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MONDAY

APRIL 30, 2012



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Chefs at the ready



Peggy Daratt, left, and Virginia Franco prepare their entry during the American Legion Post 506 cook-off Saturday morning.

HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Two face robbery charges

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

A pair of Big Spring men were arrested early Sunday morning after law enforcement officials allege they were part of an aggravated robbery in the 1000 block of E. 16th Street.

Thaddeus Ontario Straughter, 21, of 1401 Virginia, was arrested Sunday on two counts of aggravated robbery, according to police reports. Also arrested was Jordan Allen McLeod, 21, of 618 Tulane, who is also charged with two counts of aggravated robbery.

According to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the Big Spring Police Department, the two suspects were part of a group which allegedly robbed a pair of victims in the area of the 1000 block of E. 16th Street at approximately 2:30 a.m.

"According to reports, there were two males in the 1000 block of E. 16th Street when a vehicle pulled up," Everett said. "The vehicle was occupied by four male suspects, two of which appeared to be armed with handguns. The suspects took property from the victims and fled the scene."

Everett said Straughter and McLeod were located nearby shortly after the robbery had occurred.

"Officers made the two arrests based on witness statements," Everett said. "There were no injuries reported as a result of the robbery or the arrest. Investigators are still looking for the other two suspects, so we fully expect more arrests in this case."

Everett declined to comment regarding the property taken from the victims, citing an open investigation.



McLeod



Straughter

See **ROBBERY**, Page 3

BSHS band in concert at St. Mary's Thursday

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring High School band is ready to put the cap on another successful year.

The band, which recently won another Sweepstakes award in University Interscholastic League competition, will perform at the

annual Virgin of St. Mary's Episcopal Church Eastertide Offering concert, set for 12:05 p.m. Thursday in the the St. Mary's sanctuary.

Admission is free to concert, which is expected to last about 30 minutes, and lunch will be provided afterward.

The Steer Band earned Sweepstakes honors by claiming Division I ratings (the highest possible) at UIL marching, concert and sight-reading contests this school year, Director Rocky Harris said.

Big Spring bands earned four

See **BAND**, Page 3

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Lakeview students pedal for good cause

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

Trikes and tykes have become an annual thing at Lakeview Head Sart.

This year's annual Trike-a-Thon helped the students raise \$6,150 for St. Jude's Research Hospital.

"This is something started eight years ago when one of the teachers here had a son who was diagnosed with leukemia, and it's been continued since," said Joann Garcia, family development specialist.

The money raised will be donated to St. Jude's in order to help children who are receiving treatment. The money was raised by a total of 34 students ranging from 3 years old to 5 years old. The most



money raised by one student totaled \$772.

"You never know when there might be a kid locally who needs it," Garcia said. "This is a project that teaches the kids the importance of helping someone out and bike safety at the same time."

In order to encourage par-

ticipation with the students, the top 12 students received a new bike. All bikes were donated by businesses and community members.

Donations came from Howard County Sheriff Stan Parker, Big Spring Police Department Corporal Thad Thomas, Clay Harris, owner

Courtesy photo
Students at Lakeview Headstart raised more than \$6,000 for St. Jude Research Hospital during their annual Trike-a-Thon.

of 87 Auto Sales, Cabell and Cindy Mackie of J&J Cattle, Pollard Chevrolet staff, Walmart Supercenter and Boyd's Auto Glass.

The top six girls and top six boys received a bike.



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Obituaries

Billy Bob Spier



Billy Bob Spier, 61, of Lizella, Ga. went home to be with the Lord on Friday, April 27, 2012, at his home. Born Jan. 29, 1951 in Big Spring, Texas, he was the son of the late Billy R. and Bobbie V. Spier. He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1969, and attended Texas Tech University.

He had a long federal career, starting with the U.S. Army in Stuttgart, West Germany, followed by civilian service at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., Office of Personnel Management, and the U.S. Postal Service. For 32 years, he was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Macon, GA.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Lori; three daughters, Kristine Spier Thomason of Macon, Katie Spier of Chamblee, and Karla Spier of Savannah; two grandchildren, Felicia and Kristopher Thomason of Macon; brother Dick Spier of Cameron, Texas; and sisters Peggy Bethell of Cameron, Texas, and Patti Purser of Midland, Texas.

The Spier family would like to express extreme gratitude to Dr. Cheryl Jones, Jeff, Kathy, Anita, "Ms. Slappy" and all the staff at the Georgia Cancer Specialists Center in Macon, Ga. for their wonderful caring and expertise. Also, a special thanks to the Big Spring High School Class of 1969 Exes for their genuine support over the last year.

A memorial service is planned at First Presbyterian Church, Macon, at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, 2012. Donations may be made to United Hospice, 6060 Lakeside Commons Drive, Macon, Ga. 31210 or First Presbyterian Church of Macon, 682 Mulberry Street, Macon, Ga. 31201.

Paid obituary

Milton James Junek



On April 27, 2012, our good Lord chose to reach out his hand and took our beloved Dad and best friend, Milton James Junek, to his heavenly home. Graveside funeral services will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, 2012, at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Robert Cavanaugh officiating.

Family and friends are invited to a reception to visit and tell stories at the funeral home following the services.

He was born June 1, 1926 in Cameron, Texas, and married Emma Clara Kernell Feb. 16, 1964, in Lovington, N.M. She preceded him in death Dec. 13, 2007.

Milton served in the U.S. Army in the Philippines during World War II. He farmed around Big Spring for more than 50 years.

Milton leaves behind two daughters, Corine Breedlove and husband, William O. of Las Cruces, N.M., and Mary Dupre and husband, David Hildebrand of Odessa; three grandsons, Toby Dupre, Johnny Dupre and Alex Bonnet; two sisters, Irene Hirt and Mildred Hirt; and a number of nieces and nephews.

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

Paid obituary

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Bettie Wilcox



Bettie Wilcox, 74, of Lake Thomas, died April 26, 2012, at her residence. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Gail Cemetery with Chaplain Cherise Felty of Home Hospice officiating.

She was born Oct. 2, 1937, in Cordell, Okla. She married Wayne Wilcox on June 2, 1973, in New Mexico. She was a homemaker and has lived at Lake Thomas since 1979.

She is survived by her husband, Wayne Wilcox of Lake Thomas; one daughter, Bonita Chadwick and her husband David of Fritch; four sons, Marlin Wilcox and his wife Vickie of Perryton, Dennis Wilcox and his wife Jackie of Big Spring, Butch Key of Santa Barbara, Calif. and Kenny Key of Dallas; mother, Nell Scoggin of Bossier City, La.; one sister, Edna Watkins of Haughton, La.; daughter-in-law, Gail Wilcox of Muleshoe; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Lloyd Scoggin; and one son, Kenneth Wilcox.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Margaret F. Ebersole

Margaret F. Ebersole, 84, of Harrisburg, Penn. died Friday, April 27, 2012, at her son's residence in Texas. Funeral services will be held at the family's convenience.

Margaret was born June 4, 1927, in Philadelphia, Penn. and married James C. Ebersole Aug. 7, 1946 in Harrisburg, Penn. He preceded her in death June 23, 2003.

She was a homemaker and a lifelong member of Colonial Park United Church of Christ. She loved doing arts and crafts, especially for the church bazaars.

