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WEDNESDAY

APRIL 4, 2012



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 146

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Mobile Meals needs help

Non-profit organization relies on private donations

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

A program which provides meals for elderly, homebound Big Spring residents has put out a call for volun-

teers. Mobile Meals, a private, non-profit organization, currently delivers noon meals for between 60 and 70 people a day, but officials said more

help is needed. "We currently have 17 volunteers," said Mobile Meals President Stan Feaster. "It's a commitment on their part, and they consider it a privi-

lege to serve on one of those routes ... but we really need volunteers. If we don't have enough drivers on a certain day, (Program Director Mac-

aria Cantu) has to go out on a route, and she has enough to do as it is." Cantu said the program is designed to help homebound See **MEALS**, Page 3A

Egg-citing weekend for kiddos

By AMANDA MORENO
Staff Writer

Hippity, hoppity, Easter time is here. Starting Friday, kids will have two days of hunting Easter eggs. Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home will celebrate its 10th annual Easter egg hunt and First Church of the Nazarene will host its third annual egg hunt.

of eggs have been prepared — will begin at 11:30 a.m. Three age divisions will be represented: 1-2 years old; 3-6 and 7-12.

"We are continuing our tradition of hosting the hunt on Good Friday," Carrillo said. "Schools are out that day and that is one of the things that allows us to continue that tradition."

First Church of the Nazarene will continue its tradition Saturday. Two age groups — 2-5 and 6-10 — will hunt eggs in the fields beside the Old Settler's Pavilion at Comanche Trail Park at 11 a.m.

"This is something we wanted to expand beyond



HERALD file photo
With Mom's help, a young girl fills her basket with eggs at Comanche Trail Park. Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home and First Church of the Nazarene will be among those hosting community wide Easter egg hunts for children this weekend.

TxDOT officials urge motorcycle caution

Herald Staff Report

Less than a week ago, the driver of a pickup truck in Eastland County pulled out in front of a motorcycle traveling on Farm Road 2214. The

motorcycle driver, 49-year-old Louis Sandoval of Stephenville, was killed.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, motorcyclists are dying at alarming rates, prompting of-

ficials to urge caution when traveling the state's roads and highways.

TxDOT's Share the Road motorcycle safety and public awareness campaign runs through mid-May and is de-

signed to remind drivers to look twice for motorcycles, especially at intersections and when changing lanes, where most of the collisions take place. In 2011, Texas had 470 motorcycle fatalities, 16

percent of the state's traffic deaths. As in the case in Eastland County, half of all fatal motorcycle crashes in Texas See **BIKES**, Page 3A

Tornado-wrecked Dallas begins assessing damage

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The tornado hurtled toward the nursing home. Physical therapist Patti Gilroy said she saw the swirling mass barreling down through the back door, after she herded patients into the hallway in the order trained: walkers, wheelchairs, then beds.

is," said Gilroy, who rounded up dozens to safety at Green Oaks Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. "It sounded like a bomb hit. And we hit the floor, and everybody was praying. It was shocking."

The National Weather Service said as many as a dozen twisters touched down in a wrecking-ball swath of violent weather that stretched

across Dallas and Fort Worth. The destructive reminder of a young tornado season Tuesday left thousands without power and hundreds of homes pummeled or worse.

As the sun rose Wednesday over the southern Dallas suburb of Lancaster, one of the hardest hit areas, it was clear that twisters had bounced in and out of neighborhoods,

destroying homes at random. Vehicles were tossed like toys, coming to rest in living rooms and bedrooms.

See **TORNADO**, Page 3A



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Police blotter

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

- GLEN WILLARD OVERTON, 60, of 3908 Parkway Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- XAVIER GARCIA MOYA, 37, of 2605 Dow, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- JOSEPH DEWAYNE RICHTER, 24, of 904 S. Nolan, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for displaying fictitious license plate, failure to appear and driving while license invalid.
- ECTOR JAQUEZ JARAMILLO, 56, of 1305 Lexington, was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of a controlled substance and tampering/fabricating physical evidence.
- BRUCE GONZALES, 43, of 1623 Hickory in Colorado City, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for driving while license invalid.
- SHANNON DWAYNE HUDGINS, 34, of 604 S.E. Broadway in Coahoma, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for criminal mischief.
- VERA RENEE TREADWAY, 32, of 904 Nolan Apt. E, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for criminal mischief.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 2400 block of N. Birdwell Lane.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report.
- BRUCE GONZALES, 43, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
 - SHANNON DWAYNE HUDGINS, 34, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of criminal mischief (two counts).
 - XAVIER GARCIA MOYA, 37, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
 - VERA RENEE TREADWAY, 32, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of criminal mis-

chief.

• ECTOR JACQUEZ JARAMILLO, 56, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of tampering/fabricating physical evidence and possession of a controlled substance.

• JOSEPH DEWAYNE RICHTER, 25, was booked into the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of displaying wrong license plate, failure to appear and driving while license invalid.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

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.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 4/6	Sat 4/7	Sun 4/8	Mon 4/9	Tue 4/10
				
91/61 Partly cloudy and windy. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.	88/57 Partly cloudy, chance of a thunderstorm.	83/57 Scattered thunderstorms possible.	87/53 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 50s.	78/56 Slight chance of a thunderstorm.
Sunrise: 7:27 AM Sunset: 8:10 PM	Sunrise: 7:26 AM Sunset: 8:10 PM	Sunrise: 7:25 AM Sunset: 8:11 PM	Sunrise: 7:24 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM	Sunrise: 7:22 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM



Texas At A Glance



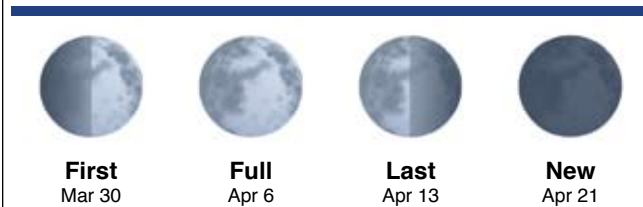
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	87	63	pt sunny	Kingsville	89	71	pt sunny
Amarillo	87	49	windy	Livingston	85	58	sunny
Austin	85	60	pt sunny	Longview	81	58	mst sunny
Beaumont	83	62	sunny	Lubbock	91	55	windy
Brownsville	88	73	pt sunny	Lufkin	84	59	mst sunny
Brownwood	87	61	pt sunny	Midland	93	63	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	85	72	pt sunny	Raymondville	90	71	pt sunny
Corsicana	79	59	mst sunny	Rosenberg	84	63	mst sunny
Dallas	80	61	mst sunny	San Antonio	87	64	pt sunny
Del Rio	93	68	pt sunny	San Marcos	85	61	pt sunny
El Paso	85	56	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	78	59	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	92	59	pt sunny	Sweetwater	89	62	pt sunny
Gainesville	78	58	mst sunny	Tyler	81	59	mst sunny
Greenville	77	58	mst sunny	Weatherford	80	58	pt sunny
Houston	84	64	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	80	60	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	66	46	rain	Minneapolis	62	44	mst sunny
Boston	57	35	sunny	New York	60	41	sunny
Chicago	54	37	sunny	Phoenix	81	52	mst sunny
Dallas	80	61	mst sunny	San Francisco	58	45	sunny
Denver	72	36	sunny	Seattle	51	37	pt sunny
Houston	84	64	mst sunny	St. Louis	66	45	sunny
Los Angeles	72	50	sunny	Washington, DC	62	44	sunny
Miami	87	68	t-storm				

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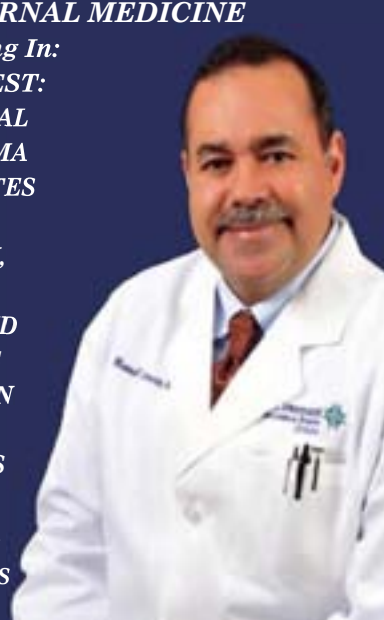
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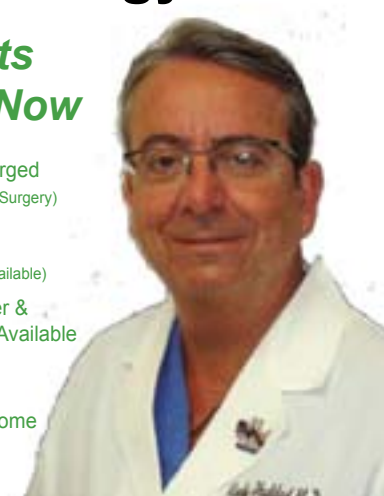
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Take Note

- The Breathing Believers team has joined with Pizza Inn to help raise money to benefit the fight against cystic fibrosis. Monday from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. residents are encouraged to stop by and dine in at Pizza Inn. Pizza Inn will donate 10 percent of the night's sales plus all tips to cystic fibrosis.
- Every Friday night from 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. is dance night at the Senior Citizen Center. The cost is \$8 per person.
- Blankenship Field track is closed to the gen-

eral public. The band practice field (located to the west of the track) is available for walking. There will be a timer that will turn on the lights for early morning walkers and the lights will come back on late in the evening for those who want to walk at night.

- 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.
- The Lone Star District will be holding its Spring School Night for Scouting signups from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. April 26 in the First Baptist Church Gymnasium.

Obituaries

Billie Angel Pinkerton



Billie Angel Pinkerton, 81, of Stanton died April 2, 2012. Billie was preceded in death by her father and mother, Almond Thomas Angel and Mary Alice Angel; and by her sisters, Loreta McReynolds, Betty King and Margaret Oliver.

