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BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

JANUARY 11, 2013



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 76

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SECURITY MINDED

ISD holds lockdown drills at 2 campuses

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Security and safety were much on the minds of Big Spring students and staff Thursday as emergency lockdown drills were performed at two campuses.

Thursday, many parents of students at Big Spring High School and Junior High received the following text message:

"This morning ... we practiced our lock down procedures. This practice was conducted to ensure the safety and security of all students and staff in case of an actual emergency. Local law enforcement agencies were on hand to assess our practice and procedures. We are pleased to report that our practice was a huge success, and our students and staff responded in a positive way."



Ferrell

School security and safety are much on the minds of educators across the country, especially in the wake of the tragic shootings in Newtown, Conn. In December. Danny Ferrell, assistant superintendent for Big Spring Independent School District, said there was no direct connection between Thursday's scheduled drills and the Connecticut shootings, but conceded that officials used the drills to evaluate and possibly improve security procedures at local schools.

"We used these drills to refine and review our procedures," Ferrell said. "We will continue to fine-tune those procedures and hold drills (in the future)."

"We're trying to ensure everyone is in a secured and centralized environment (in case of an emergency)," Ferrell added. "It's not a

See **LOCKDOWN**, Page 3



Tim Green views one of the eight panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt that are on display at Heritage Museum. The exhibit runs through Jan. 31, museum officials said.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Don't become a victim to temporary heating

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

With low temperatures forecast for the future, many Crossroads residents will face a dilemma: How to stay warm.

Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray said there are many different types of secondary heating available, ranging from portable

electric units to wood-burning stoves, however, using them properly is essential to keeping warm without placing yourself and loved ones in harm's way.

"There are many common causes of home heating fires," said Condray. "In wood burning appliances, a lack of proper cleaning can lead to excessive build up of creosote in the chimney and connectors. Also,

a lack of safety enclosures or poor design account for many fires. For space heaters, the single largest cause is failing to maintain a safe distance from combustibles followed closely by improper fueling practices."

Fires involving portable heaters can be avoided by exercising some

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Texas Supreme Court to decide: Is man's best friend priceless?

By **PAUL J. WEBER**
 Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — They say all dogs go to heaven. But if they get there before their time, should someone pay up?

The Texas Supreme Court began mulling Thursday whether grieving dog owners should be able to sue for the "emotional value" of man's best friend. It comes after a Fort Worth animal shelter mistakenly euthanized a beloved — but essentially worthless, in terms of actual market value — family Labrador retriever named Avery who ran away from home in

2009. Lining up in opposition are skittish veterinarians who say letting juries somehow calculate sentimental payouts would set a costly precedent that would ripple nationwide. Justices on Texas' highest civil court appeared skeptical, too, at times of whether dogs should be granted an emotional price tag that humans in many scenarios aren't even afforded under state law.

"Where do we draw the line?" Justice Jeffrey S. Boyd asked from the bench.

"Where do we draw the line? Cats? Fish? Birds?"
 —Justice Jeffery S. Boyd



"Cats? Fish? Birds?" The court isn't expected to issue a ruling for several weeks.

Dogs are property under Texas law. Steal your neighbor's cocker spaniel, and you'll be jailed for theft. But Jeremy and Kathryn Medlen, Avery's owners, believe dogs deserve the same standing the law gives to truly

irreplaceable objects — say a great-grandmother's wedding ring, or an old family photograph destroyed in a fire.

Juries in Texas are allowed to weigh sentimental value when it comes to that kind of one-of-a-kind, cherished property. So the Meldens asked: Why aren't dogs and their loyal, loving and faithful companionship classified the same?

"We're asking dogs to be treated like all other property," Randall Turner, the family's attorney, told the court.

From the start, justices of

See **COURT**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Esther Corene Schaffner



Esther Corene Schaffner, 77, of Big Spring went to her eternal home Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2013. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at Baptist Temple Church with Pastor Richard Wilson officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, 2013, at the funeral home.

Corene was born Sept., 15, 1935, in Cottonwood, Texas, on the family farm to Buddy B. and Mary Ettie Breeding Jones. She grew up raising turkeys and chickens on her daddy's peanut farm. She attended school in Cottonwood, later attending and graduating from Cross Plains High School in 1954.

She married Billy Sam Schaffner on Aug. 16, 1958, in Abilene, Texas. They lived in Abilene, Midland and Amarillo, finally settling in Big Spring in 1973 - their home of 40 years.

Corene worked for the BSISD tax office and then the counselor office as a secretary, retiring after 25 years for health reasons. Corene is a two-time cancer survivor. After retirement, she took up quilting and completed a quilt for each of her grandchildren. She was always involved in her church, loved her Sunday School class and her church fam-

ily. She was a member of Big Spring Area Retired Teachers Association. She was a representative of Baptist Temple Church on the executive board of Crossroads Baptist Association.

She is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, Bill Schaffner; three adoring children, son Shane Schaffner and wife Cynthia of Big Spring, son Kyle Schaffner and wife Kim of Fort Worth and daughter Tracey Nichols and husband Brent of Burnet; eight grandchildren, Zach Angel, Braden Schaffner, Ambrie Witte, Kayley Schaffner, Kaden Schaffner, Amber, Faron Nichols and Corden Nichols; along with a niece and four nephews; and a sister in-law, Nancy Jones. She was expecting her first great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Buddy B. and Mary Ettie Jones, three brothers Leo, W.H. (Dub) and Elvin Jones; three sisters, Pauline Matthiessen, Loree Green and Wilda Jones; and two nephews.

The family suggests memorials to Hospice House, 903 N. Sam Houston, Odessa, TX 79761, Relay for Life, in care of Sandy Griffin, 1217 E. 17th St., Big Spring, TX 79720, or your favorite charity.

Pallbearers will be Dale Pittman, Gale Pittman, Larry Jones, David Jones, Daryl Wood and Doug Wagner.

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

Paid obituary

Clifford Hale Jr.



Clifford Hale Jr., born Nov. 29, 1926, went to be with his Precious Lord, on Nov. 24, 2012; not being able to wait another four days, until he turned 86; to be with his precious wife of nearly 60 years, Wynelle Franklin Hale. Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at the First United Methodist Church with Pastor Bill Ivins officiating.

The Hale family invites friends to join them at Kokopelli's on Chaparral Road from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. Saturday to celebrate Cliff's life.

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

Paid obituary

Stanley Pendleton



Stanley Pendleton, 35, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, in a San Angelo hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013, at Mount Olive Memorial Park Chapel.

He was born Feb. 24, 1977, in Big Spring, Texas.

He was a lifelong resident of Big Spring.

He is survived by a brother, Stacy Pendleton of Big Spring.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Truman and Joyce Pendleton.

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

Johnny B. Turner,

Johnny B. Turner, 79, of Knox City passed away at an Abilene medical center Jan. 9, 2013. Services are pending at Piersall-Benton Funeral Directors, 733 Butternut Street Abilene, Texas.

Walton 'Mudd' Burchell



Walton "Mudd" Burchell, 78, of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 10, 2013, at his residence. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Dec. 1, 1934, in Howard County to Annie Marie and Willey Albert Burchell. He served in the U.S. Army from 1954 until 1957 and then transferred to the U.S. Air Force, retiring in 1975.

He served with the Texas Employment Commis-

sion from 1976 until 1981. He was a member of the Baptist Church. He married Virgie Graham, May 23, 1958, at Knott.

He is survived by his wife, Virgie Burchell of Big Spring; one son, Ray Burchell of Euless; one daughter, Marianne Daily of Plano; two grandchildren; two brothers, W.A. Burchell and Landon Burchell, both of Big Spring; and one sister, Margaret Dangel of Philadelphia.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, R.D. and Edward.

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

Paid obituary

Florencio Garza Jr.

Florencio Garza Jr., 67, of Lenorah died Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, at Martin County Hospital in Stanton. Vigil service will be at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Sept. 24, 1945, to Coleta and Florencio Garza Sr, in Lenorah. He attended school at Grady. He married Priscilla Gutierrez on Feb. 5, 1965, in Stanton. He was a truck driver. He was a long-time resident of Martin County and was a Catholic.

He is survived by his wife, Priscilla Garza of Le-

norah; two sons, Florencio Garza III and his wife Shannon, and Timothy Eric Garza, all of Lenorah; two daughters, Joanna Garza and her husband Orlando Sanchez and Jennifer Garza, all of Lenorah; one brother, Fred Garza of Lenorah; two sisters, Florencia Acosta and Eloise Aguirre, both of Lenorah; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, Felix Garza Sr.; and one niece.

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

Jean Doyle Walke

Jean Doyle Walke, 82, of San Antonio, formerly of Stanton died Thursday, Jan. 10, 2013, in a San Antonio hospital. Her services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Support Groups

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

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. 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.

• Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered

recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship. Contact Dale at 432-270-8462.

• Visual Awareness Support Group (VASG) is open to the public but specifically aimed for people who suffer from vision problems and their caregivers. Call 263-2501.

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

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at the Gold Rush Tobacco Shop, 800 E. Third St.

Sheriff/Fire/EMS

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity (72 prisoners were reported in the county jail):

- RAE LYNN JENNINGS, 32, was jailed on a charge of public intoxication.
- JENNIFER ANN CANALES, 25, was jailed on charges of bondsman off bond/manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance and possession with intent to distribute cocaine base.
- MARCEL ANTHONY JORDAN, 29, was jailed on charge of public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia.

- THEODORE DIAZ JR., 40, was jailed on a charge of public intoxication.

The Big Spring Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service reported the following activity:

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. Service was refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2200 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3000 block of N. Lamesa Highway. One person was transported to SMMC.

Take Note

• A fund has been established at Myers & Smith Funeral Home to help pay funeral expenses for local resident Joe Gomez, who passed away on Dec. 12. Donations can be sent to Myers and Smith Funeral Home at P.O. Box 2760 in Big Spring.

• Big Spring State Hospital patients are in need of warm clothing. Clean items should be taken to the Community Relations Office near the south entrance of the hospital, 1901 N. U.S. Highway 87. Clothing that cannot be used by the patients will be taken to the hospital's Chalet Resale Shop for sale to raise money for patient needs. Men's clothing and larger-sized clothing are always in need. For more information, call Melissa Adams, BSSH program coordinator, at 432-268-7730.

• The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council needs assistance in The Chalet Resale Shoppe, 115 East Second St. The Chalet Resale Shoppe is a fast-paced retail shop specializing in gently worn clothing and small household appliances.

Volunteers are needed to sort, price, check out and stock donated items. Volunteer hours are flexible. The Chalet is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, contact Jamey Stegall at james.stegall@dshs.state.tx.us or 432-268-7535.

• Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love and God's comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999 or come by 602 S. Main.

Volunteers are needed in many categories including patient care. You may give as much or as little

time as you wish. Any amount of time is greatly appreciated. Training is offered free of charge.

- 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.

• 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.

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Randy Cotton
Pastor

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 12
Hangar 25 Museum "Silver Wings Ball"
Settles Hotel
For more info contact the Hangar 25 Museum at 432-264-1999.

Jan. 24
Healthy Woman Anniversary Celebrating Four Fabulous Years
Settles Hotel Featuring guest speaker Jane Jenkins Herlong
For more info contact Amanda Duforat at 432-268-4842.

Jan. 26
11th Annual Chili CookOff
Eagles Lodge, 703 W. 3rd St.
For more info contact Landon Sturdivant @ 432-268-4842.
Landon Sturdivant @ wtcmmr.org 233891

Big Spring Convention & Visitors Bureau
215 W. 3rd St. (432) 263-8235
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State Briefs

Texas blood alcohol reports shows Travis was drunk

SHERMAN, Texas (AP) — Blood alcohol results show country star Randy Travis was legally drunk when he was arrested naked following a traffic accident in Texas.

Grayson County District Attorney Joe Brown says Travis was formally charged Wednesday with driving while intoxicated with a blood alcohol level greater than 0.15. The legal limit for driving in Texas is 0.08. The Class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to two years in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

Travis was arrested on a DWI charge and freed on bond following the Aug. 7 single-vehicle accident near Tioga, about 60 miles north of Dallas. Brown says negotiations continue to resolve the case. Travis still faces a retaliation charge for allegedly threatening officers.

An attorney for Travis did not immediately return messages Friday.

Texan gets 20 years for killing officer wife

LONGVIEW, Texas (AP) — A former East Texas police department 911 emergency calls supervisor has been sentenced to 20 years in prison for killing his officer wife.

A judge in Longview on Thursday afternoon sentenced 42-year-old Harry Chester Goodan in the deadly domestic dispute.

Goodan pleaded guilty to murder in a plea deal over the December 2010 fatal shooting of Officer Jamie Ellyn Goodan when she was off-duty.

Investigators say the couple had marital troubles and had been arguing at their Longview home

when the woman was fatally shot. Police say Harry Goodan summoned police following the attack.

He worked for Longview's 911 emergency department until his arrest.

State education auditors at West Texas district

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — State auditors have begun reviewing whether some educators at a West Texas school district cheated on federal accountability standards.

The *El Paso Times* reported Friday auditors from the Texas Education Agency interviewed employees at the Canutillo Independent School District, which is cooperating. Auditors on hand Tuesday through Thursday also gathered documents on compliance numbers.

A TEA spokeswoman says it's not known when a preliminary report will be finished.

An earlier internal audit alleged superintendent Damon Murphy, who's on paid leave and out of job Feb. 1, raised questions about how some students were reclassified.

Murphy once was an associate superintendent in the El Paso Independent School District, where ex-superintendent Lorenzo Garcia pleaded guilty in a cheating scandal. Garcia must serve more than three years in prison.

Kidnapped Texas boy to go live with siblings

HOUSTON (AP) — A now 8-year-old boy snatched from his home as an infant is expected to move into a new home with his four siblings.

Miguel Morin is to go live with Juanita and Joseph

Aguillard on Friday after a judge granted them custody. The couple also has custody of Morin's four siblings. Miguel has visited them, and celebrated Christmas with them.

Miguel has been in foster care since authorities found him in Houston in March. Miguel's former baby sitter, Krystle Tanner, and her mother, Gloria Walker, have been charged with kidnapping and injury to a child in his 2004 disappearance. They have pleaded not guilty and remain in jail.

Morin and his biological parents have been undergoing therapy. They hope to share custody of him with the Aguillards in the future.

Boot camp using stun guns accused of assault

ABILENE, Texas (AP) — A West Texas boot camp that disciplines children with stun guns and handcuffs is being investigated on assault allegations.

Abilene Police Chief Stan Standridge is to discuss the investigation Friday afternoon. Earlier this week he said a local boot camp allegedly assaulted children as young as 4 years old, but no one had been charged.

Paul Huntington, chief executive of Reality Invasion Boot Camp, denies the allegations. He says drill sergeants used a stun gun on a teenage girl who assaulted them during a home visit recently. He says the mother had hired them for her three children, who were ordered to complete chores.

Huntington says parents must sign waivers allowing the staff to use handcuffs and stun guns. He says those methods are used only under extreme circumstances.

LOCKDOWN

Continued from Page 1

100 percent fail-safe situation, but the safety of our students and staff is our top priority."

The lockdown drills

were conducted in cooperation with the Big Spring Police Department and Department of Public Safety.

Improving school security was one of the concerns addressed in the construction of Big

Spring's four new elementary campuses and the renovation of the junior high. At all those buildings, access is restricted during school hours and all visitors are funneled through the front office before

being allowed into classroom areas.

The high school, Ferrell conceded, poses a more difficult security problem for district officials because of the sheer number of entrances and exits that

students routinely use throughout the school day. Even there, however, BSISD is taking active steps to improve security, he added.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331

ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

HEATING

Continued from Page 1

simple precautions, said Condray, including checking to be sure the unit has been tested.

"Space heaters need space," said Condray. "Portable space heaters need a three-foot clearance from anything that will burn. Keep them far away from drapes and bedding materials, and make sure they have a 'tip-over' safety switch

that will shut them down in the event they are upset.

"Also, don't stand so close to a space heater that your clothes could come in contact with it. Never leave one burning while you're asleep or away from the room. Also, always make sure your heater is approved by one of the independent labs, such as Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) or Factory Mutual."

For heaters requiring a fuel, it's vital to follow

the manufacturer's instruction when it comes time for a refill.

"Liquid and gas fired heaters should only be refueled in a well-ventilated area and should be completely cool," said Condray. "Be absolutely sure you're using the proper fuel for the device. If gas fired, you must use the approved type fuel line. Always be sure to follow the manufacturer's directions for proper start-up and shut down of the unit."

Condray said a com-

mon misconception is it's harmless to use a stove or oven for extra warmth, an idea that can turn deadly in a heartbeat.

"Never use cooking appliances to heat your home or a room," said Condray. "Modern cook stoves are designed to operate under certain conditions. Ovens need to have their door closed to vent properly and open flames from burners are as dangerous as any other form of open flame.

"Wood burning fireplaces and stoves need their flues and chimneys inspected and cleaned annually by qualified personnel. Make sure you have a sturdy screen or enclosure to keep sparks from entering the room."

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

COURT

Continued from Page 1

the nine-member panel peppered Turner with questions and wild hypotheticals, resulting in stifled laughs from the courtroom gallery more than once.

Justice Don Willett asked where a stuffed dog might fall under this new standard.