Survivors include two sons, George Ebersole and wife, Debroah of Big Spring, Texas, and Jeffery Ebersole and wife, Marjorie of Harrisburg, Penn.; one daughter, Beverly Arnold of York, Penn.; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and one sister.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- EDDIE GLENN OVERTON, 20, of 1408 E. Sixth St., was arrested Sunday on charges of consumption of alcohol by a minor, evading arrest or detention and public intoxication.
- TERRY JOE CONWAY, 50, of 2001 Morrison Dr., was arrested Sunday on a charge of assault – family violence.
- BRYAN ADAM HOLCOMB, 23, of 2609 Wasson Rd. Apt. 72, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- COLLIN PATRICK WHITESEL, 26, of 2609 Wasson Rd. Apt. 72, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- THADDEUS ONTARIO STRAUGHTER, 21, of 1401 Virginia, was arrested Sunday on charges of aggravated robbery (two counts).
- JORDAN ALLEN MCLEOD, 21, of 618 Tulane, was arrested Sunday on charges of aggravated robbery (two counts).
- MARK ANTHONY MOLINA, 47, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 226, was arrested Sunday on a charge of assault causing bodily injury – family violence.
- DANIEL RAY CASTILLO, 45, of Hereford, Texas, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOE FUENTES, 50, of Beeville, Texas, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- JAMES LEE WHITE, 43, of 105 Merrick Rd. in

Coahoma, was arrested Sunday on charges of public intoxication, driving while license invalid and expired registration.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported: In the 2100 block of Runnels. In the 500 block of N.W. 10th Street.
- ASSAULT was reported near the intersection of 18th Street and Nolan.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1200 block of W. FM 700.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 57 inmates at the time of this report.

- MICHAEL PETERSON II, 38, was booked into the county detention center Friday on a charge of disorderly conduct.
- GUADALUPE LOMAS JR., 40, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear.
- LORI ANN WRIGHT, 48, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- COREY PRESTON HOFFPAUIR, 35, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on an Austin pardon and parole warrant.
- LAURIE RAMIREZ FLORES, 28, was booked into the county detention center Friday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to use child safety seat, failure to maintain financial responsibility, violation of a promise to appear and failure to appear.
- WESLEY WARLICK, 34, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of assault causing bodily injury – family violence.
- ROY WAYNE REESE, 36, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of assault – family violence.
- SHAYNE HUDGINS, 42, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- MICHAEL SHANE ALLEN, 37, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of service.
- MICHAEL ALAN LEWIS, 44, was arrested Saturday by DPS on Parker County warrants for fugitive arrest – possession of a dangerous drug, speeding, driving while license invalid and failure to appear.
- ALBERT LAWRENCE HICKS III, 38, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated – second offense.
- MICHAEL ANTHONY SMITH II, 33, was booked into the county detention center Saturday by the BSPD on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation and public intoxication.
- PEGGY ANN DIAZ, 27, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of speeding.
- COLLIN PATRICK WHITESEL, 26, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOE LUI FUENTES, 50, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.

See **SHERIFF**, Page 4




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Take note

• Spring of Siloam CWJC will be hosting the spring graduation Saturday, May 5 at 4 p.m. A reception will follow the graduation in the Holy Grounds Cafe. The ceremony will take place at Spring Creek Fellowship at 501 Birdwell Lane.

• An account has been established at Wells Fargo Bank to help defray medical cost for Brittney Phillips Smith. Brittney will be undergoing a kidney transplant in San Antonio on June 14. Brittney is a graduate of BSHS and is the daughter of Karan and Gary Phillips. All donations and prayers will be greatly appreciated.

• 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.

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

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

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

• Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. A training will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 18. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.

• Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help. We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions

such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events, and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.

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

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

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

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

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We currently have 55 children in foster care without a volunteer. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteer-

ing, please contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

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

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

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915 or the local ACS office at 432-683-6375.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call (877) 277-1618, the High Plains American Cancer Group Report Center. Anyone wishing to volunteer to drive in this program should call Sherry Hodnett, president of the Big Spring ACS Board, at 264-7599 at her office at Home Hospice.

Support groups

MONDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.

• PEP — Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parents, single parent, grandparents, adoptive or fostering parents. Every first and fourth Monday of the month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Northside Community Center. Classes are free. For information, call 263-2673.

• Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 8-9 p.m., fourth floor, VA Medical Center.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

TUESDAY

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

• Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerriroosenbaum9488@msn.com

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

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

WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex 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.

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at the Gold Rush Tobacco Shop, 800 E. Third Street. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

• Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) will meet at 5:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Parish Hall. Guest speaker for the night will be Dr. Larry Fish, who will speak on the subject of macular degeneration. For more information, call You can call us at 263-2501.

ROBBERY

Police Department at 264-2550.

Continued from Page 1

"It wouldn't matter if they took \$1,000 or one cent, the value of the property has no effect on the charge," Everett said. "As soon as they displayed the handguns it became aggravated robbery."

Aggravated robbery is a first-degree felony punishable by five to 99 years to life in prison and a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

Anyone with information regarding this crime is encouraged to contact the Big Spring

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

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Bettie Wilcox, 74, died Thursday. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Gail Cemetery.

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BAND

Continued from Page 1

Division I ratings at recent concert competition — aside from Harris' Honor Band, the Symphonic Band (directed by Hale), Concert Band and the No. 1 junior high band (both conducted by Daniel Garrett) earned the top UIL ratings. Emily Andrews' No. 2 junior high band earned a Div. II rating in concert competition.

The Honor Band also qualified for the State Wind Ensemble Festival, to be held in May at the University of Texas at Austin.

"It's the first time we've ever qualified for the festival," Harris said. "It's kind of like the state marching con-

test, except for concert bands ... We're very excited about having the chance to go down to Austin and perform there."

Also, 80 BSHS band students have qualified for state UIL solo and ensemble contest to be held in Austin May 28.

To top everything off, however, Harris announced the band has been invited to make a return trip to New York

to perform in the Debut Series of young musician concerts at Carnegie Hall.

Harris said the band's New York concert is scheduled for March 25, 2013.

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News in brief

Advocate for blind Chinese lawyer says U.S. asylum deal expected

BEIJING (AP) — U.S. and Chinese officials are ironing out a deal to secure American asylum for a blind Chinese legal activist who fled house arrest, with an agreement likely before Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrives this week, a U.S. rights campaigner said Monday.

Bob Fu of the Texas-based rights group ChinaAid said that China and the U.S. want to reach agreement on the fate of Chen Guangcheng before the annual high-level talks with Clinton and other U.S. officials begin in Beijing on Thursday.

"The Chinese top leaders are deliberating a decision to be made very soon, maybe in the next 24 to 48 hours," Fu said, citing a source close to the U.S. and Chinese governments. Both sides are "eager to solve this issue," said Fu, a former teacher at a Communist Party academy in Beijing whose advocacy group focuses on the rights of Christians in

China and who maintains a network of contacts in the country.

"It really depends on China's willingness to facilitate Chen's exit," Fu said.

Chen, a well-known dissident who angered authorities in rural China by exposing forced abortions, made a surprise escape from house arrest a week ago into what activists say is the protection of U.S. diplomats in Beijing, posing a delicate diplomatic crisis for both governments.

Syria: 2 blasts that kill at least 8 in city of Idlib carried out by bombers

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria's state news agency says the two explosions that killed at least eight people in the city of Idlib were carried out by suicide bombers.

The state news agency, SANA, said Monday's blasts wounded nearly 100 people. The explosions were near a military compound, but it's not clear what the target was.

The force of the explosions shattered windows in the area and sent debris flying for hundreds of meters.

Sailboat wreckage found hours after disappearance,

ENSENADA, Mexico (AP) — Eric Lamb was doing safety patrol on a 124-mile yacht race when he spotted a boat that appeared too close to Mexico's Coronado Islands. He never got there.