She is survived by her husband, Charles Dearwood Pinkerton of Stanton; son, Thomas Pinkerton and wife Denise of Odessa, daughter, Rita Powell and husband Boyce of Stanton and son, John Pinkerton and wife Sharon of Saginaw; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three sisters, Vida Mae Pinkston of Stanton, Joyce Davis, Celia Young and adopted sister, LaDell Jumper of Midland.

Billie was born March 13, 1931, in Big Spring, Texas, and moved to Martin County soon after. She attended school at Courtney. She married Charles Pinkerton on Oct. 22, 1949, at the Courtney Baptist Church.

While in Midland Billie and Charlie attended Bellview Baptist Church, where she began teaching Sunday school, singing in the choir and ministering wherever she could.

In 1970 Billie and Charlie moved to Stanton. Billie was active in the Eastern Star in Stanton and First Baptist Church of Stanton. In 1984, she opened her own bookkeeping and tax business.

The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 5, 2012, at the First Baptist Church in Stanton. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials be made to the First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1168, Stanton, Texas 79782; or to the Martin County Senior Center, P.O. Box 1233, Stanton, Texas 79782.

Arrangements under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

MEALS

Continued from Page 1A

Big Spring residents over the age of 60 (the program does not deliver outside the city limits).

EGGS

Continued from Page 1A

our church," Pastor Calvary Callender said. "This is a gift from our church to the community."

Youngsters will have an opportunity to hunt for 30,000 eggs Saturday, enjoy inflatables, free hot dogs, face painting and visit with the Easter Bunny. There will also be bicycles and big Easter baskets given away during the event.

Last year, there was approximately 500 children attending, plus their parents. This year, Pastor Callender said he is expecting the same number, if not more.

Both events are free and open to the public.

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

its). Scenic Mountain Medical Center prepares the meals each morning Monday through Friday, then route drivers deliver the meals by noon, she said.

"Every morning, I go to Scenic Mountain with a list of all the meals I need," Cantu said. "The hospital then prepares the meals under the dietitian's supervision — we have special meals for people with diabetes or those who require a low-salt meal, for example — and then I package them for delivery."

Past President Jerry Grimes estimated annual costs at around \$70,000.

"We're a non-profit organization funded entirely by private donations," Grimes said. "The primary source of our funds is from the Dora Roberts Foundation and the United Way, with the remainder coming from individuals."

Cantu is the only paid program staffer. Overhead costs are at a minimum, thanks to the city of Big Spring, which donated office space at the local senior center, Grimes said.

The rest of the money the organization raises goes entirely to buying meals, he added (volunteer drivers must pay for their gasoline).

Cantu said the organization provides a vital service to the community.

"Very few of the people we help have family or friends in town who could help them, and we have some folks who don't have anyone at all," she said. "For some, our volunteers are the only people they see all day, so we're providing a lot more than just food to these people."

To volunteer or apply for the program, contact Cantu at 263-4016.

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

BIKES

Continued from Page 1A

occur because the motorist never saw the motorcyclist. According to national statistics, a motorcyclist is five times more likely to be injured and 25 times more likely to die in a crash. In fact, 87 percent of motorcycle crashes result in the death or serious injury of the motorcyclist. Why? It's because motorcycles have a much smaller profile than other vehicles, and it can be

difficult for car and truck drivers to judge the speed and distance of an approaching bike, officials say. As a result, drivers involved in crashes with motorcycles often say they never saw the motorcyclist and could not react in time to prevent the crash.

"The number of motorcycles on Texas roadways has doubled to more than 419,000 in the last decade," said Carol Rawson, TxDOT's Traffic Operations director. "As more people turn to motorcycles for affordable transportation and recreation,

it's more important than ever to remind drivers to be on the lookout."

TxDOT offers these safety tips for sharing the road with motorcycles:

- Look Twice: Especially watch for cyclists at intersections where they may be making a left turn, as well as on the highway where a motorcyclist may be changing lanes. Regularly check your rear-view and side-view mirrors and clearly signal your intentions.
- Give Them Space: Don't follow a motorcycle too closely. A

motorcyclist's riding patterns are different from vehicle patterns, and reactions may vary for the same road or weather conditions. Allow a full lane of travel space between your car or truck and a motorcycle.

- Anticipate Next Steps: Obstructions that drivers do not notice could prove to be deadly for a motorcyclist. Give motorcyclists plenty of space to react. This will help to make the road a safe place for you and others, no matter what form of transportation is used.

TORNADO

Continued from Page 1A

At one house, a tornado had seemingly dipped into the building like an immersion blender, spinning directly down through an upstairs bedroom and wreaking havoc in the family room below before lifting straight back up and away. A grandfather clock leaned slightly but otherwise stood pristine against a wall at the back of the downstairs room that was filled with smashed furniture and fallen support beams.

Despite the intensity of the slow-moving storms, only a handful of people were hurt, a couple of them seriously, and no fatalities were reported as of late Tuesday.

The Red Cross estimated that 650 homes were damaged. Around 150 Lancaster residents stayed in a shelter Tues-

day night. "I guess 'shock' is probably a good word," Lancaster Mayor Marcus Knight said.

The exact number of tornadoes won't be known until surveyors have fanned across North Texas, looking for clues among the debris that blanketed yards and rooftops peeled off slats.

April is typically the worst month in a tornado season that stretches from March to June, but Tuesday's outburst suggests that "we're on pace to be above normal," said National Weather Service meteorologist Matt Bishop.

An entire wing at the Green Oaks nursing home in Arlington crumbled. Stunning video from Dallas showed big-rig trailers tossed into the air and spiraling like footballs. At the Cedar Valley Christian Center church in Lancaster, Pastor Glenn

Young said he cowered in a windowless room with 30 children from a daycare program, some of them newborns.

Ten people in Lancaster were injured, two of them severely, said Lancaster police officer Paul Beck. Three people were injured in Arlington, including two Green Oaks residents taken to a hospital with minor injuries, Arlington Assistant Fire Chief Jim Self said.

Gilroy said the blast of wind through Green Oaks lasted about 10 seconds. She described one of her co-workers being nearly "sucked out" while trying to get a patient out of the room at the moment the facility was hit.

Joy Johnston was also there, visiting her 79-year-old sister.

"Of course the windows were flying out, and my sister is paralyzed, so I had to get someone to help me get her in a wheelchair to

get her out of the room," she said.

In one industrial section of Dallas, rows of empty tractor-trailers crumpled like soda cans littered a parking lot.

"The officers were watching the tornadoes form and drop," Kennedale police Chief Tommy Williams said. "It was pretty active for a while."

Most of Dallas was spared the full wrath of the storm. Yet in Lancaster, television helicopters panned over exposed homes without roofs and flattened buildings. Residents could be seen walking down the

street with firefighters and peering into homes, looking at the damage after the storm passed.

Hundreds of flights into and out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and Dallas Love Field were canceled or diverted elsewhere Tuesday. About 500 flights remained grounded Wednesday, airport officials said.

The storms knocked out power for thousands. Utility Oncor said nearly 14,000 homes and businesses, mainly in the Arlington area, still had no electricity early Wednesday.

Meteorologists said

the storms were the result of a slow-moving storm system centered over northern New Mexico.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings, except July 4, Memorial Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day, except if Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. All materials copyrighted.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811

BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.85 monthly; \$95.58 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer		Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

OUR VIEWS

Easter blessings in the community

Peter Cottontail made an early visit to Big Spring last weekend, but he will be coming back to spread Easter blessings this weekend as well.

Most area schools will allow students and families to begin the Easter weekend a day early with a day off.

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home will be taking advantage of that day off and hosting its annual Easter egg hunt. Good Friday, the traditional day of the hunt, will once again be the designated date for this year's event. Refreshments, hot dogs and ice cream will be served from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. and the hunt will take place at 11:30 a.m.

First Church of the Nazarene will also be continuing their tradition Saturday. The third — annual egg hunt will take place at the Old Settler's Pavilion. Saturday at 11 a.m. kids will be able to hunt eggs. After all 30,000 eggs have been found, there will be free hot dogs. There will also be face painting and inflatables, as well as the Easter Bunny.

Area churches will also be holding special Easter services over the weekend.

There will be plenty of family time activities to take part in this Easter holiday.

The Heritage Museum will also be continuing their Easter Greetings exhibit, featuring vintage Easter postcards. The exhibit includes scenes from Easter in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Baby chicks have also arrived and more should be hatching soon.

Easter is still a time of tradition, family and religion.

No matter how you choose to celebrate the holiday, there are plenty of opportunities throughout the community that will allow the family to make more memories, enjoy the outdoor weather and have an overall good time.

Grab the baskets, put on the new dress or suit and see what Peter Cottontail has left behind. Happy Easter.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Open our eyes, Lord, to Your glory.

Amen

Learn the power of one person

As I was leaving one of Big Spring's major retailers this week I was frustrated to find someone had been too lazy to return their shopping cart to the designated area only a few feet away and the cart had been windblown into my car.

Fortunately, it didn't cause any damage, but it reminded me of how different our world could be if we could all learn the power of one.

One person doing the right thing can make a huge difference.

It's easy to look around and see so much that needs to be fixed, so much wrong with our world and think that surely one person can't really do anything to have much of an impact. After all, there's six billion humans occupying this planet and one person seems like a miniscule grain of sand on an endless beach. But I have a theory about that and I say the power of one is greatly underestimated.

History books would be much thinner if everything of significance had been done only by armies. Due to the vast number of world-changers that could be listed it would be an exercise in futility to begin enumerating all the individual men and women who have left their indelible footprints in the sands of time by believing in the power of one.

The reason one is such a powerful number is because of the fact every action demands a reaction. A very interesting study is the "butterfly effect" which powerfully illustrates how, in any dynamic system, small initial differences may, over time, lead to large unforeseen results and it all starts with one

single act, in this case a butterfly flapping its wings in Brazil possibly affecting weather patterns in Texas. The principle of that theory, and my observance of people's actions and reactions through the years, causes me to unequivocally believe one person's actions can influence another individual or the masses, and even change the course of history.

