTERED
HARSHEST
DENSELY
CANOPY
LAYERS
VINES
UPPER
SHADE
TREES
DAMP
ZONE
MAZE
HIGH
YEAR

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

Y L E S N E D Y S E
S F I L T E R E D Z
E A U V S L E A T A
E H P E A E Y R R M
R A P Y Z P N I H D
T S E R O F N I A R
N R R N N F G M V O
S H A D E H P R E S
T C H A R S H E S T

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

671 + 767 = 1,438

322 + 626 = 958

800 + 605 = 1,505

481 + 975 = 1,456

166 + 340 = 506

688 + 422 = 1,110

444 + 119 = 563

754 + 382 = 1,136

360 + 680 = 1,040

672 + 439 = 1,011

159 + 100 = 259

229 + 834 = 1,163

545 + 545 = 1,090

494 + 494 = 988

529 + 199 = 728

1,941 + 222 = 2,163

955 + 559 = 1,514

241 + 372 = 613

966 + 854 = 1,820

719 + 640 = 1,359

555 + 333 = 888

347 + 291 = 638

808 + 404 = 1,212

843 + 109 = 952

347 + 111 = 458

231 + 231 = 462

204 + 402 = 606

Standards Link: Number Sense: Calculate sums to 2,000; evaluate accuracy of response.

Kid Scoop-doku

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

S				O
O				R
T				E
F	R	E	S	T
R				F
E				S

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

www.kidscoop.com

Rainfall Reader

Look for newspaper articles about this year's rainfall in your area. Is it higher or lower than the average rainfall expected by this time of year? Discuss how this year's rain could affect the summer fire season.

Standards Link: Earth Science: Know how available resources affect an ecosystem.

What color is rain?

ANSWER: Water color.

Write On!

Rainforest Reporter

Pretend you are a reporter sent on assignment to a rainforest. Write a newspaper article about something you see, hear or experience on this imaginary trip.

Bird Poop: A chance we had to take

Awakened by the city's truck emptying the dumpsters at nearby apartments, I had to rush to get ours to the curb on time. The gusty, northeast winds of March greeted me as I rounded the corner of our garage and headed toward our roll-away. After pushing it across the driveway and to the sidewalk, I was glad to get back inside and out of the wind.

Later in the morning the familiar sounds of a truck emptying the neighbor's trash was a signal that we were next. Soon the strain of the engine, as the truck headed up the slight incline of our street, signaled that our dumpster was empty, too.

Just as I turned the receptacle to roll it back to the north side of our house, I saw it. In front of the garage door stood

a little brownish-gray dove. Glancing about as if it were lost, the young bird had probably wandered too far from its nest or parent.

Since an Inca dove had set up housekeeping in our live oak tree in the backyard in February, I was suddenly confronted with making some decisions. Had the bird come from our property?

Should I follow my own advice and let its parent guide it to the shrubbery and a hiding place in our front yard? Or would taking it to the backyard remove it from the possibility of wandering into the street and the possible consequences?

My answer was the protection offered by our fenced backyard and the sheltering foliage of the oak. With the ability to summon its parent, the dove might reunite with its parent or be rejected and on its own. That's the chance we'd both have to take.

Much like an adult except for having a paler plumage, the youngster was fairly easy to

catch. Once in hand its emerging scaly appearance was obvious. As it matured, the darkening edges of its feathers would make the Inca look like it was heavily barred above and below.

Since we had watched the building of a twig nest until it resembled a sturdy cup, we decided to return the dove to that location. We hoped it would be in familiar territory after placing it near the nest.

Once back inside, our den windows would allow us to watch the Inca's progress. After sidling along several limbs, it stopped. Then

it jumped downward to another limb. Seemingly content, the Inca rested with its head pulled in against its breast.

With wild birdseed available on the ground, and water nearby, we hoped eventually it would join the other doves when they came to feed. Later, its location in the tree changed.

As mourning doves and other Incas started to land and feed, we noticed an Inca gliding toward the opposite side of the tree from the youngster. With its wings spread to slow its flight, we enjoyed the opportunity to see the

rust color of its primaries.

Slowly working its way across the breadth of the oak, the adult was soon standing fairly close to the younger Inca. Although it offered no food, its bobbing head and mannerisms seemed friendly and almost maternal.

As both kept repositioning their feet on the limb, familiarity seemed to be evident. We could only hope our human interpretation of their actions was accurate.

After what seemed to be several minutes, the older Inca flew down to the north side of the yard. As if on cue, the youngster decided to follow its lead.

Landing a short distance from the older bird, it waited. As the older dove started to walk near those feeding from the seed holder, the fledgling hesitated for a moment. Then without further coaxing, it walked toward the others.

To watch the social interaction of the Incas and mourning doves

was a privilege. They were almost comical as they walked about with the rhythmic bobbing back and forth of their heads.

Later, when it flew to the top of the fence, our youngster seemed undecided as to what to do next. When an older Inca landed atop our gate, it quickly joined it.

Soon, both were up in the oak again. The hardest part of our vigil had been to let nature determine the outcome.

Even though we had known that doves are mostly on their own after they leave the nest, we were also aware that sometimes a parent would feed a fledgling for several days. Although we had gambled on the youngster being from our tree, and that it could assimilate into the company of other doves, it was a chance we had had to take.

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



Courtesy photo

About eight inches long and weighing less than two ounces, the Inca dove is one of our smallest doves. It is often called a scaled dove. In flight, its long tail is graced with white edges.