As his twin-engine boat neared the uninhabited islands just south of San Diego, he stumbled on sailboat shards that were mostly no more than six inches long strewn over about two square miles. He saw a small refrigerator, a white seat cushion and empty containers of yogurt and soy milk.

Over several hours, a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter directed him in his search and led him to two dead bodies floating with their backs up, badly scraped and bruised. The Coast Guard recovered a third body and the fourth member of the crew was missing Monday in California's second deadly accident this month involving an ocean race.

Lamb, 62, said the 37-foot racing yacht looked like it "had gone through a blender."

"It was real obvious it had been hit just because the debris was so small," he said Sunday.

Once rivals, Obama and Clintons forge genuine partnership

McLEAN, Va. (AP) — There were no bear hugs on display, but President Barack Obama and former President Bill Clinton looked relaxed and friendly as they began a summer fundraising blitz that demonstrates their shared hopes for Democratic victory despite past differences.

Although Clinton had dismissed Obama in 2008 as undeserving of the presidency his wife Hillary Rodham Clinton was then seeking, on Sunday evening Clinton warmly declared "Barack Obama deserves to be re-elected president of the United States."

Obama is "beating the clock" to restore the nation's economy to health, Clinton told about 500 cheering supporters who had paid as little as \$1,000 and as much as \$20,000 apiece to see, as Obama put it, "two presidents for one."

Digging out of similar financial holes has historically taken five to 10 years, Clinton said.

Longtime Clinton backer and strategist Terry McAuliffe hosted the event, the first of three planned joint appearances for Clinton and Obama.

Obama hosts

Japan prime minister

WASHINGTON (AP) — Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, in his Monday meeting with President Barack Obama, is looking to reaffirm Japan's strong alliance with the U.S. and boost his leadership credentials as his popularity flags at home.

Noda, who came to power in September and is Japan's sixth prime minister in six years, faces huge challenges in reviving a long-slumbering economy and helping his nation recover from the worst nuclear crisis since Chernobyl.

His Oval Office meeting and working lunch with Obama, to be followed by a gala dinner hosted by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, could offer Noda some brief relief from domestic woes. The two sides are determined to show that U.S.-Japan ties are as close as ever, particularly after the assistance the U.S. lent following the massive March 2011 earthquake and tsunami that triggered a meltdown at a nuclear plant.

The U.S. alliance with Japan, the world's third-largest economy, is at the core of Obama's expanded engagement in Asia — a diplomatic thrust motivated in part by a desire to counter the growing economic and military clout of strategic rival China.

The U.S. has about 50,000 troops in Japan, and both sides never tire of saying that their defense cooperation underpins regional peace and security.

Officials probe cause of accident that killed 7, including 3 kids

NEW YORK (AP) — Three generations of a family died in a horrifying crash just a few miles from home when the SUV they were traveling in plunged more than 50 feet off a highway overpass and into a ravine on the grounds of the Bronx Zoo, killing all seven aboard, including three children.

"Sometimes you come upon events that are horrific and this is one of them," FDNY deputy Chief Ronald Werner said shortly after the crash.

Authorities were trying to determine what caused Sunday's accident that killed Jacob Nunez, 85, and Ana Julia Martinez, 81, both from the Dominican Republic, their daughters, Maria Gonzalez, 45, and Maria Nunez, 39, and three grandchildren. Police say Gonzalez was driving.

The children were identified as Jocelyn Gonzalez, 10, the daughter of the driver, Niely Rosario, 7, and Marly Rosario, 3, both daughters of Nunez.

"They were a good, wholesome family," a Bronx neighbor, Felicia Lee, 29, told the Daily News.

Cross-country fugitive siblings being sentenced in Colorado

DENVER (AP) — Three Florida siblings accused of shooting at a police officer and staging a daring bank robbery in a multistate crime spree are facing sentencing on charges stemming from their shootout and capture in Colorado — effectively ending their stay here as Georgia authorities await their extradition.

Lee Grace Dougherty, 29, Dylan Stanley-Dougherty, 27, and Ryan Dougherty, 22, pleaded guilty to charges related to the Aug. 10 freeway chase and shootout with police in southern Colorado. Once 3rd Judicial District Judge Claude Appel hands down their sentences, the U.S. Marshals Service will transport them to Albany, Ga., for a court hearing on May 15, making it likely they'll be transferred from state to federal custody within days, if not hours of Monday's sentencing.

CONWAY, 50, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of assault — family violence.

- MARK ANTHONY MOLINA, 47, was booked into the county detention center Monday by the BSPD on a charge of assault causing bodily injury — family violence.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Loyd. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Princeton. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lincoln. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported near the intersection of 16th Street and Runnels. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the area of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- AUTOMOBILE FIRE was reported in the area of W. Highway 80.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Lynn. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2400 block of Alabama. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 100 block of W. 21st Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Rickabaugh. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2000 block of W. Highway 80. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of N. Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of Sage Circle. One person was transported to SMMC.
- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1600 block of Runnels.

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

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

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

Opening lead — ten of diamonds.
Bridge is not really that difficult a game — if you put your mind to it. The trouble with many players is that they don't think things through, and all too often they discover after a hand is over that they overlooked a comparatively simple bid or play.

Consider this deal from a pairs contest played many years ago in Los Angeles. The final contract at most tables was four hearts by South, and at practically every table the outcome was down one after the ten-of-diamonds opening lead.

Declarer covered the ten with the jack and took East's queen with the ace. After drawing three rounds of

trumps, South returned the six of diamonds. West showed out, and East, holding the Q-8 of diamonds over dummy's 9-7, won the six with the eight and shifted to a club. Declarer had no choice but to play low on the club even though West was marked with the king for his overcall. So South ended up losing a spade, two diamonds and a club for down one.

At one table, however, declarer (Meyer Schleifer) made the contract. Exercising his customary wizardry, Schleifer ducked the ten of diamonds in dummy and then allowed the ten to hold the trick!

As a result of this extraordinary play, the contract could not be defeated. West could do no better than shift to a trump, and after drawing three rounds of trumps, Schleifer played the ace and another diamond.

East won with the king and returned a club, but school was out. Schleifer went up with the ace, crossed to dummy with a diamond, discarded his club loser on the fifth diamond and conceded a spade to the ace — making four.

Ducking the ten of diamonds is clearly the right play. West's lead must be either a singleton or from the 10-8 doubleton. In either case, nothing can be lost by retaining dummy's jack and then, after East produces the eight, holding up the ace. The double-duck might be ingenious, but it is also dictated by the circumstances.

Tomorrow: Transcendentalism.

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SHERIFF

Continued from Page 2

- BRYAN ADAM HOLCOMB, 23, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- EDDIE GLENN OVERTON, 20, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention, minor in consumption of alcohol and a municipal warrant for public intoxication.

- THADDEUS ONTARIO STRAUGHTER, 21, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on charges of aggravated robbery (two counts).

- JORDAN ALLEN MCLEOD, 21, was booked into the county detention center Sunday by the BSPD on charges of aggravated robbery (two counts).

- JAMES LEE WHITE, 43, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on Howard County warrants for public intoxication, driving while license invalid and expired registration.

- TERRY JOE

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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BSHS girls dominate at track and field regionals

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — The Big Spring High School girls track and field team took first place as a squad at the regional championship Saturday, ensuring them a spot at the state championship in Austin.

After winning district convincingly, the Lady Steers entered regionals with momentum. BSHS racked up 82 points, beating out runners-up Wylie who recorded 63 points.

The only obstacle left? To bring home the coveted state title.