He later painted a difference scenario: a twin sister walking a dog down the street when both are run over by a distracted driver barreling around the curve while texting. Under the law, damages for mental anguish can be collected only for the death of a parent, spouse or child. So wouldn't it be strange, Willett asked, for the surviving sister to collect money for the dog, but not her twin?

"It might seem strange. But not really," Turner responded. "Let's change the hypothetical and say that instead of walking her dog, she's carrying a family heirloom. And there's a collision, the sister is killed, and also the cherished family heirloom is destroyed. Well, under existing Texas law handed down by this court, there is no dispute she couldn't recover a wrongful death case for (her) sister, but she could for the sentimental value of the

heirloom. That would be a strange result, but that's the law."

John Cayce, an attorney for the shelter worker named in the lawsuit, argued that a victory for the Medlens would result in skyrocketing insurance premiums for veterinarians terrified of being sued.

He also said that sentient beings aren't like any other irreplaceable family memorabilia.

"Humans don't bond to heirlooms," Cayce said. "They bond to pets." The Medlen family did not attend the hearing. Their dog was mistakenly euthanized in 2009 despite the shelter placing a hold tag on Avery after the family came to claim her at the shelter, but was unable to immediately pay an \$80 fee to get her back. When the family returned with the cash, they learned Avery had been put down.

Turner said the Medlens remain so brokenhearted they have yet to adopt another dog. He added that the

family isn't actually trying to collect money, but merely trying to change the law so that "Avery didn't die in vain."

Cayce said Texas is already more generous than most states when it comes to compensating owners who lose dogs that have marketable value, such as a prize-winning pedigree show dog or a stunt dog whose owners invested

thousands of dollars in training.

Justice Phil Johnson said changing the law might motivate owners to downplay their dog's actual worth so they could collect more on sentimental value instead.

"They're going to try to prove this is a worthless dog so that I can get a lot of money," he said.



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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Viola Johnson, 94, died Thursday, December 20, 2012. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday (1/11/13) at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Corene Schaffner, 77, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Baptist Temple Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Clifford Hale, Jr., 85, died Saturday, November 24, 2012. Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church.

Lillie Kerr, 85, died Wednesday. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Florencio Garza, Jr., 67, died Wednesday. Vigil Service will be at 7 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Walton "Mudd" Burchell, 78, died Thursday. Graveside service will be at 11:00 AM Saturday at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

The saga of the expelled young student

Melissa Heard, a Lufkin News reporter, wrote a story that is fitting for today's school environment, and tragic, too.

She says:

A Lufkin High School student was expelled today after a drug dog led to the discovery of a shotgun in the student's vehicle around 10 o'clock this morning.

Lufkin ISD Superintendent Roy Knight said the student had been duck hunting last night and failed to take the gun out of his car.

“By law, this is an automatic-expulsion offense,” he said. “It is not a criminal offense, but it is a violation of the Texas Education Code. Sad, but true. We'll follow the law as far as the tragic consequences for student are concerned.”

Knight noted that, in light of recent events — including an incident this morning in which a 16-year-old student in Taft., Calif., reportedly used a 12-gauge shotgun to shoot a fellow student — taking the utmost degree of precaution is a priority when it comes to gun safety.

“This reinforces the importance of leaving your guns at home,” he said.

Knight said he knows the expelled Lufkin High School student and his family, and that his heart hurts for them.

“And yet, they are all keenly aware of the rules and regulations about guns on school grounds,” he said. “I grew up in an area where we all kept our guns in our cars when we were going hunting during hunting season after school. And certainly our culture and our times and expectations have changed. ... I don't say any of that to make this OK for the student. It's just, I think more than anything, it's a sad commentary on where we are as a society today.”

The Herald's position is that, yes indeed, this is a sad commentary on society today, but we can't immediately see a way around it. The days of guns in vehicles are long gone. That's sad, because years ago building a gun rack helped many a student get through Shop 101.

Today, however, we cannot make allowances just because this is a so-called “good kid.” We can't take that chance.

Perhaps if we put up a 10-foot-tall barbed wire topped fence around our schools and required a metal detector to get in, it would put our minds at ease. Or maybe it would just indoctrinate our kids to think prison isn't so bad, after all.

The only way to get past the problems society faces today, it would seem, is not to ban guns but to change attitudes. And with so many obstacles — parents who don't care, games and movies that promote killing for fun, a “me” instead of “we” influence and on and on — we're not sure if that is even possible.

In the meantime, we hope this young man can get back into school because the punishment — and we agree some punishment is necessary — has more potential to harm him, and society, than help.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We ask for Your strength, dear Lord, in all that we do. Amen

Backdoor amnesty

Remember the time when Obama administration officials let it be known that things would get worse before they got better for undocumented immigrants? Remember how they justified their raids, border reinforcements and record-breaking deportations? Remember that they were meant to convince Republicans who insisted on border security first before they would allegedly support a comprehensive reform bill that would finally fix our broken immigration system?

I recall that even some so-called immigrant rights activists shamefully went along with the administration's plans to increase deportations, offering thousands of immigrants as sacrificial lambs to feed the thirst of anti-immigrant zealots.

I also recall that this strategy was a miserable failure.

“It has become obvious that no amount of immigration enforcement would be enough to satisfy the thirst for deportations that drives the conservative (and most influential) wing of the Republican Party,” I wrote in April of 2011. “Regardless, of how many fences Obama tries to build or how many immigrant families he separates, conservative extremists will keep moving the goalpost to the right, until they deport even Obama!”

And when this message finally got to the White House, when Obama finally saw that the sacrificial lambs also were killing his change of winning the Latino vote and reelection, remember how the president began to use the executive powers he had denied having, to finally help some undocumented immigrants?

Let's not forget Obama's executive orders — bypassing Congress and telling immigration officials to concentrate on deporting criminal immigrants and allowing young immigrant “Dreamers” to stay, study and work here legally. That's what turned the tide of Latino voters back for the president.

Had he not used those executive powers, and had Mitt Romney not “self-deported” from the Latino

vote, perhaps we would be bracing ourselves for the impact of the draconian immigration measures of a Romney administration.

Yet even now that Obama was reelected thanks to the Latino vote in swing states, now that it took an election thrashing for some Republican politicians to learn the meaning of compassion, the immigration reform fight still is an uphill battle.

No one should expect the die-hard, anti-immigrant base of the Republican Party to stop looking for ways to disrupt, dilute and delay any form of immigration reform. It started during the lame-duck session, when some Republicans already introduced legislation that falls ridiculously short of the comprehensive immigration reform the country needs and voters want.

Unless we grant a path to legalization for the 11 million undocumented immigrants already here, create better and wider avenues for legal immigration, and then get serious about illegal immigration enforcement, not only for border crossers but also for visa violators, we will never fix our broken immigration system.

At a time when passing a new Dream Act, granting a legal path only to young immigrants, shouldn't even be under consideration (because obviously they would be covered under a larger comprehensive legalization plan), some Republicans claim they are willing to support the watered-down version of the Dream Act, only for those who serve in the military.

Amazingly, in spite of Obama's record-breaking deportations (410,000 in 2012), in spite of a crackdown that has driven border arrests to its lowest level in nearly 40 years, some Republicans still claim the president has been soft on immigration.

There are several states where Republicans still are driving draconian anti-immigrant legislation and claiming they are filling a void left by the federal government. And in Washington, some conservatives now are claiming Obama's executive orders are a form of “backdoor amnesty” that will only hinder the prospects for a compromise with Republicans — as if they actually knew how to compromise!

That's because last week — yes, even after the election — the

Obama administration made yet another dramatic change in immigration enforcement. When the Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano announced a rule change that, “facilitates the legal immigration process and reduces the amount of time that U.S. citizens are separated from their immediate relatives who are in the process of obtaining an immigrant visa,” she was talking only of about a million undocumented immigrants who are married to Americans and will no longer have to wait several years abroad to get their green cards.

Small fry, right? Yet many Republicans have problems with that. They refuse to go along with the front door legalization the rest of country is demanding, but they claim Obama is making things worse by granting “backdoor amnesty.”

I say it looks like Obama has learned his lesson and that he is no longer willing to wait for Republicans while they keep moving the goalposts. In the State of the Union address, I expect the president to layout the immigration reform plan the country needs and Republicans still will oppose.

Ironically, although these are usually the same politicians who blast Obama's “out of control spending,” now they are faced with a new study that found Obama spent more on immigration enforcement than on all other federal law enforcement agencies combined. The nonpartisan Migration Policy Institute reported Monday that while the FBI, Secret Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Marshal Service and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives cost a total of \$14.4 billion in fiscal 2012, immigration enforcement cost \$18 billion.