Parent's Corner: Stress and frustration

Stress and frustration are part of our lives. Some deal with it easily and others have a difficult time. I deal with stress fairly easily

but frustration, on the other hand, is a constant reminder that life does have its problems.

Today, I was asked point blank, OK, what's

the difference between stress and frustration?

At first this question took me by surprise, but after thinking about it for a while I felt I had an answer. Stress, in my opinion, is when bad things happen to you, whether it's a stressful life event, like somebody dying or a situation where one is not getting the reward he feels he deserves, or the demands of our lives are too high and we don't have much control over how we meet those demands, or problems that arise in our family and circle of friends — things that happen to us that bring about psychological response, whether real or imagined. When we are under stress, we have too much on our mind. Our thoughts are wandering and it is necessary to get that continuous flow of thoughts stopped and get our mind at peace.

Usually, people under stress are physically busy, running from home to jobs, getting kids to and from school, or actively busy in life's activities. Therefore, good advice is first to "take a rest" but after resting it is time to take action, but in a better way. It's time for time management and time to actively schedule the

thoughts in our mind to be more focused on what we are doing and be relaxed to allow creative new ideas to come into our mind. However, as earlier mentioned, the first thought while thinking about stress is to "take a rest."

Frustration, on the other hand, though related to stress, is our reaction to anger, sadness, anxiety and adrenaline changes and appears in many levels. When we are faced with a situation and we fail to distinguish between what we hoped would happen as to what actually happened, then we are frustrated and the first thing we need to do when we are frustrated is to take action.

Dealing with frustration creates paralysis and negativity; creating a feeling that there is no solution. When this occurs, we should step out of the frustrating situation, remember that frustration is our reaction to events, etc., and seek ways to get it resolved. Then we can move ahead with revitalized energy and systematically analyze the situation and seek another way to accomplish the goal.

We must keep in mind that frustration may lead to aggression and/or procrastination and we must consciously move forward without negativity. When our goals seems to be so near, yet so far,

we should continue to be positive in thinking of the accomplishments we've attained thus far, no matter how small they may be. In the end, when we finally achieve our goal, we will find ourselves stronger in character and more ready to face greater challenges.

Life inevitably has its ups and downs, its moments of relaxation and its times of tension. When we learn to truly accept this reality, we come one step closer to being able to deal with frustration and

stress in a healthy way.

Now, saying that, I must say, that's the way I thought about it before I thought about it.

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



DARRELL RYAN

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Drop in the Bucket

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ Q 9 4
♥ 10 7 2
♦ J 8 5
♣ 9 6 3 2

EAST

♠ 8 5 3
♥ J
♦ 9 6 4 3 2
♣ Q 10 8 4

SOUTH

♠ A J 10 7
♥ A K 6 4 3
♦ A
♣ A K 5

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

* strong, artificial ** negative
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

A declarer should be willing to sacrifice a trick if it increases his overall chance of making the contract. Thus, if South makes exactly four hearts in the present case, he scores 620 points (at duplicate or Chicago scoring); if he makes an overtrick, he scores 650; but if he goes down one, he is minus 100.

The 30 points declarer can gain by making five hearts are obviously a drop in the bucket compared with

Tomorrow: A hairsplitting decision.

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what he can lose if he goes down trying for an overtrick.

Observe how this applies to today's deal. South takes the diamond lead with the ace and sees that he could lose a spade, a club and an unknown number of trumps. How many trump tricks he will lose depends on how the trumps are divided or on how he plays the suit.

At trick two, declarer plays the ace of trumps, on which East produces the jack. If South carelessly continues with the king, he goes down one, losing two trump tricks, a spade and a club. But South should not play the king after East's jack appears, since if the jack is a singleton, the king play will almost surely prove fatal.

Declarer should reason that East started with either the singleton jack or the doubleton Q-J. By leading a low trump next, South can restrict himself to one trump loser in either case. This safety play will cost him a trick if East started with the Q-J, but South should be willing to lose 30 points to ensure the contract.

In the actual deal, if South decides to play safe and leads a low trump toward dummy at trick three, he loses only one trump trick — regardless of which heart West chooses to play — and so finishes with 10 tricks.

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

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Grady, Sands top 8-1A hoops team

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

As expected, the Grady Wildcats and Sands Mustangs dominated the recently released District 8-1A Div. II All-District Boys Basketball Team.

Leading the way were Grady seniors Branson Richards and Zeke Clay, who were named co-most valuable players in the district this season. Richards and Clay were the leading scorers for a team that won 30 games and earned a spot in the University Interscholastic League state tournament.

Also honored from the Wildcats was freshman E.J. Rodriguez, who was named the district's newcomer of the year.

For Sands, senior Albert Ybarra and junior Caleb Thomason were named offensive and defensive MVPs, respectively. The two were major reasons behind the Mustangs compiling a 28-8 record and finishing second behind Grady at the regional tournament.

Members of the all-district first team were: Preston Zant, junior, Sands; Michael Gomez, senior, Sands; Michael Jimenez, junior, Grady; Taylor Polson, sophomore, Grady; Dylan Gruben, senior, O'Donnell; Tanner Richey, junior Borden

See **HOOPS**, Page 12



Big Spring's Valerie Goodblanket fields a grounder at second base during action earlier this season. The Lady Steers will face off against Snyder tonight on the road at 6:30 p.m.