Bridgett Tuitt led BSHS by qualifying in five

different events. Tuitt placed second in the triple jump (37-1 1/3) and second in the 200 (25.48). Jodi Jones took second in the pole vault (10-6), and Big Spring earned the top spot as a team in the 400 relay (48.66), as well as the 800 relay (1:41.26). Also qualifying were Cerby Ritchey (discus); Donisha McGee, Bridgett Tuitt, April Turner and Dyrshae Vanderbilt (200).

Ambra Hill and Autumn Minter punched their tickets to Austin by qualifying as relay alternates.

Last year, the Lady Steers missed winning state by two points. This year, the seniors were intent on remedying that.

“We want those two points,” Tuitt said in an interview prior to the regional tourney. Her fellow seniors concurred.

The hard work and determination has paid off for the close-knit core of upper classmen, and Coach Nick Roberson is pleased to see them succeed as a result.

“They definitely took the right steps and competed hard,” Roberson said. “We will be in the mix in two weeks. I think they will fare well. We will put in our best efforts and the chips will fall where they may.”

The state track meet is set for May 11-12 in Austin.

Howard College teams shine on the diamond

Softball squad takes conference, baseball team needs two wins to do the same

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

The Howard College Hawk baseball and softball squads are taking care of business.

Coach Britt Smith’s baseball team lost both games of a doubleheader (Game One: 4-7, Game Two 2-6) to New Mexico Junior College on the road Saturday, delaying their claim to a conference championship.

It’s likely just a little speed bump, however, as the Hawks’ Western Junior College Athletic Conference record sits at 21-6. With five games remaining, HC now only needs to win two games out of its final five to win the conference outright. A one game affair with Odessa College followed by a four-game series with Frank Phillips College should give the Hawks ample opportunity to record the two victories.

Clarendon College could help HC out as well.

If Clarendon loses at least one game, it makes the Hawks’ challenge even easier, as they would then only need to win one game. HC will be advancing to the regional championship regardless of how the season ends, but seeding at the tournament — as well as bragging

rights and a conference title — are at stake.

Smith is confident that his team can get the job done.

“Obviously, our goal is to go in and win our conference,” Smith said. “We will try to work on our pitching, getting those guys ready. Offensively, we want to get some guys some more at-bats — make sure everybody is healthy and ready to play.”

Kelly Raines, head softball coach and her staff of athletes went on the road Saturday as well, taking both games from rival Odessa College (Game One: 5-2, Game Two: 12-9), locking in a conference title and securing the top seed in the regional championship.

Olive Naotala — who has been leading the nation in JUCO home runs — added two more to bring her regular season total to 28. Shelby Shelton, who just returned after suffering a broken jaw, also belted two out of the park. Jazzmin Arrant and Micherie Korja each homered as well to help guide the Hawks past the Wranglers.

Sandra Serna picked a complete game victory in Game One, and

See **HAWKS**, Page 10



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College’s Shelby Shelton puts her bat on a ball that sailed out of the park Saturday during Game Two of a doubleheader against Odessa College. The Hawks took both games from the Wranglers to win the WJAC title.

Spurs, Parker take first postseason game from Jazz

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — This was not another early playoff letdown by the San Antonio Spurs. For the first time in four years, they won a series opener.

But more important to them was Tony Parker looking like his old postseason self.

Putting together his best playoff game since 2009, Parker scored 28 points and the top-seeded Spurs erased four years of putting themselves in 0-1 holes to start the playoffs, beating the Utah Jazz 106-91 in Game 1 of their first-round series Sunday.

It marked the 11th straight win for the Spurs dating to the regular season, and kept the Spurs from being hounded by the same doubts that emerged this time last year when they also entered the playoffs as the No. 1 seed, only to be ousted by Memphis.

“I think everybody knows what happened last year,” Parker said. “Everybody’s motivated this year, but we don’t even talk about it.”

What Parker — and coach Gregg Popovich — have talked about is the All-Star’s unremarkable series against the Grizzlies a year ago. Popovich told Parker that he thought his star point guard tried harder with the French national team last summer than in the playoffs, and Parker vowed to return with a different attitude.

He’s making good on it so far.

The Jazz, meanwhile, hung close for three quarters in the franchise’s first playoff game without Jerry Sloan since 1988. Paul Millsap led Utah with 20 points, but the Jazz

couldn’t keep up when the NBA’s top 3-point shooting team began burying them with three in a two-minute burst to finish the third.

“The biggest thing we’re going to learn is the different ways to guard the pick and roll, and what worked and what didn’t,” Jazz guard Gordon Hayward said. “We can’t let them get to the paint as easily, because it’s kick out 3’s and dump down’s and whatever. So we have to do better at that.”

Game 2 is Wednesday in San Antonio.

Hayward scored 17 points and Al Jefferson had 16 for the Jazz, who present the Spurs problems with a bigger frontcourt but contributed to their own doom with 16 turnovers.

“But we are a young team,” Millsap said. “Things like that happen.”

Tim Duncan added 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Spurs, who despite boasting the No. 1 seed for a second straight year hadn’t won a Game 1 in its last six postseason series. The last one was a double-overtime win over Phoenix in 2008, which was also round the last time that the Spurs entered the playoffs as healthy as they are now.

But they didn’t leave this game entirely scot-free.

Parker shook off a slow start to shoot 10 of 19 from the floor. He also had eight assists in his best playoff game since scoring 43 against Dallas in 2009.

“We needed this one. We played a pretty good game. It wasn’t brilliant,” said Spurs guard Manu Ginobili, who had seven points. “But it was steady and we kept fighting.”

Astros can’t hold off Lyles, Cincinnati

CINCINNATI (AP) — Houston’s Jordan Lyles pitched well enough to win his first start. Unfortunately, for the 21-year-old right-hander, the Astros’ bullpen blew the lead, sending him back down to Oklahoma City with a no decision.

Jay Bruce’s fourth home run in four games lifted the Cincinnati Reds to a 6-5 comeback win over the Astros on Sunday.

Lyles, who was recalled Sunday to make an emergency start in place of Kyle Weiland, gave up three runs and four hits in six innings. He walked three and struck out four, leaving with a 4-3 lead.

“He threw the ball extremely well,” manager Brad Mills said. “He had thrown the ball so well, we wanted to get him out of there with a lead.”

The Astros sent Lyles back to Triple A Oklahoma City after the game. Infielder Marwin Gonzalez will return from paternity leave.

“We told him there have been guys that have come up here (major leagues) for one day and ended up staying,” Mills said before the game. “We just told him to go pitch.”

Lyles impressed the Astros in spring training but at 21 wasn’t

deemed ready for the big leagues yet and was sent down to work on his delivery.

“It went well,” Lyles said. “I was using a new delivery and windup. It was the second game that I’ve used it. I was working the ball downhill. It pretty much went as planned.”

Bruce hit reliever Fernando Rodriguez’s (0-3) first pitch 381 feet into the right field seats for his seventh homer of the season. Bruce has hit home runs in consecutive games, one short of tying Cincinnati’s club record.

“This is what you play for,” said Bruce, who leads the Reds in homers. “This is a hard game. There are a lot of times when it’s not too much fun.”

Joey Votto drove in four runs with a home run and a double to help the Reds capture their third consecutive series and finish the month of April with a .500 record (11-11) after losing eight of their first 12.

“The way we started was really ugly,” Votto said. “It was a shock to everybody. It was humbling, but I think it was a good thing, too. I’m a firm believer in that, while you don’t want to start bad, it doesn’t hurt.

It makes you concentrate on fundamentals. I think a losing record early in the year can be a good thing.”

Logan Ondrusek (1-0) pitched a perfect eighth to get the win. Sean Marshall earned his fifth save in six tries, capping what manager Dusty Baker described as a “great job” by a bullpen that went into the game ranked third in the league in earned-run average.