In a few months we are electing a President and it would be easy to think my one vote can't really make any difference, but I refuse to buy that because it isn't true.

In 1800, Thomas Jefferson was elected President by one vote in the House of Representatives after a tie in the Electoral College, and in 1846 President Polk's request for a Declaration of War against Mexico passed by one vote. In 1868, President Andrew Johnson was impeached, but not convicted because the Senate was one vote shy of the necessary two-thirds required.

In 1962, governors of Maine, Rhode Island and North Dakota were elected by an average of one vote per precinct. In 2008, Minnesota voters cast 2.9 million votes in their US Senate race which eventually was decided by 312 votes (1/1000th of 1 percent).

It's impossible to think about this subject without being reminded of the well-known beloved story written years ago by Loren Eiseley entitled "The Starfish Story."

Below is the adapted version as used by the Starfish Charity in 2003.

An old man had a habit of early morning walks on the beach. One day, after a storm, he saw a human figure in the distance moving like a dancer. As he came closer he saw it was a young woman and she was not dancing but was reaching down to the sand, picking up a starfish

and very gently throwing them into the ocean.

"Young lady," he asked, "Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?"

"The sun is up and the tide is going out, and if I do not throw them in they will die."

"But young lady, do you not realize there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it? You cannot possibly make a difference."

The young woman listened politely, paused and then bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves, saying, "It made a difference for that one."

The old man looked at the young woman inquisitively and thought about what she had done. Inspired, he joined her in throwing starfish back into the sea. Soon others joined, and all the starfish were saved.

The greatest display of love ever in history was revealed to us in the life of one man. This week Christians all over the world will observe Holy Week and celebrate the resurrection of the one man who changed everything for all eternity through His sacrificial death and glorious resurrection.

Jesus was one, yet He affected the lives of countless millions and continues to leave His footprints in the eternal sands of time even today.

We don't have any beaches with starfish, but we do have shopping carts and voting booths. I plan to do what's right with both and make as much difference as this one person can make.

You may not agree with anything I've said, but I column as I see 'em.

Eddy Prince is the senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church in Big Spring. He can be reached by email at pastorprince@msn.com.



EDDY PRINCE



Do as we say, not as we vote

"Who killed the debt deal?" read The New York Times Magazine as it hyped its Sunday cover story as a "Washington whodunit."

Author Matt Bai explained that "some of Washington's most connected Democrats and Republicans" didn't know whose story to believe or what had been on the table after last summer's "grand bargain" deficit reduction negotiations between President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner crumbled.

It's hard to understand how Bai and all those savvy insiders couldn't figure out how the budget talks collapsed. The New York Times reported on their demise in July. Boehner and Obama were working on a 10-year, \$3 trillion deficit reduction package that included \$800 billion in new revenue. Obama then piled on another \$400 billion. Boehner walked. No mystery.

There's no whodunit, only a howdoweexplainit.

Boehner threw the White House off its game by reasonably agreeing to \$800 billion in additional revenue through the elimina-

tion of deductions and loopholes. Oops.

When members of the Senate's "Gang of Six" — a bipartisan posse determined to cut the national debt — announced a proposal to raise revenue by \$2 trillion, Obama talked up the gang's proposal. Bad idea. In so doing, Obama made the \$800 billion Boehner deal look too puny to tax-happy Democrats. He torched a potato that already may have been too hot for the GOP Biggie to handle.

When the deal fell apart, Obama held a news conference to rail at House Republicans. "Can they say yes to anything?" said the president, with no sense of irony.

The New York Times editorialized, "Republicans killed an overly generous deal largely over a paltry \$400 billion."

Bai wrote on the impossible hole into which Obama had dug himself.

How could Obama ask Democratic leaders to go for a deal with \$800 billion in new revenue when GOP senators applauded the Gang of Six's \$2 trillion trial balloon?

There was no vote on the Gang of Six package, no bill — only a memo, lip service and self-congratulation. That was all it took to nudge Obama off his game.

Last week, the House killed the Obama 2013 budget bill in a 414-0 vote. Not even House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi voted for it.

Spokesman Drew Hammill explained that a GOP member had put Obama budget language in his own bill to stage "a gimmick vote that the Republican leadership engineered." That is, the GOP arranged the vote to embarrass Democrats, who didn't want to vote for spending cuts or tax increases.

Last May, the Senate killed the Obama 2012 budget in a 97-0 vote.

Bai concluded that though it seems "counterintuitive," if re-elected, Obama probably could do a better job of tackling the deficit than Mitt Romney.

Boehner spokesman Michael Steel was having none of it. The spending plan written by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan — which the House passed 228-191 last week even though it presents political pain — is, said Steel, the only "responsible budget in Washington right now."

Boehner already saw Obama walk away from a deal. If the president didn't have to worry about winning re-election, would he be more courageous or more outrageous?

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



DEBRA SAUNDERS

Annie's Mailbox



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

if she and her husband would take in the developmentally disabled sister, and she said no.

When I asked why she was so cold toward her adoptive siblings, she said, "They were my parents' project, not mine."

So now I'm stuck. I want kids of our own, but it will be impossible to care for an infant and a "grown infant" at the same time, and even Lizzie agrees.

And if we place the siblings in a home, we'll still have to help pay for it, and her parents didn't provide much. There's no way we could afford it.

I love my wife, but there are some things I am not willing to do. A therapist told me I have to decide for myself. Please help. — *Need Another Opinion*

Dear Need: This is an enormous responsibility, and we understand it's not what you signed up for. Before rejecting both the obligation and your marriage, however, please do some research.

The siblings may be eligible for government assistance. Your sister-in-law may be willing to contribute financially to their care. Also, please check online or call 211 to find local sup-

port groups for caregivers of those with developmental disabilities and see what resources exist in your area. Armed with good information, you can then discuss it honestly and compassionately with Lizzie.

Dear Annie: I have a co-worker who constantly yells at everyone. She gossips and complains about other co-workers all the time. When someone makes a mistake, she makes fun of them. A few people have quit because of her. Customers have complained about her rudeness and how she screams at her co-workers.

We have brought this up to our boss and his supervisor, but they say, "Well, that's just how she is." I'm tired of it, and so is everyone else. But when I tried to get people to register a complaint as a group, no one would man up because they are all afraid the co-worker will find out. Then, if nothing happens, she will make our lives hell. What's our next step? — *It's No Fun Here*

Dear No Fun: If you cannot get the office staff to register a group complaint and management refuses to inter-

vene, your choice is to put up with this annoying co-worker or leave. We are surprised the bosses don't care if good employees quit and clients complain, but if that's their position, there's not much recourse unless you can go directly to the owner of the company. We recommend it.

Dear Annie: "Mad in Omaha" should report her niece and nephew to the police. They have committed felonies by pawning Grandma's jewelry and forging her name to steal money from her bank account to pay for drugs.

She also needs to advise the police that Grandma is afraid of these people and may be being abused in other ways.

Making a police report is the best way to protect Grandma and also get these young criminals under the supervision of a criminal justice agency that will make them get treatment for their addiction and, hopefully, become responsible citizens. — *A Probation Officer*

Dear Annie: I want to share a personal story that I decided to be very public about: I'm a recovering alcoholic. The irony of my situa-

tion is that I made a successful career out of writing about using alcohol to cope with the stresses of parenthood in books and in my Web column.

Then one morning I woke up with the hangover from hell (I actually ended up in the emergency room), and that was literally the turning point: I got the message loud and clear that my life was a mess, and alcohol was making it that way.

I remember when I "fessed up" to the readers of my blog, "Baby on Bored." I was terrified that they'd think I was this enormous hypocrite. Instead, I got countless responses from women thanking me and recounting their own stories about their secret drinking.

April 5, 2012, is National Alcohol Screening Day(r) (NASD). Thousands of colleges, community-based organizations and military installations participate in NASD. One element of the day that people should know about is the free and anonymous screenings available online. The screenings help individuals assess whether they should visit a clinician or take a similar course of action to get a handle on their drink-

ing. The screenings can be accessed anytime at howdoyouscore.org.

Alcohol is a problem for more people than one might think — including the "cocktail moms" I've written about. It's a health issue that's treatable, but it needs to be brought out into the open. National Alcohol Screening Day plays a big part in doing this. Sincerely — *Stefanie Wilder-Taylor*

Dear Stefanie Wilder-Taylor: Thank you for sharing your story and underscoring the importance of screening for alcoholism. Our readers have told us in heartbreaking letters how alcohol has destroyed their lives and those of their loved ones. Once again, those who wish to be screened can do so at howdoyouscore.org

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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Junior high news and notes

Student accomplishments

Region VI All-Region Band Clinic/Concert participants

7th Grade: Caitlin Aaron, Noe Arguello, Danielle Conner, Griselda Villalobos-Martinez.

8th Grade: Sarah Bid-dison, Brook Marshall, Chase Bilings, Hannah Jensen, Jennifer Campos, Lexie Rawls, William Davis, Alexander Rivera, Anthony Gipson, Donovan Salinas, William Grigg, Zachary Saylor, Derek Gusman, Matthew Wood, Val-domero Presas-Contre-ras.

VFW Patriot's Pen Contest

Sixth grade winners on the theme of "Are You Proud of Your Country?" 1. Charlie Correa; 2. Trinady Joslin; 3. Nolan Otto and Brooklyn Tubb. Sponsor: Tabitha Barbee.