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Baseball

Big Spring at Snyder, 7 p.m.
Coahoma vs. Lubbock
Roosevelt, TBA.

Howard College vs. Odessa College, rescheduled April 17, TBA.

Softball

Big Spring at Snyder, 6:30 p.m.
Coahoma vs. Lubbock
Roosevelt, TBA.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com

Nowitzki, Mavs down Nuggets

DENVER (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki answered everything the Denver Nuggets threw at him. The only thing that stopped him was the lopsided score.

Nowitzki had 33 points and 11 rebounds before getting a rest in the fourth quarter, Brandon Wright scored a season-high 15 points and the Dallas Mavericks won 112-95 on Monday night.

Arron Afflalo scored 24 points for the Nuggets, who lost a game that could have an impact on their playoff position. Denver entered Monday seventh in the Western Conference, a half-game behind Dallas. The Mavericks not only gained

a game on the Nuggets, they won the season series and hold a tiebreaker should the teams finish with the same record.

"It always helps," Mavericks guard Vince Carter said. "Right now, it's not about series wins, it is about getting wins and moving ourselves up the ladder."

Nowitzki was the biggest reason they hold the tiebreaker. The 13-year veteran started hitting shots early and never really stopped as he finished 12 of 19 from the field against several different defenders, all of whom were shaking their heads.

And when he wasn't hitting shots, he was finding the open man. He finished with six assists.

"For some reason, we're really shooting the ball well, moving the ball," Nowitzki said.

"I have gotten better at it as I've gotten older. That comes with experience. Sometimes my passing decisions aren't the greatest."

The Nuggets also lost guard Andre Miller in the second quarter with a bruised right shoulder, and forward Danilo Gallinari broke his left thumb in the third quarter. Neither player returned, and their

status for Wednesday was unknown.

"I hit my thumb to the backboard. I was trying to block a shot," Gallinari said. "I tried to play through, but it was getting worse second by second. I didn't know it was broken, but it hurt a lot."

Their injuries made Wilson Chandler's debut even more significant one day after he signed a multiyear deal. He had 13 points and took a team-high 16 shots.

Chandler, who played overseas for Zhejiang Guangsha of the Chinese Basketball Association

See **MAVS**, Page 12

Manning to sign with Broncos

By ARNIE STAPLETON

AP Pro Football Writer

DENVER — All that's needed is Peyton Manning's autograph.

After being pursued by teams around the NFL, the QB with four MVP awards is headed to the land of John Elway and Tim Tebow, agreeing to a contract with Denver that could make the Broncos an instant Super Bowl contender. It could also send one of the NFL's most intriguing young players packing. So much for Tebowmania.

Manning called Elway on Monday morning and told the Broncos executive that he had chosen Denver over the Tennessee Titans and San Francisco 49ers in the wildest free-agent chase of the offseason.

The Broncos and Manning's agent then hashed out details of a deal that's expected to be worth about \$95 million over five years.

If they can reach an agreement, Manning could sign the deal and be introduced at a news conference as early

as Tuesday.

Manning was wooed to Denver by Elway, the former quarterback who led the Broncos to two Super Bowl championships and now serves as their vice president of football operations.

Elway never sounded all that convinced Tebow was the answer at the sport's most important position, and now could trade the hugely popular QB who energized the Broncos in a run to the playoffs last season but was plagued by erratic play.

Rangers drop one to Brewers

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Milwaukee's Norichika Aoki upstaged fellow Japanese newcomer Yu Darvish on Monday afternoon.

Aoki had three hits, including a triple, and drove in three runs Monday as the Brewers rallied past the Texas Rangers 5-3.

Aoki hit an RBI single in the second off Darvish, then tied the game at 3 in the sixth when he tripled to score Alex Gonzalez and George Kottaras. Aoki came home on Cesar Izturis' squeeze bunt.

Coming in, Aoki had been 4 for 28 during spring training.

"He needed to have that game just so he could get back on track," Brewers manager Ron Roenicke said. "I know he's been pressing and has been trying to do well for us. This has to make him feel good."

Roenicke told Aoki last week not to put too much pressure on himself.

"It's just an honor to have a conversation with him," Aoki said through an interpreter. "Playing in a different environment it helped me relax and calm down."

Making his third start, Darvish allowed one hit and three walks in four innings with four strikeouts and a hit batter.

Aoki and the Brewers were able to capitalize on Darvish's inconsistency.

Travis Ishikawa led the second with a walk, and Darvish hit Jonathan Lucroy in the back with a fastball that appeared to slip out of his hand. Aoki, who said he was 0 for 4 against Darvish in Japan, followed with a single that pulled the Brewers to 2-1.

Aoki singled again in the fifth, and he tripled in the sixth against Joe Nathan.

"He's a great hitter," Darvish said through an interpreter. "He's always been a great hitter."

See **RANGERS**, Page 12

A&M women edge Arkansas

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — After rallying from a double-digit deficit on Saturday to beat Dayton in the opening of the NCAA tournament, the Arkansas Razorbacks had no reason to think they couldn't do it again against Texas A&M.

On Monday night they came up just short.

Sydney Carter hit the go-ahead free throws with 23 seconds left, Adaora Elonu tied a career high with 23 points and the Aggies fought off scrappy Arkansas for a 61-59

win in the second round of the tournament.

"The one thing that we've been able to stress to everyone this year is not to ever give up," Arkansas senior Lydny Harris said, fighting back tears. "When you're in that situation to the defending national champions and still battle back the way we did, I couldn't ask for more from anybody on that team."