Who knows? If the election wasn't enough to convince conservative Republicans that real comprehensive immigration reform is absolutely necessary, perhaps the cost of being so draconian will help them change their minds.

To find out more about Miguel Perez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Why I cannot support Hagel

To the surprise of many, including me, President Barack Obama has nominated former Nebraska Sen. Chuck Hagel to be his next defense secretary. Like many Texans, I am grateful for Hagel's courageous military service, but I fear he is the wrong man to lead the Pentagon.

One of the biggest foreign-policy challenges of Obama's second term is preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons — which means we need a defense secretary who understands the nature and magnitude of the Iranian threat. Based on his record, Hagel does not.

In July 2001, 96 U.S. senators voted to extend sanctions against Iran. Chuck Hagel was one of only two senators who voted against sanctions. A year later, he urged the Bush administration to support Iranian membership in the World Trade Organization.

Even more disturbing, Hagel voted against a 2007 measure that called for the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) to be designated a terrorist group. (At the time, the IRGC was aiding and equipping Shiite militias that were murdering U.S. troops in Iraq.) A few weeks after this vote, Hagel sent a letter to President George W. Bush asking him to launch “direct, unconditional, and comprehensive talks” with the Iranian government, which the State Department has labeled

a state sponsor of terrorism every year since 1984.

In July 2008, Hagel recommended that Washington go beyond direct talks and establish a U.S. diplomatic mission in Tehran. Later that month, in a Senate Banking Committee vote, he was one of only two senators to oppose the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability and Divestment Act. (Obama signed a subsequent version of this bill in July 2010.)

Finally, in his 2008 book, “America: Our Next Chapter,” Hagel appeared to suggest that the United States could live with a nuclear Iran, writing that “the genie of nuclear armaments is already out of the bottle, no matter what Iran does.”

These comments and actions indicate that he does not fully appreciate the dangers of a nuclear Iran or the character of the Iranian regime. It is a regime that has effectively been at war with the United States since 1979 — a regime whose proxies (such as the terrorist group Hezbollah) have killed Americans in Lebanon, Afghanistan, Iraq, and elsewhere. For that matter, Tehran was recently implicated in a plot to blow up a restaurant (and the Saudi ambassador) in our nation's capital.

This is not a government that calculates self-interest the way America does. It is a messianic theocracy intent on exporting its violent Islamist revolution. And if Tehran gets the bomb, we might soon have a nuclear arms race in one of the world's most volatile regions.

It is no exaggeration to say that

a nuclear Iran represents an existential threat to Israel. And yet, while Hagel wants us to be softer on the Iranians, he thinks we should be tougher on the Israelis. In October 2000, at the beginning of the second Palestinian intifada, he was one of only four senators who refused to sign a letter to President Bill Clinton affirming U.S. solidarity with Israel. More recently, in January 2009, Hagel signed a letter advising Obama to spearhead direct, unconditional talks with Hamas, a terrorist group that had just fired hundreds of rockets into Israel.

Lest we forget, Hamas is an Iranian proxy whose senior leaders openly pray for genocidal violence against both Israelis and Americans. Last year, for example, a Hamas official named Ahmad Bahr, who serves as deputy speaker of the Palestinian Legislative Council, declared in a sermon, “Oh Allah, destroy the Jews and their supporters. Oh Allah, destroy the Americans and their supporters. Oh Allah, count them one by one, and kill them all, without leaving a single one.”

Thus, by nominating Hagel for defense secretary, the president has sent the worst possible message to our closest Middle Eastern ally and our greatest Middle Eastern enemy.

Senator Cornyn serves on the Finance and Judiciary Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.



MIGUEL PEREZ



SENATOR JOHN CORNYN

News in brief

Biden seeks video game industry input on gun violence after NRA rejects gun control proposals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Looking for broader remedies to gun violence, Vice President Joe Biden is reaching out to the video game industry for ideas as the White House seeks to assemble proposals in response to last month's massacre at a Connecticut elementary school.

Biden is scheduled to meet with video game representatives Friday as the White House explores cultural factors that may contribute to violent behavior.

The vice president, who is leading a task force that will present recommendations to President Barack Obama on Tuesday, met with other representatives from the entertainment industry, including Comcast Corp. and the Motion Picture Association of America, on Thursday.

Friday's meeting comes a day after the National Rifle Association rejected Obama administration proposals to limit high-capacity ammunition magazines and dug in on its opposition to an assault weapons ban, which Obama has previously said he will propose to Congress. The NRA was one of the pro-gun rights groups that met with Biden during the day.

In previewing the meeting with the video game industry, Biden recalled the late Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, who lamented during crime bill negotiations in the 1980s that the country was "defining deviancy down."

Obama, Karzai to discuss Afghanistan war's future; no decision on withdrawal expected

WASHINGTON (AP) — Charting the course for a war's end, President Barack Obama and Afghan President Hamid Karzai meet Friday at the White House to discuss the future of the U.S. role in Afghanistan and the 66,000 American troops in harm's way.

The two leaders plan a joint afternoon news conference. White House officials said, however, that Obama will not announce any decisions on the next phase of troop withdrawals or whether any U.S. forces will stay behind in Afghanistan after the war formally ends in 2014.

U.S. commanders in Afghanistan have proposed keeping 6,000 to 15,000 U.S. troops after 2014 to continuing pursuing terrorists and training Afghan security forces. But the White House, which tends to favor lower troop levels than the generals, says Obama would be open to pulling all U.S. forces out of Afghanistan at the end of 2014.

"We wouldn't rule out any option," said Ben Rhodes, Obama's deputy national security adviser. "We're not guided by the goal of a certain number of U.S. troops in the country. We're guided by the objectives that the president set — disrupt, dismantle, defeat al-Qaida."

Beyond troop levels, Obama and Karzai are also expected to discuss preparations for next year's Afghan elections and the prospects for advancing Afghan peace talks with the Taliban.

Miss America contestant to undergo preventive double mastectomy after competition

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Win or lose Saturday, Miss America contestant Allyn Rose will have conveyed a message about breast cancer prevention using her primary tool as a beauty queen: her body.

The 24-year-old Miss DC plans to undergo a double mastectomy after she struts in a bikini and flaunts her roller skating talent. She is removing both breasts as a preventative measure to reduce her chances of developing the disease that killed her mother, grandmother and great aunt.

"My mom would have given up every part of her body to be here for me, to watch me in the pageant," she said between dress rehearsals and preliminary competitions at Planet Hollywood on the Las Vegas Strip Wednesday. "If there's something that I can do to be proactive, it might hurt my body, it might hurt my physical beauty, but I'm going to be alive."

If crowned, the University of Maryland, College Park politics major could become the first Miss America not endowed with the Barbie silhouette associated with beauty queens.

Rose said it was her father who first broached the subject, during her freshman year of college, two years after the death of her mother

Calif. student who shot classmate gave gun to teacher saying: 'I don't want to shoot you'

TAFT, Calif. (AP) — The 16-year-old boy had al-

legedly wounded the teenager he claimed had bullied him, fired two more rounds at students fleeing their first-period science class, then faced teacher Ryan Heber.

"I don't want to shoot you," he told the popular teacher, who was trying to coax the teen into giving up the shotgun he still held.

Recounting the suspect's words, Kern County Sheriff Donny Youngblood said the confrontation was enough of a distraction to give 28 students time to escape their classroom Thursday at a California high school.

The violence came just minutes after administrators had announced new lockdown safety procedures prompted by the Newtown, Conn., school slayings.

"Just 10 minutes before it happened our teachers were giving us protocol because of what happened in Connecticut," said student Oscar Nuno, who was across campus from the science building at Taft Union High School when an announcer on the PA system said the school was under lock down "and it was not a drill."

Indiana boy abducted by grandparents in 1994 found living under assumed name in Minnesota

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Richard Wayne Landers Jr. was just 5 years old when he and his paternal grandparents, who were upset over custody arrangements, disappeared from Wolcottville, a town about 30 miles north of Fort Wayne.

Nineteen years later, news that he has been found living under an assumed name in Minnesota left his mother overjoyed and "jumping up and down," her husband said Thursday shortly after police announced the break in the case.

Indiana State Police said the now 24-year-old Landers was found in Long Prairie, Minn., thanks in part to his Social Security number. His grandparents were living under aliases in a nearby town and confirmed his identity, investigators said.

Police declined to say whether the grandparents will face charges, citing the ongoing investigation.

Landers' mother, Lisa Harter, was "jumping up and down for joy" when investigators told her a few days ago that her son had been found, her husband Richard Harter told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

Death toll from Pakistan bombings rises to 120, marking deadliest day in years

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP) — The death toll from a series of deadly bombings across Pakistan rose Friday to 120, police said, marking one of the deadliest days the country has seen in years.