Science Fair winners

Animal Science: 1. Hope Arguello, 2. Trinady Joslin, 3. Faith Roberson

Behavior and Social Sciences: 1. Peyton Seaton, 2. Ethan Rodriguez, 3. Rayna Rodriguez, Haley Davidson

Chemistry: 1. Katie Wash, 2. Kelsey Mensinger, 3. Oscar Alvarado

Engineering/Electrical and Mechanical: 1. Jacob Scott, 2. Dylan Claude, 3. Nolan Otto, Daneille Conner

Environmental Sciences: 1. Caycee Arreguin

Mathematics: 1. Hannah Jensen, 2. Rowan Collette

Physics and Astronomy: 1. Daniel Jimenez, 2. Seth Hamby

Plant Sciences: 1. Kya Kendrick, 2. Kylie Palmer

Team-Life Sciences: 1. Britney Tan and Ha-leigh Haven, 2. Riley

King and Ayana Sprowl, 3. Tatiana Clark and Nayeli Moreno

Team Chemistry: 1. Jack Waddell and Tristan Ross, 2. Mat-thew Wood and Chase Billings

Team Physics: 1. Brandi Villa and Tessa Martin, 2. Alma Pina and Alyssa Talamantez, 3. Charlie Correa and Jordan Dunn

Spelling Bee winners

1. Alex Sotelo, 2. Char-lie Correa, 3. Rachel McCalister

Calendar of Events

April 5 Jr High Track Big Spring

April 14 UIL State Meet San Antonio

April 14 Midland Tennis Invitational

April 14 Jr High Track

District—Brownwood

April 21 Wink Tennis Tournament

April 24 STAAR Test—6-7th Math

April 25 STAAR Test—6-7th Reading

April 26 STAAR Test—

8th Science

April 27 STAAR Test—

8th Social Studies

April 28 JH Tennis District Tourn. Big Spring

FREE EVENT

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home invites you to ...

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Nation, world news in brief

Oakland mourns victims of deadly rampage at Christian college

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Civic and religious leaders pleaded for an end to violence in Oakland after seven people were gunned down at a small Christian college by a suspect who police say was angry about being expelled and teased for his poor English skills.

Several hundred friends, family and community members gathered for a multicultural prayer vigil Tuesday night to mourn the victims of the nation's biggest campus shooting since the 2007 Virginia Tech massacre.

Six students and a receptionist were killed and three others were wounded when the gunman went on a shooting rampage Monday morning at Oikos University, an Oakland school founded to help Korean immigrants adjust to life in America and launch new careers.

"Only God knows the meaning of the suffering we endure," Dr. Woo Nam Soo, the university's vice president, said in Korean during the church service. "In this unbearable tragedy and suffering, only God can create something good out of it."

Shortly after the deadly shooting spree, police arrested 43-year-old nursing student One Goh at a supermarket a few miles from campus.

Man found dead in burned home among 911 callers confused over Colo. wildfire

DENVER (AP) — Sam Lucas was among the first to begin calling 911 about a wildfire burning near

his home on the outskirts of Denver.

But the dispatcher, having already answered a handful of calls about the fire, cut Lucas off to tell him it was a controlled burn and that the forest service was on the scene.

"We got 79-mile-an-hour winds out there and they got a controlled burn?" Lucas said on the 911 call, one of 130 calls over a total of 10 hours that were released Tuesday.

When the dispatcher says yes, he replies "Oh wonder. Thank you."

Lucas hung up, and within an hour, he and his wife were dead.

Culture change? Medical groups identify 45 tests and treatments doctors should avoid ordering

WASHINGTON (AP) — Old checklist for doctors: order that test, write that prescription. New checklist for doctors: first ask yourself if the patient really needs it.

Nine medical societies representing nearly 375,000 physicians are challenging the widely held perception that more health care is better, releasing lists Wednesday of tests and treatments their members should no longer automatically order.

The 45 items listed include most repeat colonoscopies within 10 years of a first such test, early imaging for most back pain, brain scans for patients who fainted but didn't have seizures, and antibiotics for mild- to-moderate sinus distress.

Also on the list: heart imaging stress tests for patients without coronary symptoms. And a particularly sobering recommendation calls for cancer

doctors to stop treating tumors in end-stage patients who have not responded to multiple therapies and are ineligible for experimental treatments.

Dr. Christine Cassel, president of the American Board of Internal Medicine, said the goal is to reduce wasteful spending without harming patients. She suggested some may benefit by avoiding known risks associated with medical tests, such as exposure to radiation.

Loud explosions, clashes break out in Syria

BEIRUT (AP) — Loud explosions reverberated across the central Syrian city of Homs and clashes were reported in several areas across the country Wednesday, just hours after the government said it has started to withdraw troops from some cities in compliance with an international cease-fire plan.

Activists said a 50-year-old man and his younger brother were killed by soldiers who opened fire on their car from a machine gun mounted on a tank in the country's north.

A Syrian government official said Tuesday evening that troops had started pulling out from some calm cities and heading back to their bases, a week ahead of a deadline to implement U.N.-Arab League envoy Kofi Annan's truce plan.

"Forces began withdrawing to outside calm cities and are returning to their bases, while in tense areas, they are pulling out to the outskirts," the government official told The Associated Press in Damascus without saying when the withdrawal began. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

Romney turns from primaries, toward Obama

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Mitt Romney is turning away from his primary opponents and toward Democratic President Barack Obama after sweeping three more Republican contests.

The likely GOP nominee was set Wednesday to take the same Washington stage that the president had used a day earlier to criticize Romney in a speech to newspaper editors in Washington. The former Massachusetts governor planned to address an audience of the Newspaper Association of America and the American Society of News Editors, a day after Obama spoke to the annual meeting of The Associated Press.

"There is a basic choice before us," Romney said Tuesday night as he spoke to cheering supporters in Milwaukee. "Our different visions for America are the product of our values and our life experiences."

Romney's victories

in Wisconsin, Maryland and the District of Columbia widened his delegate lead and all but handed him the title of presumptive Republican nominee. Despite pressure to leave the race, rival Rick Santorum vowed to fight on, urging voters in the next-up Pennsylvania primary to vote for "someone whose views are forged in steel, not on an Etch A Sketch."

Romney didn't mention Santorum on Tuesday night. Instead, Romney sought to cast Obama as an "out of touch" liberal whose personal background is hostile to a free economy.

His remarks came just hours after Obama delivered a combative campaign speech in Washington, where he attacked House Republicans' budget plan as "thinly veiled social Darwinism" that "is antithetical to our entire history as a land of opportunity and upward mobility for everybody

Romney's victories in Wisconsin, Maryland and the District of Columbia widened his delegate lead and all but handed him the title of presumptive Republican nominee.

who's willing to work for it."

Obama called it "a prescription for decline."

After his speech Wednesday, Romney planned to head to a campaign event in the Philadelphia suburbs. He was to campaign in the state Thursday as well. Obama planned to attend an Easter prayer breakfast at the White House.

For Romney, the end of the contested primary campaign could hardly come soon enough.

"I want to have our nominee start raising

money, start organizing a national campaign and focus on President Obama and his agenda because this is time for us to start focusing on him rather than standing and focusing on one another in these primary contests," he told radio host Sean Hannity on Tuesday. "I think we've had, as of tonight, we will have had almost 35 or more state or territorial contests for the nomination. Maybe it's time to get going."

Obama has gained in the polls in recent months, particularly

among women, as Republicans vie among themselves for support from a conservative party electorate. Santorum has devoted more time to social concerns — including birth control — than Romney, who has generally stayed focused on economic issues.

Surveys indicate Americans are growing more optimistic about the overall state of the economy. Unemployment has fallen in recent months, but it is still at a relatively high 8.3 percent of the work force.

Already, the early outlines of a general election ad war are visible. Obama's re-election campaign is airing commercials in a half-dozen battleground states that accuse Romney of siding with Big Oil "for their tax breaks, attacking higher mileage stan-


dards and renewables."

The ads are a rapid response to \$3 million in commercials aired by an outside group, American Energy Alliance, blaming the president for rising gasoline prices.

In his campaign for the Republican nomination, Romney has collected endorsements from former President George H.W. Bush; Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, a tea party favorite; and Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, author of a conservative budget that Republicans pushed through the House last week.

Romney won at least 83 delegates in the three races Tuesday, with 6 yet to be allocated.

That pushed his total to 655 of the 1,144 needed to clinch the nomination. Santorum has 278 delegates.



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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Paths of History

Today, 19 National Historic Trails crisscross the United States, marking what were once the routes of adventure seekers, gold prospectors, pioneers, traders and trappers.

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Thoughts at Easter

This week is one of the holiest weeks in the Christian world. Christians celebrate the risen Christ. I hear the song now "I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today." Families dress in their best; they gather, sitting together in a pew, with little girl in petticoats, crinkling as they wiggle. Little boys have on new suits with a tie on, just like dad does; mother has a new dress and shoes. Granny and Pop have come to see everyone dressed so fine and later on everyone will be sharing a meal together; children race around looking for Easter eggs in a whirl of laughter and gaiety. It is a scene of love, grace and happiness.



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

I want to share an email from my brother-in-law Warren, who is in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, working with the Congolese army there. It begins thusly:

"Dear All — I hope this finds you all well and happy. As I was thinking about a theme for my report to you all this week, I originally was thinking of something pithy about my getting sunburned and the infestation of tiny ants I have in my apartment. Yes, I did get extremely sunburned on my lower legs and the top of my feet. I think it was about the worst sunburn I ever got (and I've had some pretty bad sunburns) but I'm over it now and doing OK. My apartment is infested with tiny ants (almost microscopic, like chiggers) and I'm reluctant to poison them because I also have a number of small lizards that eat the ants. I guess I don't want to mess up my ecosystem and the ants aren't that much of a bother. They bite infrequently!

"No, I want to write about something that is

haunting me. I've been having trouble sleeping lately, but it is mostly because of what is going on with work and not being able to shut down my thinking about it. But something happened a couple of days ago that bothered me more than anything. I was on my way to the local grocery store. It is a little over a mile and generally I walk, but this time I used the car and driver I'm assigned. I was hungry for a salty snack. We get three solid meals a day and don't have snacks unless we go get them ourselves. I don't normally have cravings, but did that day. So, I went.

"On the way to the store, I noticed a young boy sitting in the dirt by the side of the road. He didn't look like a kid taking a break. I don't know what attracted my attention to him, but he looked to me as if he was a kid at the end of his ability to carry on. He was malnourished as almost every Congolese is, but he was sitting sort of askew as if he had tried to continue walking and just couldn't make that next step. Fortunately, he was in the shade because it was terribly hot. Probably 50 vehicles passed him during

the time I went to and returned from the store and perhaps 50 pedestrians.