The sixth-seeded Razorbacks (24-9) had another chance after Carter's free throws, but Quistelle Williams missed a short jumper. White was fouled

on the rebound and made one of two free throws for the final margin.

"We're disappointed that we lost this game because we know we had a chance, but we had a good season and we're going to keep our heads up," said Collen, who led Arkansas to the tournament for the first time since 2003. "I've been through so much with this team in terms of the growing pains and the hard work in order to get where we're at and gain the level of respectability

See **A&M**, Page 12

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Happy equinox, and welcome to the first day of the new season. With the equal distribution of day to night comes a sense of balance and beauty. The sun in Aries brings opportunity, new birth and the zesty energy of the warrior — which doesn't always have to do with war. Sometimes the warrior energy has more to do with living life to the fullest.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You have the sense that the world is full of promise and that you're just the one to make good. It's as though the sky was painted for you alone and the angels are awaiting your orders. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You have a clear intention for the day and a stellar sense of direction to help you head toward it. You're also willing to change your tactics or jump onto

a different path whenever necessary.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're constantly learning and growing, and sometimes you just want to stop and take stock of where you are. Love helps you do this. Having someone to talk to and share special moments with will help you to realize your many blessings.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The imbalance in your life will be set right. You're realizing more and more that just because things aren't quite the way you want them to be doesn't mean they are not perfect in the grand scheme.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Sometimes you talk off of the top of your head, and it doesn't come out the way you want it to. People hear your heart, though, and it's in the right place. So anything you say that's a little off won't count for much.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's much to gain from keeping up with loved ones. They may vent about topics that are irrelevant to you, and yet you can appreciate the

fact that others have different priorities and interests.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're going into a new season, but you won't forget your heritage. You'll attract good fortune as you pay homage to the ghosts who have inspired the person you are today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Everything cannot be important to you at once, although it may feel that way as this new season opens before you. There's a wonderful sense of urgency to your mood. You want to know, do and be "it all."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). In some way, you'll feel like a professional basketball player stepping up to the free-throw line. The pressure is on, but it's also your chance to be a star and save the day.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your concern about social standing is well founded. Image is important, and so is reputation. You'll be deciding how you want to be perceived in the new season and making fresh decisions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll love the particular brand of distraction that seeks you out today. You may decide that it's not a diversion at all, but rather a delightful bit of meaning that's been purposefully put in your path.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A little plan might fall through, but the big picture is still intact. In some way, the pressure is off of you now. This is your chance to make a new deal. Above all, you have hope.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 20). Believing impossible things takes practice. You're just the kind of dreamer who will practice often, and your belief will bring about miraculous results. Your harmonious personal life makes it possible for you to give quality attention to your work. You'll excel and be promoted. Moves and renovations happen in May. Virgo and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 50, 23, 41 and 39.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My wife of three years always seems to have something derogatory to say about "Janie," my 20-year-old daughter from my first marriage.

If Janie vacuums, my wife says she didn't do it right. If she has a half-filled garbage can, my wife tells her it needs to be emptied, etc. I am so tired of the nitpicking, but I don't know what to do.

My wife and I have a toddler girl and a 7-month-old boy, and I love them more than anything. But don't you think she should mind her own business about my older daughter? — *On the Edge in Pittsburgh*

Dear Edge: To some extent, yes. Janie is a member of the household and should do her chores. However, your wife needs to find better ways to handle Janie, or she will create resentment all around.

Please don't simmer silently. Talk to your wife so she understands how much this bothers you. See a counselor who

specializes in blended families. And contact the National Stepfamily Resource Center (stepfamilies.info) for help.

Dear Annie: We are volunteers at an educational center that teaches English, provides tutoring and offers social services to minorities.

The problem is our supervisor. He is constantly rude and sharp with the volunteers, as well as with prospective financial donors who could help support the program.

When we bring this to his attention, he will take some responsibility in the moment, but he proceeds the next day as if the conversation never took place.

Over the past seven years, his behavior has gotten worse. I know he received some counseling in the past, but there has been no improvement.

We have watched him bark orders at the paid staff, and he seldom uses "please" or "thank you" with anyone. He speaks

poorly of others and disregards any suggestions made to him. He takes advantage of the volunteers by asking them to do personal favors, and he once asked a volunteer to loan him money.

He reports to a board where he has formed a couple of friendships that are more personal than professional, and they aren't inclined to do anything.

How do we handle this? We don't want to quit, although a couple of valuable people have left and it has had a huge impact.

We have put a lot of time and energy into this program and have formed relationships with the students. We don't want to shortchange them because of this supervisor. Any suggestions? — *Feeling Stepped On*

Dear Stepped On: Asking for personal favors and loans is completely inappropriate and should be reported. However, if continuous attempts to get the

supervisor to change his ways have failed and the board will not intervene, your choice is to put up with this behavior or leave.