Five people who were wounded in twin bombings on a billiards hall late Thursday died of their wounds overnight, senior police official Hamid Shakeel from the southern city of Quetta said, putting the death toll from that attack at 86.

The strike was the worst of three deadly bombings targeting Shiites and soldiers in Quetta, capital of the volatile Baluchistan province, and worshippers at a Sunni mosque in the northwest on the same day. Funerals are expected later Friday.

The billiards hall bombing, in a Shiite area of the city, started with a suicide attack but was followed by a car bomb minutes later in the same area. Militants often use such staggered bombings as a way to maximize the body count by targeting rescuers and others who rush to the scene after the first explosion to help.

Pakistan's minority Shiite Muslims have increasingly been targeted by radical Sunnis who consider them heretics. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, a Sunni militant group with strong ties to the Pakistani Taliban, claimed responsibility for the attack. Hazara Shiites, who migrated from Afghanistan more than a century ago, have been the targets of dozens of attacks by Lashkar-e-Jhangvi in Quetta over the past year, but Thursday's attack was by far the bloodiest.

Defense: Colorado theater shooting suspect not ready for arraignment

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP) — A judge has ordered the Colorado theater shooting suspect to stand trial, but his attorneys say they're not ready to enter a plea.

District Judge William Sylvester ruled Thursday night that prosecutors had presented sufficient evidence to proceed with charges alleging James Holmes killed 12 people and injured 70 others at a suburban Denver movie theater July 20.

Holmes is charged with multiple counts of first-degree murder and attempted murder.

The next major step is for Holmes to enter a plea during an arraignment hearing. Sylvester sched-

uled the arraignment for Friday but noted that defense lawyers will likely ask for a delay.

His defense attorneys filed papers earlier Thursday saying he's not ready to enter a plea.

As Greece sinks, gold mine seen as savior to some — curse to others

IERISSOS, Greece (AP) — Barbed wire cuts across woodland patrolled by dozens of private security guards. Burly and stony-faced, they demand identity cards from anyone trying to pass through, and order cameras to be put away.

Beyond lies a precious prize: a gold mine -- and its owners are taking no chances. Protesters, they say, have torched company property in violent demonstrations.

The oak- and beech-covered forests of northern Greece's Halkidiki peninsula have yielded various metals for more than 2,000 years. But as modern extraction and processing methods took over, they became a flashpoint in the debate over large-scale mining, environmental protection, job creation and tourism.

Champions of an ambitious new mining project say that it will create jobs and pour hundreds of millions into the local economy, as Greece struggles with a devastating financial crisis. Opponents argue that mining will endanger lives through pollution, wipe out precious forests and drive tourists away from a region of striking natural beauty.

Hellas Gold — 95 percent owned by Canadian mining company Eldorado Gold Inc. and the remaining 5 percent by Greek construction company Aktor — holds mining licenses for an area covering 317 square kilometers (122 sq. miles) with proven and probable reserves of lead, zinc, silver, gold and copper. Many see the foreign investment as vital to helping Greece emerge from what is essentially a depression, with a quarter of the workforce unemployed and the economy heading into a sixth year of recession.

GM and Ford unveil app maker programs, but voice integration with some apps still a far cry

LAS VEGAS (AP) — It's not wise to Google the nearest gas station, compose email, or use your smartphone to check the latest sports scores while driving. But many Americans do.

Drivers have grown so accustomed to their on-the-go tasks that automakers are increasingly trying to make those things easier to pull off with both hands on the wheel and both eyes on the road.

As General Motors and Ford commissioned ideas from app makers this week, the possibilities for what you can do with your vehicle's steering wheel buttons, microphone, speakers and internal gauges are quickly expanding.

How would you like to choose your favorite tune by simply uttering the song's title, turn your car into a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot, or respond to an ad you hear on the radio without lifting a finger?

At the International CES show, General Motors and Ford launched programs that will open their designs to developers, inviting them to create software applications for future car models. It's a relatively new strategy for car makers, but one that many gadget manufacturers employ, including Apple, which did it for the original iPhone in 2007.

Little expected from exam of school gunman's body

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Connecticut's chief medical examiner says he doubts toxicological tests and genetic analysis of the body of the gunman who fatally shot 20 children and six educators at an elementary school will explain his actions.

The Hearst Connecticut Media Group reports that Dr. H. Wayne Carver II, who autopsied the body of the gunman Adam Lanza, said an examination of Lanza's brain showed nothing unusual.

He says the testing was a "fishing expedition." Carver said Lanza's brain showed no tumor or gross deformity, though he didn't expect to find a gross deformity.

He said he doesn't expect answers, but will still look.

The toxicology exam, which could take several weeks, involves testing body fluids for psychiatric medications or illegal substances.

Lanza fatally shot himself after the Dec. 14 shooting spree.

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(Psalm 103:11)*

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Church News

First United Methodist Church

Sunday, our senior pastor, the Rev. Bill Ivins, will be bringing the message at both services of worship, 8:30 and 10:50. He will be continuing his sermon series, "Kingdom Quest." Sunday school classes for all ages are held at 9:45.

Real Life Wednesday will start up again this week following a break for the holidays. One new study will begin on that first evening. A new Beth Moore Bible Study will be held in the Open Door meeting room at 6:30 following the evening meal, which begins serving at 5:30.

This new 11-week study is titled "... Jesus, the One and Only." Work books can be ordered on line at www.lifeway.com. For \$14.95; they may possibly also be available at Mardel's in Midland.

Even though it is still early January, our Mission Outreach Committee is hard at work planning the spring trip to Nicaragua. Again this year, they will be going to Matagalpa. The first week, Murray and Diane Murphy will lead the group with both medical and construction objectives. There will be 19 individuals on this trip, which will be from March 2-9. Pastor Bill Ivins and youth minister Beau Niewoehner will lead the group, which will include a number of local high school students who are taking their Spring Break in a far away country.

We will be sharing more information about this very worthwhile endeavor as the date draws near.

For complete information on scheduling and special events, go to our website at www.fumcbs.org.

We are First United Methodist Church, located in the very heart of downtown Big Spring at Fourth and Scurry streets.

College Baptist Church

College Baptist Church said goodbye to our youth pastor, Josh Mensinger, and his family this past week with a going away party Wednesday night and Sunday morning, there was probably not a dry eye in the church as all the youth went forward to pray with him and his family and say their goodbyes. It is very hard to see them go but God has called them to another work.

Pastor Ken McMeans started a new series of sermons this past Sunday morning called, "This Same Jesus." As Jesus ascended into heaven after His resurrection, the disciples were told "This Same Jesus" would return again in the future. He warned people to be ready for His return for no one would know the day nor the hour when He would return. This promises to be a very interesting study of God's word.

Our Sunday school director, Jan Sims, has started a new program for our Sunday school departments to get better acquainted or just get to know each other. Different families have agreed to host a family meal and get together for a family in another department that they either don't know or don't know well. Sometimes, some of our older and younger groups never get to know each other. This should help to bring us all closer together. Each family that has volunteered to participate will try it for three months and see how it works out.

— Dean Priest for College Baptist Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church

Cornerstone Covenant Church would like to invite you to join us this Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for worship, followed by the Word.

Last week, Pastor Willard began a series titled "Restoring Hope to the Hopeless," taken from Proverbs 13:12. This week, Elder Preston Harrison will continue the same series, but the title will be "Is There Hope for Me?" and will be taken from John 1:40-41.

Wednesday evenings from 5:50-6:50, CCC holds its Overcomers: Recovery & Restoration class, which is now located on the second floor of the central wing in the "Surf Shack." Discipleship 101 Bible Study will begin at 7 p.m.

CCC offers ministries in the following areas: New Beginnings (newborn to 18 months); Tiny Tots (19 months- kindergarten); Kovenant Kids (grades 1 through 6); Chosen Generation (grades 7 through 12); Covenant U-College Ministry (18-24 years); Men's and Women's Ministries; and Marriage Enrichment.

CCC meets on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. for Discipleship 101 Bible Study and Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for worship. Sunday morning services are recorded, so if you'd like a free copy of a CD for those services, see our multimedia department.) Mother's Lounge and children's church are offered for both mid-week and Sunday services.

CCC is located at 706 East 12th St, (on the corner of 12th and Owens) For more information, contact us at 264-0015, visit us on the web at www.cccbigspring.org or check out Covenant Connect on Facebook, Twitter or Myspace.

Spring Creek Fellowship

Saturday will be a church-wide work day. Breakfast will be served at 8 a.m. and lunch will be provided.

- Targets for day:
- 1) Assemble playground equipment
 - 2) Move/work on sound booth and sound system
 - 3) Deep clean the church.

Everyone can help! "Sewing Seeds of Hope" Connection group invites you to a "Drive-by Stitching" Jan. 26 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. There will be things to try and if you have a

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

project you've been working on, bring it with you.