“I’m going to enjoy this one and the way we won it,” Baker said. “We can enjoy the off day tomorrow, too.”

The 10 hits allowed by Reds starter Mat Latos matched the career high he set last June 21 at Boston while with San Diego. Latos allowed no walks and struck out four while giving up five runs in 6 1-3 innings.

“They picked me up when I was feeling a little under the weather,” Latos said. “I just tried to grind through it.”

Houston’s Jordan Schafer singled in the second to extend to his streak of consecutive games reaching base at least once to open the season to 22, the longest by an Astro since Ricky Gutierrez put together a 23-game streak in 1998. The club record is Denis Menke’s 25 in 1969.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Colorado River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications and resumes for the position of Administrative Assistant. Responsibilities include assisting the General Manager with administrative duties of the District. This is a skilled level position, additional information can be found at www.crmwd.org
CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.
Resumes are desired. Applications are required and available at the District's administrative office, 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432)267-6341 or www.crmwd.org

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BUFFALO COUNTRY taking application for Sales Clerk (all shifts). Experience required. Must apply in person 4911 South Hwy. 87 ask for Saiitta. No Phone Calls.

DAY CAMP Worker Needed at The Boys & Girls Club. Must have outgoing personality, patience, & love children. Apply at The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club, 811 West 5th.

DAY'S INN needs Front Desk person. Apply at Front Office @ 2701 South Gregg Street.



DUE TO the continued trust being placed in our staff by Big Spring residents & physicians, Crossroads Hospice is hiring for the position of RN/LVN full-time. We will gladly train the candidate who is selected for this position to OUR STANDARD OF CARE. Bilingual a plus.

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HOWARD COUNTY will be hiring a COUNTY ROAD ENGINEER or COUNTY ROAD ADMINISTRATOR for their unit road system.

The ENGINEER must have supervisory skills and must be a licensed professional engineer experienced in road and bridge construction and maintenance and meet the qualifications required by the Texas Department of Transportation for its district engineers.

The ROAD ENGINEER must have supervisory skills and have had experience in road & bridge building or maintenance or other types of construction work qualifying the person to perform the duties of the position but need not have had any particular amount of professional training or experience in engineering work.

Applications may be picked up and returned to the County Judge, Howard County Courthouse, 300 Main, Room 207, Big Spring, TX. 79720 Phone 432-264-2218. The deadline for applications is May 4, 2012. E.O.E.

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NOW HIRING for the summer session and 2012-2013 School year. Christian Pre-School teachers and child care givers. Part-time and full-time positions available. Prefer at least 1-year experience in a licensed child-care facility, but will train the right person. New Hope Christian School 118 Cedar Rd. Also part-time position available in church nursery. Approximately 6-10 hours per week.

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The waxing Leo moon goes void-of-course and takes our energy levels into the void, as well. Concentration may not be optimal, but consider that not every task is best approached with a laser focus. This moon is excellent for overlooking what's not quite going right and relaxing into the warm, fuzzy feeling that it's all going to be OK.



HOLIDAY
MATHS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Discipline is follow-through. Whether you are in charge of making the rules for children, employees or yourself, you have to follow through with what you said you'd do, or it's not going to work.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your choice of

language will make a difficult message more palatable or a boring message exciting. Your beautiful way with words is most attractive to others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Circumstances haven't allowed you to follow your own whims as much as you'd like. You'll have more freedom to do so today because you'll guard against time intruders.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Time to yourself seems like such a luxury lately, but it shouldn't have to be this way. Be proactive as you look ahead to the weeks to come. Block out large chunks of time that you could dedicate to what you want to do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll let your loved ones know that their opinions are valid by giving into them every once in a while. Your compromise is a form of love that

won't soon be forgotten.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are not always comfortable being direct about your concerns, but directness is the best approach today. Make it clear that you are interested in hearing other people's thoughts, too. This may soften the experience for all involved.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You expect people to do what they say they'll do, and that expectation will mostly be met, though not every single time. Hold people to their word. Accountability is at the core of human decency.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You were not formally educated in a certain matter, and you'll be shown where the gaps in your knowledge lie. After you fill in the gaps, you'll be offered an exciting opportunity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You haven't

chosen an easy path for yourself, but it's a beautiful path and an important one. The effort you put in gives you a sense of pride.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Something that seems like a good idea at first may prove unwise in the endgame. So think through your strategy before you make a move. Imagine what the long-term affect of your actions might be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll feel terrific when you get enough sleep and eat right. There are good reasons for why you haven't been able to do this as much as you'd like, but now you'll find a better reason to take excellent care of yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your productivity will be impacted by many factors. Knowing what they are will help you to create and maintain the status you prefer. Study your habits and patterns. Notice what motivates you.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 30). As you acknowledge the wise part of you, it grows. Your wisdom emerges and guides you toward greater control of your destiny. You'll break old patterns and establish new ones. A love relationship inspires you to move or travel in July. October brings the chance to invest in yourself. Add skills to your bag in January. Capricorn and Cancer

people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 24, 39, 1 and 20.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I recently read a very cruel phrasing about the 'clinically insane' in your column. This reflects upon a realm of human beings who need healing — and in some cases the most of all. And as we both know, planetary spiritual evolution puts us all into one big boat!"

"I appreciate your kind words, your loving heart and the high level of responsibility you take for the world around you. I think the horoscope in question was in the Weekend Love Forecast section on Friday, April 6:

"TAURUS: Maybe this should go without saying, but before you decide to go on a first date with someone, it's always wise to double check that he or she is not clinically insane."

I want you to know that I have nothing against insane people. I agree that healing is in order for anyone who falls into the category — or even dances with it from time to time, as I think many humans do at some point over the course of a lifetime. I certainly didn't mean to be cruel. That said, I was just trying to give Taurus people the heads up. Having compassion for the insane doesn't mean you have to date them.

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"Classic" Ann Landers®

Editor's Note: Hundreds of Ann Landers' loyal readers have requested that newspapers continue to publish her columns. These letters originally appeared in 1999.

Dear Ann Landers: You recently published a letter from a reader who was angry that four different physicians didn't tell her she could lower her blood pressure if she lost some weight. The woman wanted to know why her doctors failed to mention this to her. I am a physician who has been in practice for several years, and I would like to respond to her question.

Long ago, I learned that if a physician wants to drive a patient out of his (or her) office permanently, there are two magic sentences that will do it. One is: "I think you should see a psychiatrist." The other is: "You need to lose some weight."

I have a file in my office with notes from fat former patients (and their fat relatives) cussing me out royally because I had the unmitigated gall to broach the subject of dropping some pounds.

I no longer tell my patients they need to lose weight. They already know it. I only hope they occasionally look in the mirror. — *Doctor in Bowling Green, Ky.*

Dear Doctor: Sorry you have been a victim of the "kill the messenger" syndrome. I hope it will not discourage you and other physicians from telling your patients what they need to hear. To do otherwise would be abdicating your responsibility. Perhaps instead of

lecturing, a better approach might be to give (or mail) the patient a diet and say, "I hope this will help you have a healthier and happier life."

Dear Ann Landers: I was recently invited to the wedding of a family member and was appalled at what was included with the invitation. It was a "suggestion" for a wedding gift. The enclosed card read, "It would be wonderful if you could contribute to 'Jim and Betty's' dream honeymoon in Jamaica. The check should be made out to..."