Some people would interpret the supervisor's personality as more brusque than bullying and would ignore most of it. In fact, you might even be able to correct him at the time, as long as you use tolerant humor. If you opt to stay, this is the tack we would recommend.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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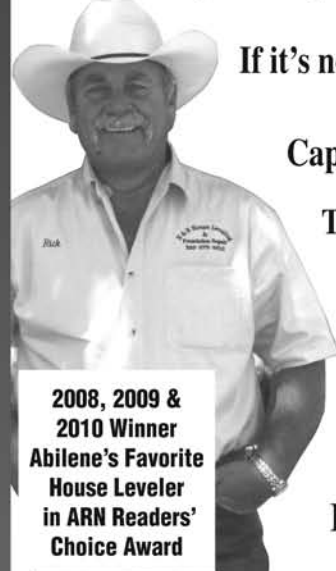
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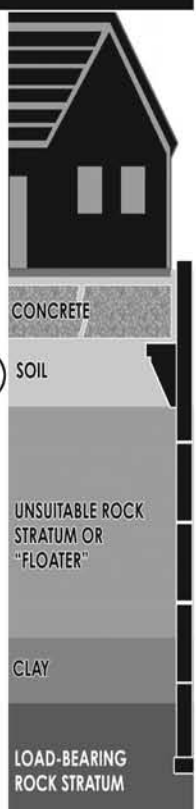
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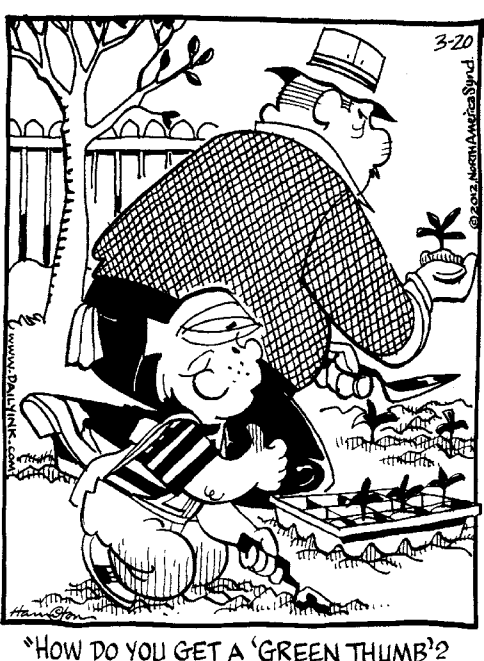


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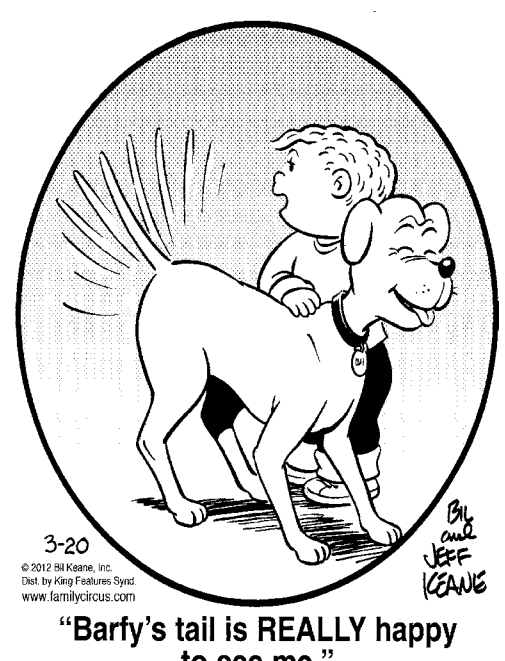
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5:PM	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Two Men Big Bang	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News CBS	King King	Scrivner Uri Harel	Charlie Rose	Til Death King	Deadliest Catch	CSI: Miami	CSI: Crime Scene	Yard, Burt Reynolds	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	SportsCenter	
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Una Familia con Suerte (SS)	Big Bang Ent	News CBS	Caso Cerado	News CBS	Seinfeld	Alan Lee L. Moore	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Deadliest Catch	CSI: Miami	Movie: Walking Tall, Neal McDonough	Movie: National Treasure, Diane Kruger	Together Game	Jessie	Women's College Basketball	College Basketball	
7:PM	Last Man Cougar	El Talismán (SS)	Raising Daughter	NCIS: Los Angeles	Corazón Valiente	The Biggest Loser	Big Bang	Upd	American Experience (DVS)	90210	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Shawshank Redemption, Bob Gunton	Movie: Walking Tall, Neal McDonough	Southland	Together Game	Jessie	Women's College Basketball	College Basketball	
8:PM	The River	La Que No	Simpsons	Unforgettable	Relaciones Pelit	Fashion Star	Big Bang	Conan	Frontline (DVS)	Cops	MythBusters	CSI: NY	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Together Game	Jessie	Women's College Basketball	College Basketball	
9:PM	Body of Proof	Impacto	How I Met	News CBS	Noticias Sin Senos no	News CBS	Big Bang	Conan	Charlie Rose	Til Death King	Machines of Glory	Movie: The Shawshank Redemption, Bob Gunton	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Together Game	Jessie	Women's College Basketball	College Basketball	
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met	News CBS	Noticias Sin Senos no	News CBS	Big Bang	Conan	Charlie Rose	Til Death King	Machines of Glory	Movie: The Shawshank Redemption, Bob Gunton	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Together Game	Jessie	Women's College Basketball	College Basketball	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Office	Ministerios Vida	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	Roseanne	Deadliest Catch	CSI: Miami	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Movie: Zig Zag, Jared Leto	Good	NBA	SportsCenter	
12:AM	Extra Paid	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	(:06) Today	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	Seinfeld
1AM	Paid	Par Ases	TMZ	Meals!	Pelicula:														

DENNIS THE MENACE



"How do you get a 'green thumb'? Mine always ends up brown."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

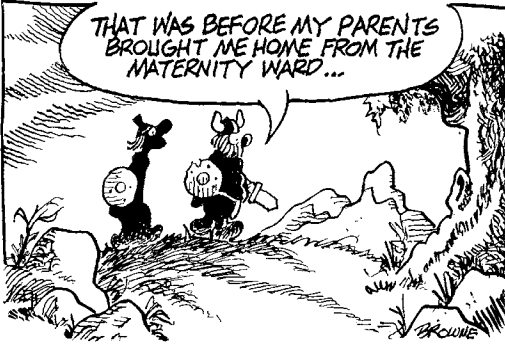


"Barfy's tail is REALLY happy to see me."