Beginning Feb. 9, "Sewing Seeds of Hope" will meet Saturday mornings at Spring Creek Fellowship from 9 a.m. until noon. A different skill will be taught each week of the month with new skills added as requested.

New Sunday School classes/Connection Groups are still forming. Studies include: "Epic" by John Eldredge, led by Danny Whitehead/Kevin Freeman; "Getting to the Heart of Parenting," by Paul David Tripp, led by Chance Nichols; "The Blessed Life," by Robert Morris, led by Casie Fillingim; "Weird: Because Normal Isn't Working," led by Joe Wennik; "1,2,3 John & Jude," by John MacArthur, led by Mindy Whittenburg; and "Life Values," led by Dee Highly. Classes are available for all ages and meet from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

Big Spring Classical Academy is in session with classes for Pre-K and kindergarten. Visit our website at <http://bigspringclassical.org> for more information.

The "Between the Lines" Women's Ministry will meet Jan. 17 at 6 p.m.

Weekly Happenings:

Sunday- 9:15-10:15 a.m.-Sunday School/Connection Groups; 10:15-10:45 a.m., "Holy Grounds Café" is open with snacks and fellowship; 10:45noon, worship service. You can listen to recent sermons on our web page at www.springcreekfellowship.org; 5 p.m., Girls Bible Study.

Monday- 6:30-8:30 p.m., "Celebrate Recovery," Women.

Tuesday- 1:45, Praying Effectively for the Lost; "Wings" Dance Academy meets for girls ages 4-12.

Wednesday- 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Meal; 6 p.m., Bible Study and youth and children's activities; 6 p.m., Boy Scouts.

Thursday- 6:30-8:30 p.m., "Celebrate Recovery," Men; 7 p.m., "Crazy Love" college age Bible study by Francis Chan.

Saturday- 7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast & Fellowship.

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, please contact the church office.

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell Lane in Big Spring. (Across from Denny's). Contact us at (432)714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

"Every Member a Minister"-1 Peter 4:10 NKJV

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, meets at 5:17 p.m. in the church library and the Chancel Choir practices at 6 p.m. Wednesday. The Children's Choir resumed its practices Wednesday at 4:45 p.m.

The Boy Scouts meet in the entrance room of the fellowship hall at 6 p.m. Monday.

Presbyterian Women/Working Women will meet for Bible study and business Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 2 p.m. in the library. Jean Ann Farley will lead Lesson 5 from the Dispatches to God's Household study book. This lesson is based on I Peter 3.

The adult Covenant Class is studying Unit II of Jesus Is Lord, a four-session study of Philippians. The Discovery Class has begun a study by John Ortburg, senior pastor of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, Menlo Park, Calif. The study, entitled "Who Is This Man?" shows how Jesus' influence has swept over history, bringing his inspiration to the fields of art, science, government, medicine, and education.

Christine Boling is in charge of this week's "Take Ten." Marj Carpenter is liturgist for January. Communion servers are Helen Glass, Jerry Grimes, Patti Horton, Paschal Odom and Nancy Koger. Ushers for the month are Lynn and Helen Glass, Don and Charlie Boling.

The lectionary for the Baptism of the Lord Sunday is Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

The Chancel Choir will present "A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester" by L.J. White for the anthem and "The Peace of God" by John Rutter for the offertory. The Rev. Craig Holstedt will deliver the sermon. Communion will be celebrated during worship. Elders for the Class of 2015 will be in-

Lessons from a friend

"My best friend is the one who brings out the best in me," said businessman and entrepreneur Henry Ford.



BONNIE WHEAT

As a young adult, I was fortunate enough to find one of those rare individuals who had the knack of bringing out the best in me and all of her other friends. When I first met Neta, I was an inexperienced wife, mother, college student, and youth worker trying to balance a fast paced life in an unfamiliar setting.

Since Neta was several years older than I, she had already acquired some skill in making life work. She soon took me under her wing, becoming my mentor, encourager, and counselor. While some of our lengthy conversations were lofty, Neta excelled in attacking problems with common sense laced with a thread of humor. An expert seamstress with two daughters of her own, Neta was always interested in whatever sewing project I had undertaken for my two little girls.

When it came to sewing for herself, Neta's advice was sound: "Anyone can be a size 10 if you know how to cut out the pattern."

I had to agree. The key to making anything fit is in knowing where to increase the seam allowance.

When Neta started

to notice some silver streaks in her dark hair, she was horrified. "I'm not going to have gray hair if I can help it," she declared. "And I think I can."

Sure enough, by some magic, she was able to delay the gray hair syndrome for several years until she reached what she considered a more suitable age for strands of wisdom to appear.

On a more serious note, when Neta faced a crisis in her life, she always prayed for God's will to be done instead of her own.

When I faced a similar crisis, Neta, always sensitive to the need, called to say, "How can I pray for you?"

My friendship with Neta spanned 43 years of our lives and crossed several state lines.

Sometimes there were long interruptions in our communication, but we were always able to pick up the relationship and move forward. Her final move came at the end of 2012 when she acquired her eternal address.

She died as she had lived, with a strong faith in God.

A wise man, King Solomon, wrote, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17 NIV).

Like Henry Ford's best friend, Neta brought out the best in all her friends. She sharpened my life, leaving an edge of understanding ground off by her friendship.

Bonnie Wheat is an author and a minister's wife. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net.

stalled. Listen in on KBST 1490 AM., beginning at 11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: www.fpcbs.org.

First Christian Church

You are invited to attend First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), located at 911 Goliad. Each Sunday starts with fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before Sunday school for all ages at 9:45. Church starts at 10:50. We celebrate Communion every week.

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 8

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► Religious Briefs

Medgar Evers' widow to offer invocation for Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — The widow of slain civil rights activist Medgar Evers is expected to deliver the invocation at President Barack Obama's second inauguration on Jan. 21.

The Presidential Inaugural Committee announced Tuesday that Myrtle Evers-Williams would deliver the prayer. It comes 50 years after her husband was gunned down in the driveway of his Mississippi home. The inauguration falls on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Evers-Williams is a distinguished scholar at Alcorn State University in Lorman, Miss. She was chairwoman of the NAACP from 1995 to 1998.

Inaugural organizers said the Rev. Louie Giglio of Atlanta's Passion City Church will deliver the benediction for Obama's swearing-in.

In a statement, Obama says Evers-Williams and Giglio represent ideals of justice, equality and opportunity that he pursues.

Christian group lists the world's worst persecutors

LONDON, Ont. (AP) — North Korea continues to be the worst country in the world to be a Christian, according to the new World Watch List released

by Open Doors USA.

The list ranks North Korea as the world's worst persecutor of Christians for the 11th year in a row, followed by eight nations where Open Doors says "extreme Islam poses the largest threat for Christians," led by Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Open Doors International spokesman Paul Estabrooks noted that persecution of Christians has increased in 11th-ranked Syria, where civil war has driven thousands into exile, and in African countries where Islamist extremism is on the rise.

In North Korea, Estabrooks said severe persecution of Christians has not eased under new leader Kim Jong Un.

Iranian pastor reported free after Christmas arrest

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Iranian pastor whose re-arrest on Christmas Day was condemned by two U.S. congressmen is free again, according to the American Center for Law and Justice.

ACLJ Executive Director Jordan Sekulow said his group's Christian contacts in Iran reported that Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani was released Monday and was at home once again with his family.

Nadarkhani, who was raised in a

Muslim family, spent almost three years in prison before his release in September. The ACLJ says he had faced a possible death sentence for refusing to renounce his Christian faith.

On Friday, Pennsylvania Congressman Joseph Pitts, who is Christian, and Minnesota Congressman Keith Ellison, a Muslim, issued a joint statement denouncing Nadarkhani's re-arrest and calling for his immediate release. They said that given Iran's "persecution of Pastor Youcef because of his Christian faith, it was particularly cruel to imprison him on Christmas Day."

Gay marriage flap: Gallaudet reinstates official

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's leading university for the deaf and hard of hearing has reinstated its chief diversity officer, who was suspended for three months after signing a petition circulated by opponents of gay marriage in Maryland.

Gallaudet University president T. Alan Hurwitz announced the reinstatement of Angela McCaskill in an email Monday to students, faculty and staff. The brief statement didn't elaborate on the reasons for McCaskill's reinstatement, and university

officials declined further comment.

McCaskill has said she is not anti-gay. She said she signed the petition at her church after listening to a sermon about marriage, adding that she felt it was important for Maryland voters to decide the issue.

Many on campus said they felt McCaskill was the wrong person to lead an office that promotes diversity. But people on both sides of the gay marriage debate in Maryland, where McCaskill lives, said she shouldn't be punished for exercising her First Amendment rights.