While at the store, I got a cold canned orange soft drink and a banana flavored yogurt drink to give him if he was still there when I returned. The entire trip took maybe 20 minutes and, sure enough, when I saw him again he was in the same place, same position. I got the driver to stop and went over to the boy to give him the drink and yogurt. I handed him the bag and he took it but didn't even look inside. I spoke to him in French, but I don't think he understood. I then gave him some Congolese francs (about \$3 worth) and he snatched that, so he knew the value of money.

"I crossed the street back to my car, but when I looked back, he had not even looked in the bag. I asked my driver to go speak to him in Lingala and tell him the things in the bag were for him to consume. My driver, Maurice, went over and gently explained to him about the drinks and the boy didn't really respond. So, Maurice reached in the bag, got the cold drink, opened it for the boy and motioned

for him to drink. He did and obviously was very thirsty. I then came on home. I asked Maurice what he thought was the matter and he said he probably had been traveling with his family and just ran out of gas.

"The family was probably too exhausted themselves to carry or help him so they left him in the shade with the idea to come back later to get him. I asked why he hadn't drunk the soft drink and he said that he probably had never been exposed to one and didn't know how to open

it. That broke my heart. Knowing that I live so close to people who are so poor they've never been able to purchase a canned soft drink was a blow.

"I asked Maurice why no one stopped to help the boy and he said that many of them weren't in much better shape and also didn't want to assume responsibility. I have travelled all over the world, but I've never seen a 6- or 7-year-old child left sitting beside the road, alone, hungry, too tired to carry on. There is no government-

tal safety net. Poverty is rampant. The problem is too large for an individual to make even the slightest difference. It haunts me."

Will it haunt you as you see your children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren run and play on Easter? Will you say a prayer for this child who has no energy to even explore a can of pop or even wonder what it is? Will you care? Will Jesus?

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

2012 Boy Scouts of America Spring Sign Up Night



Date: Thursday, May 3, 2012

Arrive Between: 6:00—8:00 PM

First Baptist Church Gymnasium
705 West FM 700
Big Spring, TX 79720

Join us for an evening of information about the variety of programs that the Boy Scouts of America has to offer.

There will be volunteers from the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Aviation Exploring, Fire Service Exploring, and Venturing present to answer any questions. **Don't miss the first signup night of the year!**

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Robles signs letter of intent

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**
Sports Editor

FORSAN — Hard work and persistence have paid off for Forsan High School's Patrick Robles.

The 18-year old senior received a full athletic scholarship to play baseball at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

With friends and family looking on, Robles signed his letter of intent Tuesday at the Forsan High School library.

Robles, a first baseman who has been named to the 1st Team All-State squad and is currently helping to lead the Buffaloes to the District 3-2A title, believes Wayland

is a good fit for many reasons.

"I am very excited," Robles said. "The coaches are great and so are the facilities and it's a good Christian school. God is very important in my life, and I am just glad he answered my prayers."

Head Baseball Coach Jason Phillips is in Robles' corner.

"(Robles) is very deserving of what's happening today," Phillips said. "He's been a huge part of our program for four years and has done a great job. He will be hard to replace."

Robles' mother, Denise Gonzales, enjoys watching

See **ROBLES**, Page 2B



Forsan High School's Patrick Robles (center) signs his letter of intent to play baseball at Wayland Baptist University Tuesday. Robles received a full scholarship and will major in biomedical engineering. Also shown are Forsan Baseball Coach Jason Phillips and Robles' mother Denise Gonzales.

HERALD photo/Brian McCormack

In brief

Lady Steers' rally falls short against Sweetwater

The Big Spring Lady Steers lost 15-9 to the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs at home after nearly making an incredible comeback.

Down 13-1, the Lady Mustangs were one out away from forcing a run-rule end to the affair when in the bottom of the fifth inning the Lady Steers awoke from their slumber and put five runs on the board.

Gabbi Torres solidified the rally with one swing as she hit a three-run triple to cut Sweetwater's lead to seven.

The game at the end of the the inning was 13-6.

Sweetwater added an insurance run in the top of the sixth, making it 14-6.

BSHS answered back in the bottom of the same inning when Valerie Goodblanket tripled and then was driven home by Logan Yarbar to make it 14-7.

With their last at-bat, the Lady Steers rallied again in the bottom of the seventh.

Mercedes Ruiz drew a walk, Torres reached base on a throwing error and Terra Keeney hit an RBI single to score Ruiz. Ayanna Gomez hit an RBI triple to score one more run, but the rally would end there.

BSHS Coach John Sparks was pleased with the performance his squad showed.

"We got to build on the positives," he said. "We battled back and we saw they are capable of playing the way they did in those last innings. Unfortunately, we got started too late. We're still not out of it yet."

Big Spring will host Snyder Friday at 6:30 p.m.

Howard College comes from behind to defeat Chaparrals

Howard College Head Baseball Coach Britt Smith knows that baseball is about making adjustments. The Hawks did just that Tuesday as they defeated the visiting Midland College Chaparrals 7-3 after trailing 2-0 in the first inning.

The score remained 2-0 until the bottom of the fourth inning when Brendan McCurry led off with a double and was driven in by an RBI double by Paul Hendrix. Levi Scott's chopper to center field was enough to plate Hendrix and tie the game at 2-2.

Down by one in the bottom of the sixth with bases loaded, Scott struck again with a sacrifice fly to tie

the game once again at 3-3. Elliot Richoux belted a RBI liner to right and with runners on the corners, Jordan Allen legeed one out to first base with the help of a bad throw to increase the Hawks' lead to 5-3.

The Hawks would tack on two more runs in the bottom of the eighth inning when Scott and Reed Seeley each recorded RBI singles putting the Hawks on top 7-3.

The Chaps would fail to produce any more runs and the Hawks improved their record to 27-6 on the season.

The Hawks will travel to Western Texas College for a doubleheader on the road Friday with the first game slated for noon.

Steers stop Mustangs, take second place tie in District 5-3A

The three-game skid has been snapped.

The Big Spring High School Steers baseball squad defeated the Sweetwater Mustangs on Tuesday by a score of 10-6 at Steer Park.

The BSHS win — coupled with Brownwood's loss to Snyder on Tuesday — positioned the Steers in a second place tie with Snyder in District 5-3A.

Both teams are 2-2, and trailing the first place, 4-0 Wylie Bulldogs.

Max Pappajohn picked up the complete game victory for the Steers and the offense was more consistent than it has been in recent games.

Clutch hits when they were needed helped BSHS stay on top of the Mustangs and not relinquish its lead — something the Steers have had difficulties with since district play began.

"It wasn't pretty, but it was a win," BSHS Coach Bert Otto said. "There's not a pushover in the district. We just have to be concerned with ourselves and take care of business."

The Steers' home stand will continue Friday against Snyder at Steer Park with game time set for 7 p.m.

Big Spring golf squad travels to Sweetwater, remain in first place

SWEETWATER — The Big Spring High School Golf Boys Team retained sole possession of first place after the second round of District 5-3A play Tuesday in Sweetwater.

The girls' squad played Monday in Big Spring, and moved up one spot from third place to second.

BSHS Golf Coach Chris Joslin — who maintains the district is one of the state's most challenging — believes the boys team has played to the level of competition required to take district for the second consecutive year.

"Team wise, if we just keep taking care of business we'll be fine," Joslin said of the boys' team.

As for the girls, a young squad will likely keep them from moving to regionals as a team. Kelsie Guinn, however is poised to qualify on the individual level.

"(Guinn) is peaking at the right time," Joslin said. "She could make regionals again."

On the boys side, Devin Roberson has had a remarkable week, and holds on to first place as an individual in district action.

Despite his achievements, Roberson remains focused on the team effort, according to Joslin.

"I am real proud of (Roberson), Joslin added. "He just shot his lowest round. He did it by staying focused and not being selfish. They have all proven they are here to win as a team."

Individual results are as follows:

Boys —

- Devin Roberson, 81, 71
- Tyler Bryan, 79, 75
- Ryan Pollard, 87, 78
- Tate Kennedy, 77, 81
- Jason Guevara, 80, 83

Girls —

- Kelsie Guinn, 84, 83
- Mariah McIntosh, 103, 97
- Brianna Cobos, 104, 107
- Gabrielle Fair, 110, 115

Coahoma Elementary vs. Howard College Hawks?

COAHOMA — The Coahoma Elementary School third and fourth graders have been issued a challenge.

Whichever grade can get the most Accelerated Reading points before 3 p.m. Thursday will host the Howard College softball squad at their home field in Coahoma for a showdown April 10 at 1 p.m.

The students must read books and take tests based on the books' content. The loser will have to sit and watch — and cheer for the team of their choice.

For more information, contact Pricipal Patricia Bennett at 394-4324.

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Tennis
• Forsan at Denver City

THURSDAY

Softball
• Western Texas College at Howard College (DH), 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

Tennis
• Big Spring at Brownwood (through Friday), TBA.

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



Big Spring's Brett Borman fields a grounder in center field during Tuesday's game against Sweetwater. The Steers won 10-6, and are tied with Snyder for second place in District 5-3A play.

Photo by Tony Claxton

Sales solid in Sox win over Astros

KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Chris Sale had another solid outing in his transition from the bullpen to the rotation and the Chicago White Sox beat the Houston Astros 5-1 in an exhibition game on Tuesday night.

Sale struck out six in four innings and was charged with one run and three hits.

The left-hander gave up one run and struck out seven in six innings in his previous outing.

The 23-year-old Sale, who has appeared in 79 games as a reliever, will make his first major league start when his spot in the rotation comes up.

Sale allowed three singles in the first inning, then got some advice from catcher A.J. Pierzynski that helped him calm down and get on track.

"I talked to A.J., he said: 'You're rushing things. Get the jitters out and pitch your game,'" Sale said. "After that, I felt good and had a great sense of poise."

Sale thinks he's moved past the struggles he had early this spring.