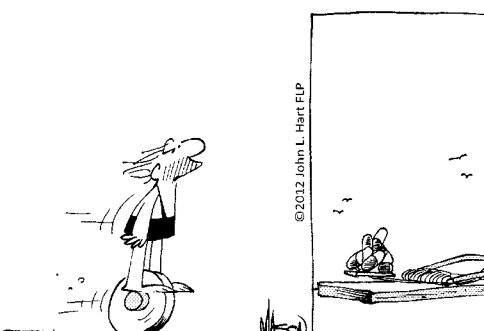
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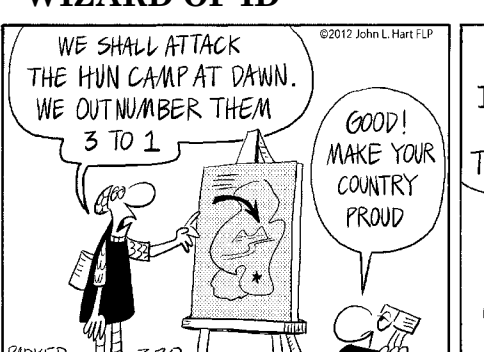
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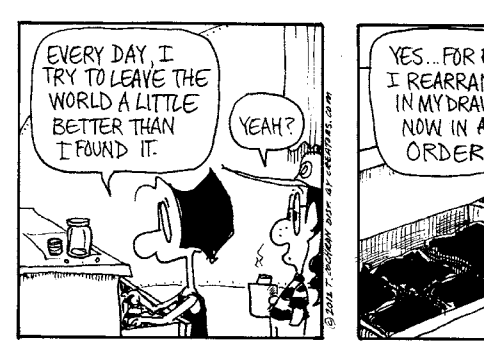
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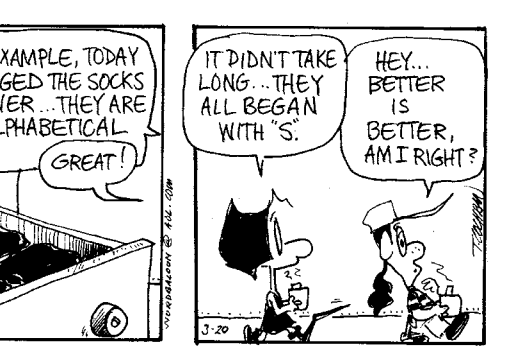
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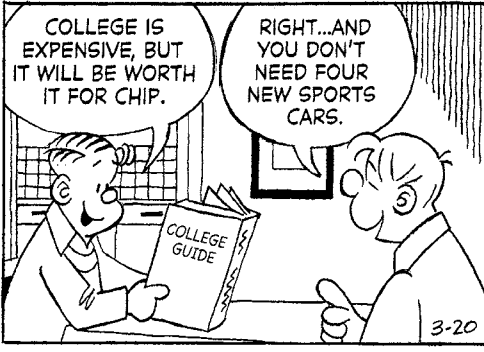
THE OTHER COAST



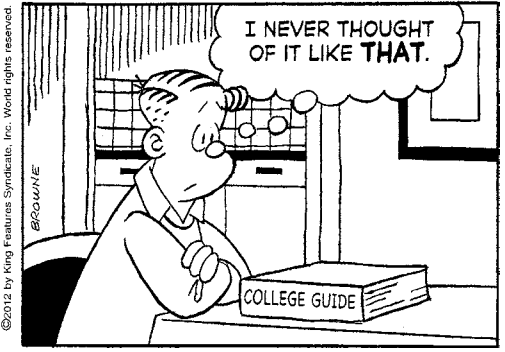
SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



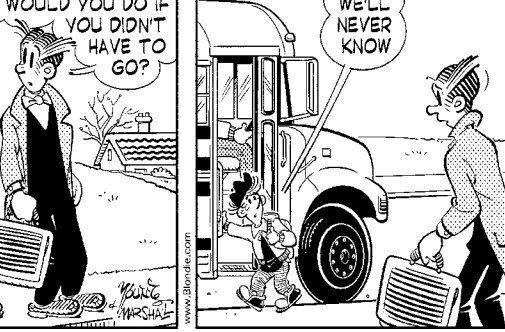
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, March 20, the 80th day of 2012. There are 286 days left in the year. Spring arrives at 1:14 a.m. Eastern time.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 20, 1912, a coal mine explosion in McCurtain, Okla., claimed the lives of 73 workers.

On this date:

In 1413, England's King Henry IV died; he was succeeded by Henry V.

In 1727, physicist, mathematician and astronomer Sir Isaac Newton died in London.

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte returned to Paris after escaping his exile on Elba, beginning his "Hundred Days" rule.