Is this something new? Am I out of date? Please reply in the paper, with no mention of where I live. — *Appalled Plus*

Dear Appalled: To my knowledge, it is not now, nor has it ever been, good manners to enclose a gift suggestion with any kind of invitation. I hope you will ignore that crude attempt to shake down friends and family members. Send whatever you wish. It is, however, OK for those who are being married for the second or third time to enclose a note saying, "No gifts, please. We have everything we need."

Forget to save some of your favorite Ann Landers columns? "Nuggets and Doozies" is the answer. Send a self-addressed, long, business-sized envelope and a check or money order for \$5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Nuggets, c/o Ann Landers, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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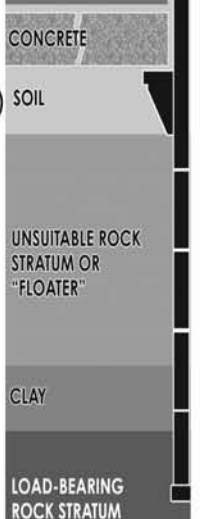
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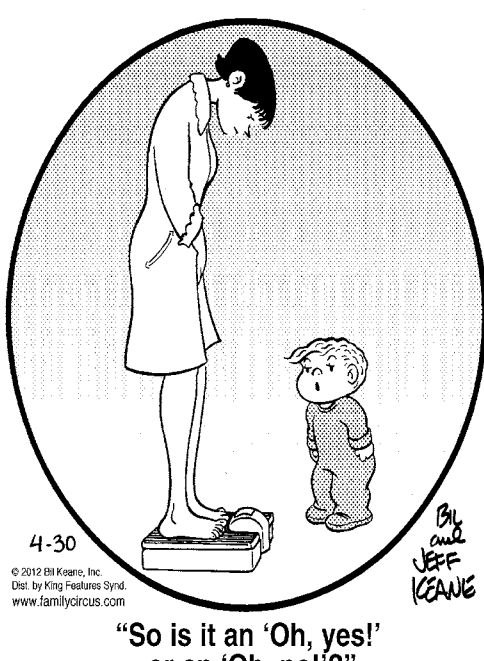


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5 :PM	News ABC	La Mujer Notic.	Two Men CBS	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News CBS	King King	Schwarz Yohanan	Charlie Rose King	King King	American Chopper	CSI: Miami	Ways Die	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Una Familia con Suerte (SS)	Big Bang Ent	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Van Impe McGee	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Seinfeld	American Chopper	CSI: Miami	Movie: Lethal Weapon 4, Joe Pesci	NBA Basketball: Playoffs, First Round: Teams TBA.	Shake It Good	NFL Live	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA.	
7 :PM	Dancing With the Stars		Bones	How I Met Broke Girl	Una Maid en The Voice	The Voice	Fam. Guy Upd	Antiques Roadshow	Gossip Girl	American Chopper	CSI: Miami			Movie: Boyz n the Hood	Jessie	SportsCenter		
8 :PM		Abismo de Pasión	House	Two Men Mike	Corazón Valiente		Fam. Guy Upd	Antiques Roadshow	Hart of Dixie	American Chopper	The Pitch	Movie: A Bronx Tale, Lillo Brancato	NBA Basketball: Playoffs, First Round: Teams TBA.	Game Austin	NFL Live	Baseball Tonight		
9 :PM	(:01) Castle	La Que No	Simpsons How I Met	Hawaii Five-0	Relaciones Pelí	Smash	Fam. Guy Upd	America Revealed	Cops	Death Row	The Pitch		Game Austin	ANT Farm	NFL Live	Baseball Tonight		
10 :PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met Raymond	News Letterman	Noticias Sin Senos no	News Jay Leno	Conan	House Uri Harel	Charlie Rose	American Chopper	Mad Men		Game Good	SportsNation	SportsCenter			
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Conan	The Office	Andrew Mark Blitz	World T. Smiley (Off Air)		(:04) The Killing	Ways Die	Inside the NBA	Wizards of Waverly Place	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter	
12 :AM	Extra Paid	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd	South Pk	American Chopper	(12:04) The Pitch	(:04) The Killing	Ways Die	CSI: NY	Movie: Boyz n the Hood	Good	E:60	SportsCenter
1 :AM	Paid	La Jaula Par Ases	American TMZ	Paid	Pagado	(:06) Today	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	American Chopper	(:04) The Pitch	Ways Die	Leverage	Random	Random	Random	SportsNation	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



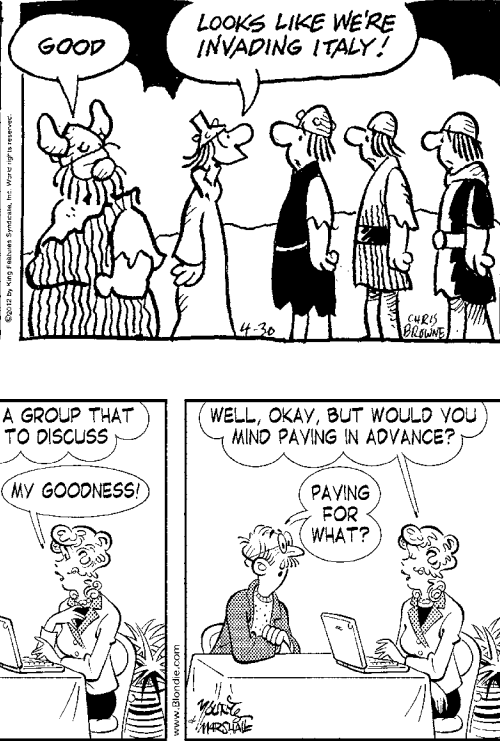
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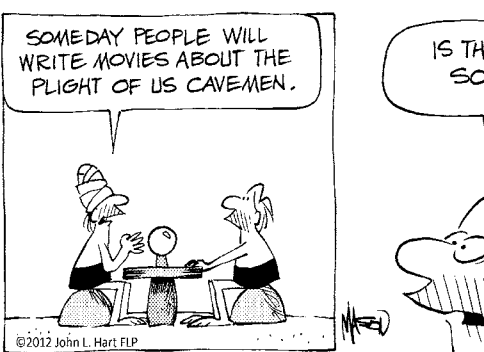
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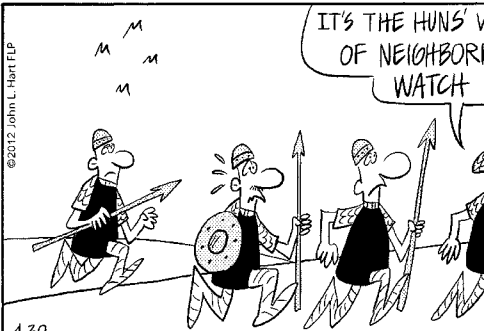
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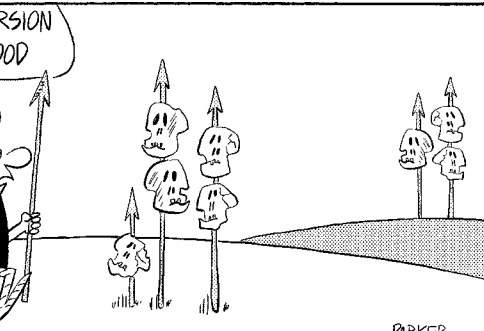
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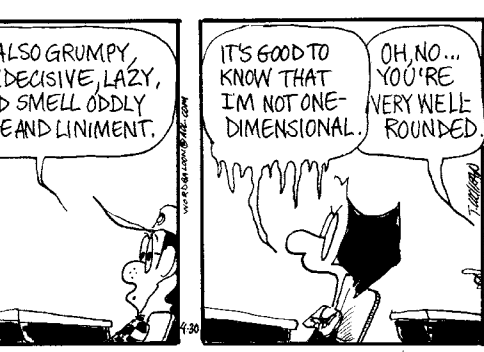
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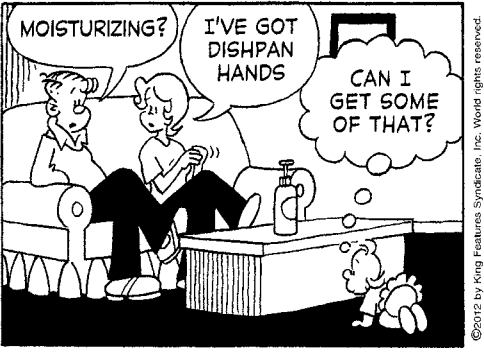
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, April 30, the 121st day of 2012. There are 245 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 30, 1812, Louisiana (formerly the Territory of Orleans) became the 18th state of the Union.