"Every guy wants to pitch better, but I was pleased," he said. "The first few (starts) were kind of rocky, but I smoothed it out along the way. I felt strong enough and my endurance was up so I feel like I'm ready to go."

Jordan Schafer was back in center field for the Astros and appeared to be fully recovered from a hand injury that had kept him out for more than two weeks.

"I took a couple of swings pretty

hard there and I was happy to get through three at-bats and it felt fine," he said.

"I got jammed on a pitch and it felt fine. I think we'll be OK from here on out."

Schafer, Houston's leadoff hitter who is hitting .385 this spring, had one hit in six innings in his return. He sprained his left hand making a diving catch on March 18.

"It was better than I thought it would be," Schafer said.

"It's not 100 percent, but it's good enough where I can play and I think I can play well."

Houston starter Bud Norris allowed two runs and five hits in three innings. He struck out four and walked one.

"I got a good pitch count up there and I threw a lot of strikes and I felt good and I'm ready to get into this," Norris said.

Alejandro De Aza hit a two-run single off Norris in the second inning and finished with two hits.

Adam Dunn and Paul Konerko hit back-to-back homers off David Carpenter to push Chicago's lead to 4-1 in the fifth inning. Dunn's drive flew over the center-field wall and just out of reach of a leaping Schafer. Konerko's shot landed in the Crawford Boxes in left field.

Carlos Lee had an RBI single for the Astros in the first inning.

Former Houston ace Brett Myers, who was moved to closer this spring, walked one and allowed two hits and a run in the ninth.

Rangers down Red Devils

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Matt Harrison didn't take anything for granted going into the spring training, even after winning 14 games last season for the American League champion Texas Rangers.

The left-hander left no doubt about staying in the rotation.

After a 1.69 ERA in four Cactus League starts before the Rangers broke camp from Arizona, Harrison struck out five with no walks in his scheduled four innings Tuesday night in a 13-4 exhibition victory over the Mexico City Red Devils.

"I just took the mentality that I did last year, come in fighting for a spot, and that really helped me," Harrison said. "Be aggressive and prove to them that it wasn't a fluke last year."

Harrison, who is scheduled to start Sunday against the Chicago White Sox in the third regular season game of the season, gave up three hits and two runs, one earned, against Mexico City.

Michael Young had a pair of RBI doubles, though one of them should have been his first home run of the spring, for Texas. Ian Kinsler homered and Nelson Cruz had a two-run double before leaving the game with a bruised left elbow after being hit by a pitch.

Young thought he had a three-run homer in the first inning when his long flyball to center ricocheted back onto the field. He was trotting toward second base when umpires instead ruled it was a double. Manager Ron

Washington came out to question them, but the minor league umpires working the game conferred and stuck with their call.

"If this was Friday, it would have mattered," Young said. "I feel like I'm having good at-bats and seeing the ball. ... I feel fine, I feel normal, I feel healthy, I feel ready to go."

Young hit .423 in 19 Cactus League games before the Rangers broke camp Sunday, but had no homers and only three RBIs in 52 at-bats in Arizona.

Television replays, which aren't used by umpires in exhibition games, showed that the ball cleared the 8-foot wall and came back on the field after hitting concrete behind there.

"They didn't have a key to the box," Washington said, with a smile, referring to the usual replay procedure.

Cruz followed with his double, putting the Rangers ahead to stay at 3-1.

The ALCS MVP left his second exhibition game in a week after being hit by a pitch. He took a ball off his left elbow in the third inning and was pulled for a pinch-runner. The Rangers said X-rays were negative and that Cruz was day to day.

The exhibition game was played only hours after heavy storms moved through the region and produced multiple tornadoes.

Workers at Rangers Ballpark took shelter in hallways during a pair of tornado warnings when the strong storm front passed through the area during the middle of the afternoon. There was no damage at the stadium, though a video taken by catcher Zach Zaneski from the dugout showed dark clouds rolling through the sky overhead while gusty, swirling winds lifted the tarp that was covering the field.

New Rangers closer Joe Nathan struck out three and gave up an unearned run over 1 2-3 innings in relief of Harrison.



Photo by Tony Claxton

Howard College's Brett Bell goes chases a ball in the outfield during Tuesday's outing against the Midland College Chaparrals. The Hawks came from behind to win the game 7-3.

ROBLES

Continued from Page

her son fulfill his lifelong dream.

"He loves baseball. He's ready to play," she said. "He has done really well, taking the responsibility for this all on his own."

Robles admits he has many supporters in his corner.

"I would like to thank Coach Phillips and Coach Park," he added. "And the whole faculty at Forsan High School, the students who are behind me and my parents."

Though Robles is ready to take his baseball game to the next level, he does have one more goal in mind after college — to play first base for the New York Yankees.

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Just perfect: 40-0 Baylor wins title

DENVER (AP) — Brittney Griner's place in women's basketball history is secure.

Blocking layups, snagging rebounds, hitting shots over two and three helpless defenders, she towered over the competition all season long to earn player of the year and outstanding player of the NCAA tournament honors.

She was simply dominant in adding national champion to her resume on Tuesday night.

Griner had 26 points, 13 rebounds and five blocks to lead Baylor to an 80-61 victory over Notre Dame in the NCAA women's basketball championship, capping an unparalleled 40-0 season for the Lady Bears.

"Brittney Griner, whether she won today or not, will go down in the history of the women's game as, if not the greatest post player, one of the greatest," Baylor coach Kim Mulkey said. "I'm so glad she has that ring now."

When the buzzer sounded, Griner finally celebrated, hamming it up as she helped take down the nets and dancing with Heisman Trophy winner Robert Griffin III.

Then she lifted coach Kim Mulkey up on her shoulders briefly, just the way she has done for the Lady Bears during this long season.

"It meant everything for us

to get it for coach," said Griner, referring to Mulkey's struggle with Bell's palsy during the tournament. "She felt like she wasn't there for us, but we told her every second that we could hear her loud and clear, everything she was saying."

Baylor became the seventh women's team to run through a season unbeaten and the first in NCAA history to win 40 games. It was the second national championship for Baylor, which also won a title in 2005.

"Looking back when we get older, I'm always going to remember this moment, always going to remember confetti falling and being here with my team," Griner said.

Baylor did it in a nearly wire-to-wire victory, finishing with a flourish when anything less than bringing a title back to Waco would have been a huge disappointment.

The 6-foot-8 Griner was right at the center of the action as the Lady Bears took control. Every time Notre Dame made a run in the second half to cut into the deficit, Griner had an answer. She showed a wide array of post moves, hitting turnaround jumpers and hooks that the Irish had no way to stop — even when they collapsed around her.

"Brittney Griner comes to work every day," Mulkey

said. "A lot of great players think they're all that and they half go through drills and they come to practice and they dog it. That child comes to work and brings her work pail every day."

Notre Dame fell short in the title game for the second straight season, having lost to Texas A&M by six points last year.

Coach Muffet McGraw's senior-heavy crew did finish the season with a decided edge over rival Connecticut — the Irish won the Big East regular-season title and defeated the Huskies in three of four meetings, including the national semifinal.

But like every other team this year, Notre Dame couldn't solve Baylor and its superstar.

"I think she's one of a kind," McGraw said. "There's so many things she can do. There have been some guards that have had some skill like that. But as a post player, she's the best I've seen."

Griner, selected The Associated Press player of the year, also was named most outstanding player of the tournament.

"We wouldn't be here without my team," the junior said. "All the awards — none of that means anything. If I don't have my team here, we can't get this."

All-American point guard Skylar Diggins did all she could to keep the Irish (36-4) in the game, scoring 20 points. But senior Natalie Novosel had just five points, going 0 for 11 from the field. Devereaux Peters, also playing in her final game, was saddled with foul trouble because of Griner. She scored seven points.

Diggins "played a great game," McGraw said. "She's just a big-time player and she didn't get a lot of help today."

Like Griner, Diggins has pledged to return for her senior year — both could join the WNBA draft — for a third run at the title.

Notre Dame had an early 9-8 lead before Baylor took over with a 12-2 spurt. The Irish were down by 14 in the first half before cutting their deficit to 34-28 at the break. They got as close as 42-39 and had the ball, but Griner asserted herself, scoring nine of the next 19 points for Baylor to seal the victory.

"They went on a run there," Diggins said. "I just remember we cut it down to three and they went on a run. I saw 10, 12, 14, 16, 19. We couldn't get rebounds when they missed shots."

Odyssey Sims added 19 points and Destiny Williams had 12 for the Lady Bears, who outrebounded Notre

Dame 46-27 and now have the third unbeaten season in women's basketball in the last four years. UConn, which has gone undefeated four times, did it in 2009 and 2010. Texas and Tennessee also have unbeaten seasons.

Baylor's victory also gave President Barack Obama some bragging rights. He correctly picked Baylor to beat Notre Dame in the title game.

With 1:04 left and the game well in hand, Mulkey took out Griner and the two shared a long hug. The fiery coach then went down the bench and hugged each of her players while holding back tears.

"I'm just so happy," Mulkey said. "That old saying, 'you're so happy you cry.' I can't quit crying."

Mulkey, who did her net cutting with daughter Mackenzie — a freshman on the team — and son Kramer, has now won a title as a player (at Louisiana Tech), an Olympic gold medal (in 1984) and two titles as a coach. Only five women's coaches have more than one championship at the top level of NCAA competition.

It was the second meeting between the teams this season.

Baylor also won the first one, by 13 in Waco on Nov. 17. That win gave the Lady Bears the preseason WNIT title.

Saints' appeal set for Thursday

NEW YORK (AP) — Saints head coach Sean Payton, general manager Mickey Loomis and assistant head coach Joe Vitt are set to have their NFL appeals heard Thursday regarding the punishment they've received for their roles in New Orleans' bounty system.

League spokesman Greg Aiello confirmed the hearing schedule in an email to The Associated Press on Tuesday afternoon, about two hours after Payton's agent, Don Yee, said the coach and NFL were "trying to schedule a mutually convenient time for the proceedings" that would not interfere with people's plans for the upcoming religious holidays.