In 1852, Harriet Beecher Stowe's influential novel about slavery, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," was first published in book form after being serialized.

In 1933, the state of Florida executed Giuseppe Zangara for the shooting death of Chicago

Mayor Anton J. Cermak at a Miami event attended by President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt, the presumed target.

In 1952, the U.S. Senate ratified, 66-10, the Treaty of Peace with Japan. At the Academy Awards, "An American in Paris" was named best picture of 1951; Humphrey Bogart best actor for "The African Queen"; Vivien Leigh best actress for "A Streetcar Named Desire"; and George Stevens best director for "A Place in the Sun."

In 1969, John Lennon married Yoko Ono in Gibraltar.

In 1977, voters in Paris chose former French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac to be the French capital's first mayor in more than a century.

In 1985, Libby Riddles of Teller, Ala., became the first woman to win the Iditarod Trail Dog Sled Race.

In 1987, the Food and Drug Administration approved the sale of AZT, a drug shown to prolong the lives of some AIDS patients.

In 1995, in Tokyo, 12 people were killed, more than 5,500 others sickened when packages containing the poisonous gas sarin were leaked on five sepa-

rate subway trains by Aum Shinrikyo (ohm shin-ree-kyoh) cult members.

In 1999, Bertrand Piccard of Switzerland and Brian Jones of Britain became the first aviators to fly a hot-air balloon around the world nonstop.

Today's Birthdays: British songstress Dame Vera Lynn is 95. Producer-director-comedian Carl Reiner is 90. Actor Hal Leland is 81. Former Canadian prime minister Brian Mulroney (muhl-ROO'-nee) is 73. Country singer Don Edwards is 73. TV producer Paul Junger Witt is 69. Country singer-musician Ranger Doug (Riders in the Sky) is 66. Hockey Hall-of-Famer Bobby Orr is 64.

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Answer to previous puzzle

HALT	CLAP	BASIS
ERIE	ROLE	ALAMO
ACME	EASE	TURIN
THANKS	FORCING	ING
ITE	UNS	
STAND	RUNTS	SSW
AILED	POE	SOLO
WELCOME	STRANGER	
TOOK	ORE	RAGES
ONT	HURTS	EGYPT
	GAS	OWN
PLEASE	HAVE	A SEAT
SORTS	ARIA	KALE
SPIEL	LEER	TICON
TENSE	OATS	SHED

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cop's ID
 - 6 Farm yield
 - 10 Possesses
 - 14 Real-estate land units
 - 15 Take a cab
 - 16 "This isn't good!"
 - 17 "___ new with you?"
 - 18 Plenty
 - 19 Matador's opponent
 - 20 '80s fad garments
 - 22 Highway entrance
 - 23 Hurricane's center
 - 24 Fries or coleslaw
 - 26 Petty quarrel
 - 29 Gift decoration
 - 32 Pageant crowns
 - 36 Ultimate goal
 - 37 Speedy
 - 39 Dieter's device
 - 40 '80s fad doll
 - 43 Manipulate, as bread dough
 - 44 Nostalgic style
 - 45 Night before
 - 46 Dishonorable
 - 48 Caribbean, for one
 - 49 ___-friendly software
 - 50 Noisy
 - 52 Soup container
 - 54 Couch
 - 57 '80s puzzle fad
 - 63 Bakery appliance
 - 64 Snaky swimmers
- DOWN**
- 1 Weep loudly
 - 2 Sore feeling
 - 3 Pull from behind
 - 4 Jump into a pool
 - 5 Op-ed piece
 - 6 Pack tightly
 - 7 Make angry
 - 8 Aromas
 - 9 Watch Fluffy or Fido
 - 10 Community service program
 - 11 Horse-halting cry
 - 12 Expected standard
 - 13 Boutique
 - 21 Pack the groceries again
 - 25 '70s nightclub
 - 26 Potato holders
 - 27 Spinet or grand color
 - 30 Phone-button letters
 - 31 Uses a dish towel
 - 33 Gathers leaves
 - 34 Vibrant
 - 35 Passover meal
 - 37 The "R" of NPR
 - 38 Palm-tree fruit region
 - 41 South Dakota region
 - 42 Train's path
 - 47 Coercion
 - 49 Straighten, as hair
 - 51 Because of
 - 53 Put ___ to (end)
 - 54 Bubbly beverage
 - 55 At an end
 - 56 Fractions of a yard
 - 58 Fuzzy image
 - 59 "That ___ fair!"
 - 60 Take apart
 - 61 Red veggie
 - 62 Messes up

1980s FADS by Billie Truitt Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18				19				
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43						44						45	
46						47		48				49	
				50				51			52	53	
54	55	56			57		58	59			60	61	62
63					64						65		
66					67						68		
69					70						71		

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A&M

Continued from Page 7

we've always wanted to get back to the University of Arkansas."

The victory put the third-seeded Aggies (24-10) in the round of 16 for the fourth time in five years. The defending national champions will play No. 2 seed Maryland in the semifinals of the Raleigh Regional.

Texas A&M coach Gary Blair got the best of former assistant and current Arkansas coach Tom Collen in Blair's first meeting with the Razorbacks since he left the school for A&M in 2003.

Blair tried to downplay the importance of beating his former team before the game, but admitted how much he wanted this win afterward.

Collen worked for

Blair from 1993-97.

A jumper by Harris as the shot clock expired gave the Razorbacks their first lead of the second half, 59-58. Both teams missed layups on their next possession before Carter's free throws.