On this date:

In 1789, George Washington took office in New York as the first president of the United States.

In 1803, the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France for 60 million francs, the equivalent of about \$15 million.

In 1900, engineer John Luther "Casey" Jones of the Illinois Central Railroad died in a train wreck near Vaughan, Miss., after staying at the controls in a successful effort to save the passengers.

In 1911, a fire broke out in Bangor, Maine, destroying much of the downtown area before it was brought under

control the next morning; two deaths were blamed on the blaze.

In 1912, Universal Studios had its beginnings as papers incorporating the Universal Film Manufacturing Co. were filed and recorded in New York State.

In 1939, the New York World's Fair officially opened with a ceremony that included an address by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In 1945, as Russian troops approached his Berlin bunker, Adolf Hitler committed suicide along with his wife of one day, Eva Braun.

In 1958, the American Association of Retired Persons (later simply AARP) was founded in Washington, D.C.

In 1968, New York City police forcibly removed student demonstrators occupying five buildings at Columbia University.

In 1973, President Richard M. Nixon announced the resignations of top aides H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman, along with Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst and White House counsel John Dean.

In 1980, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands abdicated; she was

succeeded by her daughter, Princess Beatrix.

In 1997, the Senate approved the nomination of Alexis Herman to be labor secretary. ABC-TV aired the "coming out" episode of the situation comedy "Ellen" in which the title character, played by Ellen DeGeneres, acknowledged her homosexuality.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Cloris Leachman is 86. Singer Willie Nelson is 79. Actor Gary Collins is 74. Actor Burt Young is 72. Singer Bobby Vee is 69. Movie director Allan Arkush is 64. Actor Perry King is 64. Singer Merrill Osmond is 59. Movie director Jane Campion is 58. Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper is 53.

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Answer to previous puzzle

S	O	R	C	E	R	I	T	A	S	T	A	R
I	N	E	R	T	I	A	S	N	O	R	G	E
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Newsday Crossword

BRIGHT DAY by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 1 Unforeseen obstacle
 - 5 Circus routines
 - 9 Mesh with the group
 - 14 Voice quality
 - 15 Hair ringlet
 - 16 Wipe away, as chalk
 - 17 Film actor Sharif
 - 18 Slangy suffix for switch
 - 19 Paths to tollbooths
 - 20 Lifelike figures exhibition
 - 22 Beginning
 - 23 College official
 - 24 Dot on a state map
 - 26 Shaving mishap
 - 29 Sailor's assent
 - 34 Fireplace residue
 - 37 Kids around with
 - 40 Take a chance
 - 41 Illuminate
 - 44 Skin opening
 - 45 Source of bun seeds
 - 46 ___-cone (summer treat)
 - 47 Do a slow burn
 - 49 Beloved
 - 51 Aroma
 - 54 Aromatics message
 - 57 More likely
 - 61 Finish fully
 - 65 Brings up, as children
 - 66 Water pitcher

- DOWN
- 1 Load, as cargo
 - 2 Wanderer
 - 3 Have ___ to grind
 - 4 Berlin native
 - 5 Top poker cards
 - 6 Medical breakthrough
 - 7 Brook fish
 - 8 Sports replay, for short
 - 9 Serious crime
 - 10 Tehran's land
 - 11 Sits in the sun
 - 12 "Now it's clear!"
 - 13 Hornet's home
 - 21 Join forces
 - 25 Message on a dusty car
 - 27 Discontinued
 - 28 Cabbagelike veggie
 - 30 Part of a college URL
 - 31 Maple syrup sources
 - 32 Metal that rusts
 - 33 Nevada city
 - 34 Poisonous snakes
 - 35 Sandal, for one
 - 36 Take on employees
 - 38 Bro's sibling
 - 39 Quaint oath
 - 42 Butterfly catcher
 - 43 Groups of athletes
 - 48 Racetrack runners
 - 50 Talk about again and again
 - 52 Musical drama
 - 53 Oarsman
 - 55 Inspirational slogan
 - 56 Frequently
 - 57 Neck of the woods
 - 58 Ball-___ hammer
 - 59 Small fruit pie
 - 60 A Great Lake
 - 62 Onion kin
 - 63 Annoys
 - 64 Starlet's goal

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Hamilton leaves game, Rangers lose to Rays

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Now that the Texas Rangers have lost a series for the first time this season, they hope Josh Hamilton will be back soon to help make sure it doesn't become a habit.

David Price beat Texas for the first time in 10 career starts and the Tampa Bay Rays won 5-2 Sunday night, making them the first team to take a series from the Rangers this year.

Texas played most of the game without Hamilton, the American League leader in home runs and RBIs. He left in the third inning with back spasms and is day to day.

"It's no big deal," said Rangers manager Ron Washington, ejected on his 60th birthday. "We'll see (Monday night in Toronto). If he feels better, he'll be

out there. If not, we'll give him another day."

Hamilton was injured while getting his 25th RBI on a single to center in the first that scored Elvis Andrus.

The outfielder winced as he ran back to the dugout after being forced out on Adrian Beltre's grounder. He was slow to come out on the field for the start of the second inning and stayed in the dugout in the third.

Price (4-1) gave up two runs and six hits in 6 1-3 innings, striking out six and walking one. The two-time All-Star entered 0-6 with a 5.30 ERA against the Rangers — including a pair of playoff starts.

"He had his A game tonight, and he's capable of doing that," Washington said. "In the past when we faced him, he had

his A game for a few innings, and he had a bad inning that we took advantage of. Tonight, we couldn't sustain anything against him."

Ben Zobrist had three hits and an RBI, and Price earned his fourth victory in five starts. Tampa Bay touched up Texas lefty Derek Holland (2-2) for five extra-base hits.

Holland allowed five runs and nine hits in seven innings, striking out eight. He walked Carlos Pena to start the third and gave up a run-scoring double to Zobrist.

Price was able to work his fastball in and out and keep the league's best-hitting club off balance with an effective changeup.

"They've got power 1 through 9," Price said.

Dufner wins Zurich Classic, first PGA event of career

BRETT MARTEL

AP Sports Writer

AVONDALE, La. — A first-time PGA Tour winner one weekend, a married man the next.

The spring of 2012 will go down as a memorable time in Jason Dufner's life.

Although it took pair of playoff holes, Dufner finally proved he could hold it together and make a mid-tournament lead stand up, making a birdie on his second extra trip down the par-5 18th hole at the TPC Louisiana to win the Zurich Classic in a playoff with Ernie Els.

"It's always really tough playing on Sundays whether you're in the lead or middle of the pack, and today I was fighting, trying to win an event, and I think I showed myself a good bit out there," said the 35-year-old Dufner, whose wedding is next weekend. "Ernie made a great run at me and it felt like with five or six holes (to go) we were probably going to be battling for the win."