Aiello also said former Saints defensive coordinator Gregg Williams, who has since taken a job as defensive coordinator with the St. Louis Rams, did not appeal his indefinite suspension.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell suspended Payton for all of next season. Loomis was suspended for eight games, Vitt for six, and the Saints were fined \$500,000 and docked two second-round draft picks.

The unusually tough penalties stemmed from an NFL probe which concluded that from 2009-11 the Saints offered improper cash bonuses for big hits that either knocked opponents out of games or left them needing help off of the field.

Payton's suspension — due to start last Sunday — has been on hold pending his appeal, allowing him to get in a few extra days of work as he rushes to create a plan that's as detailed as possible for the Saints' 2012 season.

Beyond the punishment for Saints coaches and executives, the NFL still has to determine whether players who were involved in the bounty program

will also be disciplined.

Speaking at a press event Tuesday for new NFL uniforms created by Nike, Goodell said the NFL met with the players' association representatives on Monday to discuss the league's investigation of the Saints.

"We shared more information with them so they're up to speed," he said.

Goodell added that he expected to speak with NFLPA chief DeMaurice Smith again as soon as Wednesday.

"I hope to be able to make some decisions soon," Goodell said.

According to the league, Saints linebacker Jonathan Vilma offered \$10,000 to any New Orleans player who sidelined Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre during the 2010 NFC championship game.

No other players involved have been publicly identified by the NFL.

sudoku

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	6	3		8	4	9		
	9		6		7		1	
1	4		3				6	
			2	1	6			
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♣ 8 7 5 4
♠ EAST
♦ A K 10 5 3
♥ A 9 8
♣ 10 6
♠ SOUTH
♦ A K 10 7 5
♥ 8
♣ A Q 10 2

Contract 3
South West North East
♠ 10 9 4 10 9 8 7
♦ J 9 2 8 7 6 5 4
♥ Q 10 8 7 6 5 4 3
♣ A Q 10 7 6 5 4 3

Opening lead: queen of hearts

As you've declared at our school and West has to make a contract of 3, it's a good idea to have the second hand with the king and ace of hearts and the king and ace of clubs. This is a good position to be in if you're playing 3-2.

The general that emerges is that if you're playing 3-2, you should be better off playing 3-2 than 3-1. This is because you should be able to take the lead of your own hand.

If you ruff the third heart, you should be able to take the lead of your own hand.

It's better to receive than to give. This is a good idea to have the second hand with the king and ace of hearts and the king and ace of clubs. This is a good position to be in if you're playing 3-2.

But if your thoughts are on receiving, you should be better off playing 3-2 than 3-1. This is because you should be able to take the lead of your own hand.

This is a good idea to have the second hand with the king and ace of hearts and the king and ace of clubs. This is a good position to be in if you're playing 3-2.

It is true that 3-2 is a better contract than 3-1. This is because you should be able to take the lead of your own hand.

If you're playing 3-2, you should be better off playing 3-2 than 3-1. This is because you should be able to take the lead of your own hand.

Expected to receive the lead of your own hand.

No lead is safe at Augusta

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — The seven shots Rory McIlroy took on the 10th hole last year at the Masters remain a blur.

So was the rest of his final round at Augusta National, where the 22-year-old from Northern Ireland made the wrong kind of history. He started with a four-shot lead. He finished 10 shots behind after an 80, the highest closing round by a 54-hole leader in 56 years.

If nothing else, it was a reminder how tenuous a lead can be in the final round.

Especially at the Masters.

"It's a course that makes you really nervous," Geoff Ogilvy said.

There is an art to play-

ing Augusta, which explains why nearly 40 percent of the Masters have been won by eight players. For those seeking their first green jacket, let alone their first major, finishing it off can be a challenge.

Greg Norman lost a record six-shot lead in 1996. Ed Sneed had a five-shot lead in 1979, and was still three shots clear with three holes remaining when he made three straight bogeys and lost in a playoff. Ken Venturi was on the verge of becoming the only amateur to win the Masters in 1956 when he blew a four-shot lead. Like McIlroy, he shot an 80.

McIlroy's blown lead is enough of a memory going into the Masters.

Adding to the emphasis is a bad habit of 54-hole leaders failing to win this year on the PGA Tour.

Kyle Stanley had a three-shot lead playing the final hole at Torrey Pines when he spun a wedge into the water and three-putted for a triple bogey, losing to Brandt Snedeker in a playoff.

A week later, Spencer Levin had a six-shot lead in the Phoenix Open when his game imploded on the back nine. He shot 75 and Stanley — of all people — rallied from eight shots behind to beat him.

Charlie Wi lost a three-shot lead at Pebble Beach and Phil Mickelson won with a 64. The next week at Riviera,

Mickelson and Keegan Bradley shared the 54-hole lead and both wound up losing to Bill Haas in a playoff.

In 14 stroke-play events on the PGA Tour, only five players have gone on to win with at least a share of the third-round lead. With that kind of history, protecting a lead is not easy.

"Not even close to easy, as we've seen," Nick Faldo said.

He should know. Faldo is the only player with multiple Masters wins who has never had the lead going into the last day. Along with his win over Norman in 1996, he came from five shots down in 1989 and three shots behind in 1990, both times winning in a playoff.

"That's the beauty of the Masters," Faldo said. "We come back every year, all those stories are compounded, from victory and failure. That's what makes it so special. The players will be reminded of it. Anything more than three or four shots, and you're making assumptions. If you were to carry a decent lead into Sunday, you'd need a steel-trap mind to survive."

That was never a problem for Tiger Woods. He was either leading or tied going into the final round in all four of his Masters wins.

Woods never saw it as a burden, though.

"The beauty of having a lead is that you can make those mistakes and still win," Woods said. "But the only problem is if some guys make a run and they get some momentum going, and you're going the other way, you give them a big shot of energy. You've seen some of these guys pull off some pretty low rounds. It doesn't take much. If you get off to a poor start and the other guy gets off to a quick start, four or five shots can be made up in a few holes."

That's how it was for Woods last year, but only for half of his round. He made up a seven-shot

deficit in nine holes, going out in 31 with a birdie-birdie-eagle stretch on the front nine as McIlroy stalled. Woods wasn't alone, of course. Charl Schwartzel started his round with a chip across the green for an improbable birdie, and holing a wedge from the third fairway for eagle.

Three holes into the final round, McIlroy's lead already was gone.

Jack Nicklaus never coughed up the lead going into the last round at a major, although twice he failed to win when he was tied — at Turnberry in his epic duel with Tom Watson in 1977, and at Augusta when Charles Coody beat him in 1971.

Even so, he remains annoyed at a blown opportunity in the '77 Masters, when he was tied with Watson and in the group right in front of his newest rival. He had 156 yards to the pin when he heard a big roar from behind — Watson made birdie.

"I changed my thought pattern, and I shouldn't have," Nicklaus said. "I had a 6-iron in my hand, planning to play it by the hole to the right and have that 15-foot putt right of the hole to win the golf tournament. I tried to stuff it in, hit it fat, hit in the bunker and let Watson play the last hole any way he wanted, which was really stupid."

"I mean, here I am, 37 years old, and I still make a dumb mistake like that," said Nicklaus, who made bogey and lost by two when Watson took par on the 18th. "It's one of the few that I can turn around and kick myself for what I did."



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Mercury makes up his mind to fly straight today, insisting that he's finished pulling his mischievous pranks on us, at least for the time being. He'll begin his change of heart in intuitive Pisces and keep energizing us with his forward momentum through July 14. This is a good time to make plans for the gorgeous Libra full moon on Friday.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Ideas inspire you, command your full attention and propel you



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Tomorrow's Horoscope

forward. You'll feel like diving in without testing the waters first, and this may actually work well for you, provided you're reasonably familiar with this particular "pool."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Don't worry about finishing what you started. Organize your project for completion at a later date. The process of taking stock, categorizing and figuring out where things stand will illuminate an important piece of the puzzle.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Venus newly gracing your sign decides to lend you a cloak of charm. All you have to do is wrap it around yourself (visualize this in great detail), and suddenly the world finds you enchanting.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Getting too involved in the lives of others can be, simply stated, a drag. When you are careful to identify problems as "yours" and "mine," life becomes rather manageable, if not downright enjoyable.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You enjoy learning new things quite a lot more than you'll enjoy repeating the same old tasks. And yet, it's the same old tasks that need your attention. A mid-morning attitude adjustment will help you soldier on with a smile.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The moon in your sign casts a glow of intrigue on your life, and you may field more attention, questions and

curious stares than you're used to. You can't help it that you're so fascinating!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You can never know everything about a person. Even if the other person is your twin who shares the same DNA, there still will be a world to discover. New questions breathe life into old relationships.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Special projects are so enthralling that you wish you could spend all of your time and energy on them. Even if you can't make that happen given your current situation, you're lucky to feel so strongly about your interests.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have an important point to make today, and there's no use in being subtle. Sing it from the rooftops. You'll attract like minds, and together you can progress.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll be a master of free association now, so feel free to go off on a conversational riff. Chances are, you'll hit on the topic that your counterpart most enjoys. You raise conversation to an art form.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll go on a shopping spree, but what you're after is probably something other than tangible goods. You're looking for the inspiration or information that will lead you to the next great adventure.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It was this day in 1939 that your sign mate Glenn Miller recorded "Moonlight Serenade," which quickly became a popular standard. You'll be similarly creatively inspired, so remember to record your ideas!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 4). You are charismatic and popular this year, and you'll use your powers for good, elevating the mood of those around you. Over the next four weeks, you'll be proud to see your brainchild develop and walk on its own. Family makes you proud in August. Plan a trip to where you've always wanted to go. October is ideal for travel. Leo and Taurus people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 39, 2, 12, 34 and 28.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I feel like I'm in a dead-end job, though there are others who have been promoted, so it's possible. I will note that anyone who has been promoted has been a man. I'm an Aries woman born in 1969, and I've been a loyal and hard worker for the same company for 10 years. There are very few positions above me. Have I hit the glass ceiling? And if so, what should I do about it?"