Elonu was the only Aggies player to score in double figures. Bone had eight points on 3-of-12 shooting.

White, who led A&M with 18 points in a 69-47 win over Albany on Saturday, had just three points and eight turnovers in this one.

A pair of free throws by Ashley Daniels with 2:20 remaining cut A&M's lead to 58-57 before the shot by Harris.

The Razorbacks were led by Williams, who had 14 points. Williams didn't start, but also paced Arkansas in its first NCAA tournament game Saturday.

HOOPS

Continued from Page 7

County; Quint Shafer, senior, Borden County; Landry Barton, senior, O'Donnell; Nick Garcia, sophomore, Dawson; and Michell Gregory, senior, Klondike.

Second-team all-district members were: Junior Rogers, senior,

Sands; Hayden Ware, senior, Sands; Brett Glaze, junior, Grady; Ivan Sanjuan, junior, Grady; Kiley Davila, senior, Wellman-Union; Wyatt Tidwell, sophomore, Klondike; Zach Bartkowsky, senior, Klondike; Laderean Hunter, sophomore, O'Donnell; David Valero, sophomore, Dawson; and Jasiel Ontiveros, junior, Loop.

Texas' Goestenkers resigns

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas — After five seasons of disappointing results and failure to live up to high expectations, Texas women's basketball coach Gail Goestenkers resigned Monday, saying she is "tired" and needs to step away from basketball.

Texas hired Goestenkers away from Duke in 2007 with hopes she would revive one of the

nation's top programs. She never had a losing season and her teams made it to the NCAA tournament every year. But her teams lost in the first round the last four years and she didn't win any Big 12 championships.

At a news conference to announce her decision, Goestenkers seemed relieved to be free from the emotional and physical burden of shouldering the expect-

tations — and criticism — that she should have rebuilt the program into a national championship contender by now.

"After a lot of soul searching ... I am tired and it's not fair to this program," Goestenkers told reporters a few minutes after she told her team. "It's not fair to the kids to have a coach that's just tired."

Texas women's athletic director Chris Plon-

sky, who gave Goestenkers a public vote of confidence two weeks ago, appeared saddened by the decision. Plonsky, who hired Goestenkers, said she wanted Goestenkers to stay and insisted the coach was not forced out after a an 18-14 season that again ended with a loss in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

"I tried to re-recruit her (to stay)," Plonsky said.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

The Brewers have a lot of tough hitters and he seems to be just like one of them."

Darvish, who retired the side in order in the first and third, walked a pair of hitters in the fourth. He escaped trouble when he induced Lucroy into a broken-

bat, inning-ending double play on a two-seam fastball inside.

"A few weeks ago, I couldn't even throw that for a strike," Darvish said. "Today, throwing that pitch in that situation and getting a ground ball when I needed one was a relief."

Fastball command remained an issue for Darvish, who threw only 39 of 70 pitches for

strikes.

"Every spring I'm usually not sharp," Darvish said. "I think my situation right now at this time, I don't see much difference from previous springs. The way my body's working and my delivery, I'm not able to repeat right now. These are the things I'm going to work on polishing."

Rickie Weeks struck out twice against

Darvish.

"I'm not the guy to talk to for all this praise, but he's a great pitcher," Weeks said.

Darvish is slated to pitch in an intrasquad game Sunday rather than travel to Tempe to face the Los Angeles Angels.

Brewers starter Randy Wolf gave up three runs, 10 hits and two walks in five innings with four strikeouts.

MAVS

Continued from Page 7

during the lockout, was ineligible to return until his team and FIBA, basketball's governing body, signed off.

Once that happened, he and the Nuggets agreed to a five-year, \$37 million contract. They finalized the deal Sunday and he was on the court Monday. He came into the game midway through the first period and hit his first three shots, including a 3-pointer to beat the

shot clock.

"I was pretty winded," he said. "First game back against the defending champions with two future Hall of Famers, it's tough."

Chandler's early offense helped keep the Nuggets close in a half where the Mavericks didn't miss many shots.

Dallas started the game 10 of 13 from the field and shot 62.5 percent in the first period. Nowitzki led the way by going 5 for 5, mostly against rookie Kenneth Faried.

"That 1-foot fadeaway,

nobody in the league can hit that and he makes it look so easy," Faried said. "You think you play great D, you contest the shot and he looks at you like, 'That's going to go in every time.' As a rookie, wow."

Behind Nowitzki's 18 points in the first half, the Mavericks built a nine-point lead before Denver made a charge to get within a point at 50-49 with 2:38 left in the second quarter. Dallas recovered and led 63-56 at the half.

Nowitzki drained a 3 as the Mavericks scored the first seven points of the third to go ahead by 14. Denver cut it to 78-72 on Chandler's tip-in, but Dallas finished the third quarter on a 14-6 run to lead 92-78 heading into the fourth.

"My biggest disap-

pointment was the beginning of the third quarter," Nuggets coach George Karl said. "They scored the first seven points and their confidence just ballooned. They're a championship team, they have an attitude and they're getting ready for the playoffs."

Nowitzki's three-point play and 16-foot turnaround jumper gave Dallas a 101-82 lead with 8:08 left. Soon after, he sat down for the rest of the night and Denver never made it a game in the fourth.

"It was one of the smartest played games I've seen in the league all year long," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "Very disciplined, aggressive, but not frantic and we moved the ball the way we had to."

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