Dufner, whose average score at the cut this season ranks second on the Tour, finished atop the leader board for the first time in 164 career PGA Tour starts.

Now if he can only figure out his honeymoon plans.

"The honeymoon is going to be at The Players Championship," Dufner joked about the event in two weeks at TPC Sawgrass. "They got an island green."

Dufner's fiancée, Amanda Boyd, wasn't about to complain. Watching from behind the 18th green, she was tearful as Dufner finally made the clutch shots he needed to finish on top.

"It's awesome. He's been so close so many times. I don't feel like it's real," Boyd said. "It will be a good wedding."

Dufner said he was more nervous about his final putt of less than 2 feet than about his impending marriage.

"There's a been a good bit of pressure," Dufner said. "People talking about, 'Why aren't you winning? Why can't you close the deal?' ... Friends, family, media, even people in my inner circle. And not in a negative way, but when you're leading tournaments going into weekends and you're finishing 24th, there's going to be some questions."

The win should also stamp out some of the bad memories haunting Dufner since the Masters, when he shared the lead after two rounds but faded to 24th.

Dufner lost playoffs last year to Mark Wilson in the Phoenix Open and Keegan Bradley in the PGA Championship for two of his three career runner-up finishes. He had held five previous leads through two rounds, including twice this year.

Entering the fourth round with a two-shot lead in New Orleans, Dufner shot a 2-under 70, while Els had a 67 to match Dufner for a course-record 19-under 269 total.

Both missed birdie putts within 8 feet in the

first playoff, so they went back to the 18th tee for the second extra hole, which Dufner won by hitting the green in two strokes and tapping home a short birdie putt after Els' birdie attempt from the fringe narrowly missed.

The 6-foot-3 Els, who goes by the nickname "The Big Easy," hasn't won on the PGA Tour since the 2010 Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill, a little more than two years ago.

He did not have a bogey in the final round or the playoff, and could have celebrated his 19th career PGA Tour title in the Big Easy if he could have made a birdie putt of a little less than 6 feet on the first playoff hole.

"It was a nice little charge I made and, you know, nice to catch the leader," Els said. "I had a chance to win the tournament with a 6-footer and missed it, but I made quite a few putts on the back nine to keep myself in it. ... Hit the ball pretty well today — no bogeys on the final round — so there's a lot of positives."

On the second playoff hole, Els' tee shot went into a fairway bunker, and his second shot landed 137 yards from the pin. His third shot landed on the fringe, nearly 19 feet from the pin, but he nearly saved birdie from there, his putt missing by 2 inches.

Dufner then made his birdie putt, and in his typically low-key way, briefly raised both arms to acknowledge the cheering crowd before casually walking off the green to accept some congratulatory hugs.

After becoming the seventh player to take his first career PGA Tour triumph in New Orleans since 2002, Dufner called it a "great wedding present" for himself and his bride to be.

"It helps with paying for the wedding, obviously," added Dufner, who earned \$1,152,000. "They're a little more expensive than I thought or had imagined. ... It'll be a big celebration not only for our marriage but also for my first victory out on the Tour."

Luke Donald shot a 67 to finish third at 17 under, and move past Rory McIlroy for the No. 1 ranking in the world.

Defending Zurich Classic champ Bubba Watson, playing for the first time since a life-changing win at the Masters over Easter weekend, entered the final round eight shots off the lead. He was unable to mount a charge after bogeys on his first two holes. He wound up tied for 18th at 11 under, a solid outing by most standards, but one of his worst finishes of the year.

"All in all, pretty good week being tired, coming back for the first time after winning the Masters, all this different media attention," Watson said. "It's something you got to get used to. (It) wears on you, tires you out. Somehow I finished — I'm in the top 20. A lot of guys wished they did that."

Els and Dufner were tied at 19 under after 11 holes. Els made par on each of his final seven holes of regulation. Dufner made par on his final eight, none more difficult than on 16, when he hit into water, but salvaged par with a 44-foot putt.

Durant, Thunder spoil Mavs' playoff opener

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Kevin Durant was determined to not let the Oklahoma City Thunder lose another playoff game at home to Dallas.

He scored 25 points and hit the winning jumper from the foul line with 1.5 seconds left to give the Thunder a 99-98 victory over the Mavericks on Saturday night in Game 1 of the first-round playoff series — a rematch of last year's Western Conference finals.

The Thunder trailed by seven with 2½ minutes left before rallying to take the first step toward avenging a 4-1 series loss a year ago.

"It's the playoffs," Durant said. "No matter how it gets done, you've got to do it."

With his team trailing by one late in the fourth quarter, he forced his way toward the lane and found himself with defenders closing in and the clock winding down.

Durant maneuvered to the free throw line and got off a high-arcing shot over Shawn Marion that hit off the front of the rim and then off the backboard before falling through the net.

The defending NBA champion Mavericks, who were out of timeouts, could not get a shot off before the buzzer.

"If you have a timeout, you can move the ball (to half-court) and maybe have a look at it," said Dirk Nowitzki, who had hit two free throws with 9 seconds left to put Dallas ahead. "But if you don't have a timeout, that's definitely a buzzer-beater."

Nowitzki scored 11 of his 25 points in the final 5 minutes, going on a personal 7-1 run that made it 92-85 with 3:23 to go.

He then answered Russell Westbrook's layup with a foul line jumper to restore the seven-point advantage, but it didn't prove to be enough.

"It's tough. This is definitely as tough of a loss as you can get," Nowitzki said. "But if a team can recover it, it's an experienced one and we definitely have a lot of older guys who have been through a lot."

Westbrook led the Thunder with 28 points and Serge Ibaka had 22 points and five blocks. James Harden scored 19 points in his first game since sustaining a concussion when the Los Angeles Lakers' Metta World Peace hit him with an elbow last Sunday and earned a seven-game suspension.

Dallas' Jason Terry added 20 points — but none in the fourth quarter — and Marion had 17.

"We're going to keep coming at these guys. Trust me, we're going to keep going at 'em," coach Rick Carlisle said. "We have a tough-minded team. We have a locker room full of champions."

The second-seeded Thunder played catch-up most of the night, and Durant led the charge on the final push of seven straight Oklahoma City points before his right-handed slam tied it at 94 with 1:27 remaining.

Dallas went back ahead with an out-of-control possession, with Harden knocking the ball away from Jason Kidd and then Nowitzki losing it, too, before Vince Carter missed a desperation baseline jumper. Ian Mahinmi rebounded the miss and got fouled, stepping to the line to hit two free throws with 1:03 to play.

Durant drove to set up Ibaka's three-point play at the other end, bumping the Thunder ahead 97-96. Nowitzki committed his second turnover of the final 3 minutes and Durant missed along the baseline before the two All-Stars came through in the clutch — with Durant getting the last chance.

"It was a great shot," Harden said. "It saved the game for us. I don't think we played well ... but he saved us at the end."

HAWKS

Continued from Page 5

Naotala went the distance to earn the win in Game Two.

Kelly Raines believes momentum is on her team's side, having received a first round bye and heading into the tourney on a three-game win streak against a tough opponent.


"We feel great about it," Raines said. "I am real proud of the girls. They have played well. They bounced back after losing Game One on Friday. It will come down to who plays well this week, but we think we are the best team."

Raines' team is the first in HC history to win the conference outright, though they have been conference co-champions in the past.

The Hawks baseball team will start its final series against FPC on the road Wednesday at noon. Regionals are slated for May 12-16 in Lubbock.

The softball squad will be headed to Lubbock this week begin its regional run. The softball regionals will begin Thursday and run through Saturday.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

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