Have you ever considered going into business for yourself? Maybe you've secretly dreamt of this before. Aries people have the amazing drive and energy required for starting a

business from scratch. You may derive great satisfaction from doing some research and development on this idea this month. It will take your focus off of the issues at work and will likely make the situation better there. Higher-ups will sense you pulling back in some way, and this will make them reach forward to keep you involved and happy. The energetic shift could be just what's needed for them to recognize the value you bring to the company.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: In addition to being a highly respected movie star, Robert Downey Jr. plays the piano, writes songs and has been praised for his earthy singing voice, too. This Renaissance man was born when the sun, Mercury and Venus were all in Aries, and the emotional moon and the good-fortune planet Jupiter were in Taurus, the sign that rules the voice.

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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 (28) Discovery	AMC (31) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (20) Sports	ESPN (30) Sports
5:PM :30	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias	News	King	Swallow House	Charlie Rose	King	Sons of Guns	CSI: Miami	Auction	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	SportsCenter	Baseball Tonight
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	Una Familia con Suerte (SS)	Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	Dr. Diana CCM	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Sons of Guns	CSI: Miami	Auction	Law & Order	ANT Farm	Jessie	NBA	MLB Baseball: St. Louis Cardinals at Miami Marlins
7:PM :30	Middle Suburg.		American Idol	Survivor: One World	Una Maid en	Betty	Fam. Guy	Upd	Nature	One Tree Hill	Sons of Guns	Movie: Contact, James Woods	Auction	Law & Order	Movie: The Express, Clancy Brown	ANT Farm	NBA Basketball: Thunder at Heat	
8:PM :30	Family Happy	Abismo de Pasión		Criminal Minds	Corazón Valiente	Bent	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	NOVA (DVS)		Sons of Guns	Auction	Law & Order		ANT Farm			
9:PM :30	Missing	La Que No	Simpsons	CSI: Crime Scene	Relaciones Pelí	Rock Center	Big Bang			Cops	Machines of Glory	Am Dig	Law & Order		ANT Farm			Baseball
10:PM :30	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	McGee	Charlie Rose	'Til Death	Sons of Guns	Repo	CSI: NY	Game	Jessie			NBA Basketball: Lakers at Clippers
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Office	Yohanan	World	'70s	Machines of Glory	Auction	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Fish	Wizards	SportsCenter	
12:AM :30	Extra Paid	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Dr. Denis	T. Smiley	South Pk	Sons of Guns	Am Dig	CSI: NY	Movie: Linewatch, Sharon Leal	Good	NBA	SportsCenter	
1:AM :30	Paid	La Jaula	American	Ent	Pagado	(.06) Today	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest		Wretched	Sons of Guns	Repo	Southland	Random	NBA Basketball: Thunder at Heat			

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I WAS SO GOOD TODAY THE TEACHER HAD THE SCHOOL NURSE TAKE MY TEMPERATURE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Why don't you go get YOUR dishes and join me?"

HAGAR



"WOULD YOU LIKE TO CHECK YOUR AXES BEFORE YOU BAT, GENTLEMEN?"

BLONDIE



"THE LAST TIME OUR STEAK KNIVES JUST DIDN'T DO THE JOB!"

BC



"I THINK I BROKE MY TOE."

WIZARD OF ID



"I AM HOWEVER A GRAND MY TRUTH SERVAH."

AGNES



"YES I HAVE T TO THE KIND LIKE YOU SEE?"

HI AND LOIS



"IF I OFFER THEM TO YOU, IT IS QUANTITY AND LABELS YOU AS A PERSON WHO CAN'T TAKE CARE OF HER OWN PROBLEMS."

THE OTHER COAST



"IT'S SO STRESSFUL BEING A SNAKE. HOW SOONER DO I GET COMFORTABLE IN MY OWN SKIN THAN I HAVE TO SHED IT."

SNUFFY SMITH



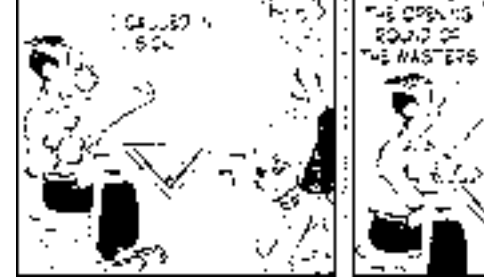
"PENNY FER YORE THOUGHTS, PAW!!"

BEEBLE BAILEY



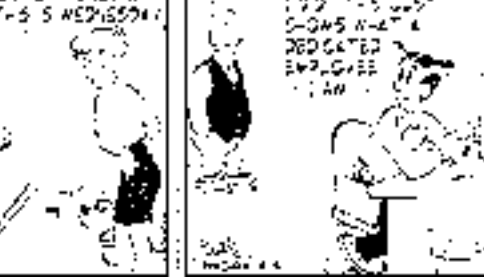
"SARGE GAVE ME A PASS SO I CAN COME TO YOUR PLACE FOR DINNER TONIGHT."

BLONDIE



"W-ARE YOU DRESSED FOR WORK?"

BLONDIE



"I'M GOING TO SING TO YOU AND WATCH THE OPENING ROUND OF THE MASTERS."

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, April 4, the 95th day of 2012. There are 271 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 4, 1968, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn.

On this date:

In 1818, Congress decided the flag of the United States would consist of 13 red and white stripes and 20 stars, with a new star to be added for every new state of the Union.

In 1841, President William Henry Harrison succumbed to pneumonia one month after his inaugural, becoming the first U.S. chief executive to die in office.

In 1850, the city of Los Angeles was incorporated.

In 1859, "Dixie" was performed publicly for the first time by Bryant's Minstrels at Mechanics' Hall in New York.

In 1887, Susanna Madora Salter became the first woman

elected mayor of an American community: Argonia, Kan.

In 1912, China proclaimed a republic in Tibet, a move fiercely opposed by Tibetans.

In 1933, the Navy airship USS Akron crashed in severe weather off the New Jersey coast with the loss of 73 lives.

In 1949, 12 nations, including the United States, signed the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington, D.C.

In 1960, Elvis Presley recorded "Are You Lonesome Tonight?" in Nashville, Tenn., for RCA Victor.

In 1975, more than 130 people, most of them children, were killed when a U.S. Air Force transport plane evacuating Vietnamese orphans crash-landed shortly after takeoff from Saigon.

In 1981, Henry Cisneros became the first Hispanic elected mayor of a major U.S. city: San Antonio.

In 1991, Sen. John Heinz, R-Pa., and six other people, including two children, were killed when a helicopter collided with Heinz's plane over a schoolyard in Merion, Pa.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Elizabeth Wilson is 91. Author-poet Maya Angelou is 84. Sen.

Richard Lugar, R-Ind., is 80. Recording executive Clive Davis is 80. Bandleader Hugh Masekela is 73. Author Kitty Kelley is 70. Actor Craig T. Nelson is 68. Actor Walter Charles is 67. Actress Christine Lahti is 62. Country singer Steve Gatlin (The Gatlin Brothers) is 61. Actress Mary-Margaret Humes is 58. Writer-producer David E. Kelley is 56. Actor Phil Morris is 53. Actress Lorraine Toussaint is 52. Actor Hugo Weaving is 52. Rock musician Craig Adams (The Cult) is 50. Actor David Cross is 48. Actor Robert Downey Jr. is 47. Actress Nancy McKeon is 46. Actor Barry Pepper is 42. Country singer Clay Davidson is 41. Rock singer Josh Todd (Buckcherry) is 41.

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Newsday Crossword

CONCLUSIONS by Fred Piscop

- ACROSS
- 1 Coin-loss call
 - 5 Sounds along
 - 11 Silly Puddy container
 - 14 Tree fallers
 - 15 Pens on law acronym
 - 16 Gun owners' org.
 - 17 NBC afternoon program
 - 19 Neighbor of Md.
 - 20 Camp-shelter sealer
 - 21 Push forward
 - 23 Stage photo. e.g.
 - 25 Red suit
 - 26 Played 18
 - 30 "Beats me!"
 - 32 Be patient for
 - 33 Attention-getting feat
 - 34 Trop
 - 37 Salsa curi-ty
 - 38 "Be silent," in music
 - 39 Bol-erina's garb
 - 40 Tiny hill dweller
 - 41 Collared garment
 - 42 Prairie nut
 - 43 Add-on's literary partner
 - 45 Can't stand
 - 46 Like Hilar broad
 - 48 Cry like a baby
 - 50 Hulking herbivore
 - 51 Take in air
 - 56 AOL for instance
 - 57 Certain game-show contestant's response

- DOWN
- 1 Diplomacy
 - 2 Wine shaft
 - 3 "That's my cue!"
 - 4 For fear that
 - 5 Small bil
 - 6 "Get you" mits off me"
 - 7 Poetic sphere
 - 8 Pizzeria order
 - 9 Night school subj
 - 10 Conspicuous
 - 11 Assembly line output
 - 12 Extend a hand to
 - 13 Exasperates
 - 18 Social misfit
 - 22 Provides with a staff
 - 24 Auto-race 500 team
 - 25 Search for
 - 26 Strip (Midwest region)
 - 27 Wilson of Midnight in Paris
 - 28 Subject for ca Vincr
 - 29 In fighting term
 - 31 Tune for two
 - 33 Leave port
 - 35 Sundance Film Festival locale
 - 36 Sand hill
 - 38 The other peop e
 - 39 Herbal beverage
 - 41 Counter-balances
 - 42 Italian corneal mush
 - 44 Baking soda mess.
 - 45 Istanbul money
 - 46 Santiago's land
 - 47 Stage platform
 - 49 Less error-prone
 - 52 Unwarranted
 - 53 "Jasperwocky" star
 - 54 Pict-call response
 - 55 Chapters of history
 - 58 Nest-egg letters
 - 59 Roady alternative
 - 60 Poet I dwell