UK jails mom for killing son over Quran study

LONDON (AP) — A British judge has sentenced a woman portrayed as a "devoted and loving mother" to at least 17 years in prison for beating her son to death after he failed to memorize passages from the Quran.

Sara Ege was convicted last month of murdering 7-year-old Yaseen and burning his body.

Judge Wyn Williams said Ege beat Yaseen repeatedly over several months. He said that on the day he died Yaseen had been kept home from school to memorize verses from the Muslim holy book, and that his failure "was the trigger for the beating" that killed him.

Post Christendom Jesus followers

Anne Rice, the popular author of the Vampire Chronicles that sold some 100 million copies, shocked the secular world when, in 2002, she announced she was done with vampires. After 38 years as a professed atheist, she said she had found faith in Christ and returned to the Catholic Church.

Eight years later, she rocked the Christian world by proclaiming she was renouncing Christianity.

She stated, "For those who care, and I understand if you don't: Today I quit being a

Christian. I'm out. I remain committed to Christ as always but not to being "Christian" or to being part of Christianity. It's simply impossible for me to "belong" to this quarrelsome, hostile, disputatious, and deservedly infamous group."

She went on to say, "My faith in Christ is central to my life. My con-

version from a pessimistic atheist lost in a world I didn't understand, to an optimistic believer in a universe created and sustained by a loving God is crucial to me." Her novel, "Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt," is scheduled to be released as a movie this year.

Of course, I think Anne Rice is selling "Christianity" short. While churches are often quarrelsome, sometimes even hostile, I would hate to live in a world without churches. I visited Russia at the end of the Soviet Union and saw what that looked like. Churches do far more good and create much more charity than otherwise.

But, she does have a point.

Interestingly, Anne Rice is not alone. George Barna, the leading researcher on faith in America reported in 2008 that "a majority of adults now believe that there are various biblically legitimate alternatives to participation in a conventional church." It appears that there is a growing number of people who claim faith in Jesus but want little or

nothing to do with the institutional church.

For some, this may sound alarming or confusing. The fact of the matter is, we are living in a post-Christendom world. Christendom was defined by the dominance of the institutional church, both Catholic and Protestant, that shaped and influenced the western world. At its height, Christendom dominated governments and communities. This is no longer the case.

For those of us who are serious followers of Jesus, we can take heart by reminding ourselves that the most fruitful period of faith occurred in pre-Christendom, the first three centuries following the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

Here is the paradox. Worldwide, we are witnessing the largest growth in the number of Jesus followers in history.

In China more than 30,000 new believers are baptized every day. The number of believers in Africa grew from 9 million to 360 million in the last century, most in the last decade.

More Muslims have come to faith in Christ in the last two decades than at any other time in history. Interestingly, the rapidly reproducing churches in these nations look little like our western Christianity. They resemble the churches of the first century that met in homes as close-knit communities that produce transformed people who act like Jesus.

At their core, churches are communities of believers who exhort and encourage one another to become like Christ. Churches are the wine-skins provided to contain the new wine of faith in Christ.

Over time, each generation's "wine skins" grow brittle, inflexible and institutional so that succeeding generations must discover new "wine skins" that serve their new found faith in Christ.

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. For more info visit www.tinsleycenter.com. Email bill@tinsleycenter.com



BILL
TINSLEY

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 7

The Lord's Table is the center of our worship



By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠K4♥AK742♦10♣AJ963
- ♠9♥AQ764♦A8♣KJ742
- ♠J4♥QJ1053♦AQ♣AK106
- ♠982♥KQJ83♦A♣AJ92

1. **Three spades.** Partner's two-spade bid is somewhat ambiguous in this sequence. It might be based on as little as ♠QJ10873♥8♦K764♣52, or as much as ♠AQ8652♥93♦J7♣K84.

You'd have very little chance for game with the first hand and an excellent shot at game with the second. So you raise to three spades and let partner decide whether to bid four. Your K-4 of spades are adequate support for a suit that partner has bid twice.

2. **Pass.** You can't fight city hall. With no fit in spades and minimum high-card values for your opening bid, this is obviously not a game-going hand. The only problem remaining, therefore, is to find the

best partscore contract.

In general, where there's a misfit — which seems to be the case here — you should throw in the towel as soon as you can. The only other possible action would be to bid three clubs, but this might lead you deeper into the morass if partner cannot support that suit. The sooner you drop a hot potato, the better off you are.

3. **Two notrump.** You can't very well pass with 17 high-card points, so you invite partner to bid game in notrump, which you'll almost surely make if he bids it. Of course, partner might have a hand suitable only for spades, and in that case he'll bid three or four spades, either of which you'll pass.

4. **Four spades.** The jump-raise to game, despite your skimpy trump holding, comes much closer to representing the real value of your hand than does the alternative bid of three spades.

True, you have only 15 high-card points, but nearly all of them are potential tricks. In particular, your three trumps, together with the singleton ace of diamonds, should be worth their weight in gold. Partner might not make four spades, but you would be remiss not to bid it.

Tomorrow: Looks can be deceiving.

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each time we worship. We practice an open table, which means anyone who is a follower of Jesus is welcomed at the Communion table. Christ is remembered as we offer to one another the bread and cup of remembrance.

This Sunday, which will be the First Sunday after Epiphany in the Christian Calendar, the Rev. Ken McIntosh's message will be "Why are We Christians who Think?" from Psalm 1.

Elders will be Frank Sickles and Erma Dunne; deacons will be Marla Rainwater, Shelane Roberts, Laura Sickles and Wanda Brock; worship leader will be Joyce Davis; communion prep will be Laura Sickles and Wanda Brock; Children's Church will be Laura Sickles; greeter will be Shelane Rob-

erts; homebound communion will be Erma Dunne.

Each week Isaiah 58 is open from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Mondays, and 3 until 5 Tuesdays. We are working Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. until 11, so we need volunteers for those days to help.

Also, every Monday evening, the TOPS Group will meet at the church fellowship hall at 5 p.m. for weigh-in. The meeting is at 5:30.

On Wednesday there will be choir at the church at 6:30 p.m. Call Ruth Jackson for more information.

The Samaritan Counseling takes place Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4 each week.

We believe the church is built by people worshipping together and we welcome you to visit at any time. For questions or further information, call the church office 432-517-4821 or view our website at www.fcbs125@yahoo.com

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

St. Mary's Holy Eucharist service begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

Our regular Vestry Meeting Monday at 6 p.m. in the church office.

The Daily Grind with God — Coffee Hour meets every Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the parish hall.

Wednesday evening prayer starts at a new time this year, 5:30 p.m. in the chapel.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church

Our pastor is Reverend Lannon Martin.

Our motto is "Celebrating and Sharing God's Love and Grace in our lives."

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood Subdivision in Big Spring.

Mid-week classes (Wednesday) resume this week with meal and fellowship at 5:30 p.m. and Bible study beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Richard Knocke will present the readings this week. The readings reference "The Baptism of Jesus."

Tune in to KBYG every morning for a devotional sponsored in part by the Lutheran Hour.

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.

1			3	2	6			5
					7	9		
	4	6	9			2		
9	7		4		2	3		8
3								4
8		4	7		3		6	2
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www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Hawk squads take down Clarendon

By **BRIAN MCCORMACK**

Sports Editor

Last week, the Howard Hawk basketball teams opened Western Junior College Athletic Conference play at home against rival Midland College and both teams were denied wins.

The losses were avenged Thursday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the Howard College campus, as both squads notched their first WJCAC wins over Clarendon College.

The Hawk women (12-5, 1-1) came out on fire with a 16-2 run in the early going and never lost the lead, despite a sneaky offensive scheme by the Bulldogs — a team with several accurate three-point shooters.

The mental mistakes which plagued the Hawks in their outing against Midland were largely absent Thursday.

"I thought that we learned a little bit from the Midland game, HC Head Women's Coach Earl Diddle said. "As I told the team in practice, we'll either learn from it or it will happen again. The players play the game. Our job as coaches is to prepare them, but they have to execute. They're responsible for their own performance, I have to better prepare them — we have to do a better job of performing."

The Hawks will have one day to prepare for South Plains College before making the trek to Levelland, where they will meet Saturday at 1 p.m.



Howard College Women's Head Basketball Coach Earl Diddle and Assistant Coach Addie Lees speak with their team during a game against Midland College last week. The Hawks defeated Clarendon College on Thursday, 77-55. The men also won Thursday against Clarendon, 82-73.

HERALD photo/Brian McCormack

See **HAWKS**, Page 14

Jacksonville passes on native QB Tebow

MARK LONG

AP Sports Writer

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Tim Tebow won't be playing for his hometown team.

The Jacksonville Jaguars made it clear Thursday that they have no plans to pursue the popular and polarizing New York Jets backup quarterback.

The Jets are likely to release the 2007 Heisman Trophy winner and Jacksonville native during the offseason, and many believed Tebow would land with the Jaguars.

But new general manager David Caldwell mixed that idea at his introductory news conference.

"I can't imagine a scenario in which he'll be a Jacksonville Jaguar — even if he's released," Caldwell said.

And Caldwell won't get any pushback from his new owner.

Shad Khan, who made a run at Tebow last year, said it was Caldwell's call.

"It's not my decision," Khan said. "I want to do whatever to help this team win. Who the players are is really the general manager's and coaches' — it's a football-side operation decision. It's really not my decision."

What has changed for Khan in the 10 months since he wanted Tebow?

"I'm telling them to take a look at Tebow and they're saying, 'We're going to go in a different direction,'" Khan said. "That's the difference."

Tebow starred at nearby Florida, helping the team win two national championships, and

See **TEBOW**, Page 14

Mavs beat Kings in OT to snap 4-game skid

ANTONIO GONZALEZ

AP Sports Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — An elbow from DeMarcus Cousins helped hand the Dallas Mavericks a win and gave Sacramento fans another stinger.

O.J. Mayo had 24 points and 10 rebounds, Vince Carter scored 23 points off the bench and the Mavericks took advantage of a flagrant foul by Cousins to rally from 17 points down to beat the Kings 117-112 in overtime Thursday night.

With the franchise's possible sale and relocation to Seattle on the minds of Kings fans, Cousins finished with 29 points and nine rebounds before getting ejected in overtime for elbowing Carter in the face. Officials reviewed

the play and upgraded the call from a flagrant 1 to a flagrant 2 foul. It also was Cousins' sixth personal foul.

"It's one of those things that you see coming but you can't move fast enough," Carter said.

Shawn Marion added 19 points and 10 rebounds to help the Mavericks snap a four-game losing streak. Dallas, which had lost 10 of 11, finished its short road trip 1-2.

Tyreke Evans scored 20 points and Isaiah Thomas had 18 points for the Kings, who dropped their third straight game. Sacramento outshot the Mavericks 49 to 42 percent but finished just 5 for 21 on 3-pointers and committed 20 turnovers. Dallas also outrebounded the Kings 52 to 41.

Even after blowing the big lead, Sacramento still had a shot to win.

Cousins, who has been suspended twice by the NBA and once by the Kings this season because of his actions, lost the ball driving in the lane and elbowed Carter once the ball squirted away with 41.9 seconds to play. Cousins could also face another suspension from the league before Saturday night's home game against the Miami Heat.

"I don't swear to God I didn't try to do that. I'm just tired of being in these situations," Cousins said. "I'm pretty sure my reputation will come into play with the decision, but hopefully they'll realize it wasn't intentional."

The Mavericks had chances to end the game

in regulation.

After Mayo made 1 of 2 free throws to put Dallas ahead 101-98, Thomas banked a 3-pointer off the glass and in the face of Mike James with 9.1 seconds remaining. The Kings twice knocked the ball out of bounds in the half court and forced Darren Collison to take a fadaway jumper that bounced off the rim to send the game to overtime.

Carter hit both free throws following the flagrant foul in the extra period and the Mavericks got the ball. Shawn Marion, who had 19 points and 10 rebounds, later made another pair to put Dallas ahead 115-110 to seal the victory.

"Once it got to overtime, we said, 'We're going to win this game,'"

See **MAVS**, Page 14

Texans rave about RB Arian Foster's skills

KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Houston's Arian Foster is one of the NFL's top running backs.

However, running is only one part of his game that makes him so good.

The Texans raved this week about his blocking and receiving skills, and perhaps most importantly, his knowledge of the game.

"There's nothing he can't do," offensive coordinator Rick Dennison said. "He catches the ball extremely well. He blocks very well. The little things, as far as seeing somebody, it's almost like a chess move. He knows a couple moves ahead when a guy is coming so he doesn't take a solid shot. One of the best things that you notice about runners is they don't get hit really hard, and Arian does that very well."

Houston has a pair of solid backup running backs, but they rarely go in because Foster is so valuable when he's on the field.

"He understands everything

we put him in," Dennison said. "That's why he's on the field all the time."

That fact is not lost on Foster, who aims to be indispensable.

"(I take) a lot of pride," he said of doing many things well. "I try to be the most complete back I can because your value is higher, not just monetarily, but as a football player, is higher to your coaching staff and team if you can do all things well."

Foster finished second in the AFC with 1,424 yards rushing in the regular season. He added a season-high 32 carries for 140 yards in Houston's wild-card win over the Bengals to become the first player in NFL history to run for 100 yards or more in each of his first three career playoff games.

He also added eight receptions for 34 yards on Saturday.

"Whether he's running or catching it, very rarely does the first person tackle him, and that creates big plays for your offense," quarterback Matt Schaub said. "When you can dump it down to your running back if

something's not there downfield and he can turn a 3-yard catch into a 12, 15-yard pass, that's a huge positive for us."

The Texans will need another big game from him on Sunday when they face New England in a divisional playoff game.

If he reaches 100 yards against the Patriots, he'll become just the fourth player in league history to reach the mark in four straight postseason games.

Not bad for a player who went undrafted out of Tennessee in 2009 and was picked up as a free agent by the Texans. Foster was on the practice squad for part of that year, and his first career start came in the last game of that season against the Patriots.

He did well, running 20 times for 119 yards and two touchdowns. Things didn't go nearly as well in his next shot against New England. He had just 46 yards rushing as Houston had to abandon the run game after getting down early in last month's 42-14 loss.

See **TEXANS**, Page 14

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Girl's Basketball

- Big Spring at Frenship, 9th, 3 p.m.; J.V., 4:30 p.m.; Varsity, 6 p.m.
- Plains at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.
- Dawson at Grady, 6:30 p.m.
- Coahoma at Stanton, J.V., 4 p.m.; Varsity, 6:30 p.m.
- Paint Rock at Garden City, J.V., 4 p.m.; Varsity, 6 p.m.

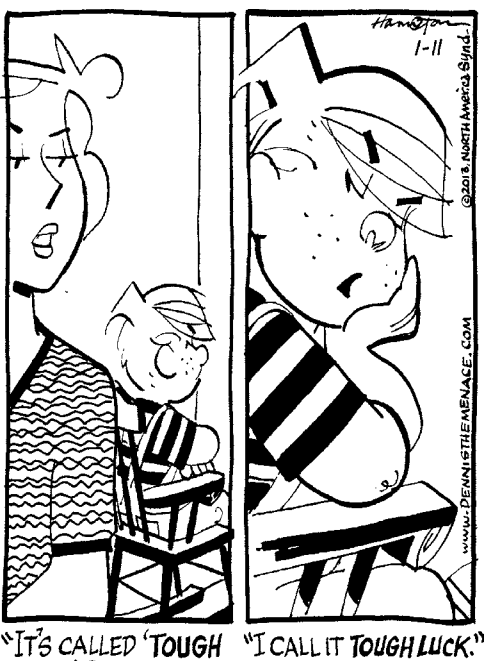
Boy's Basketball

- Big Spring at Abilene Wylie, 9th, 4:30 p.m.; J.V. 6 p.m.; Varsity, 7:30 p.m.
- Plains at Forsan, 8 p.m.
- Coahoma at Stanton, J.V., 5:15 p.m., Varsity, 8 p.m.
- Paint Rock at Garden City, J.V., 5 p.m.; Varsity, 8 p.m.

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

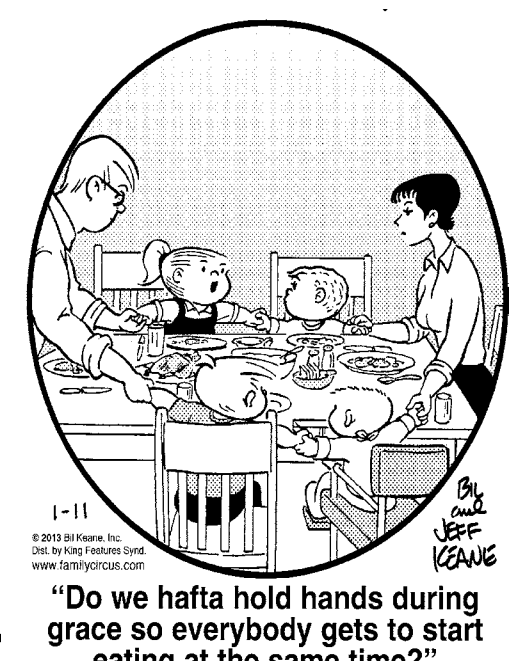
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Casa Notic.	Two Men CBS	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	King Seinfeld	The Dr. Denis	Charlie Rose	King	Flying Wild Alaska		Gangland	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Good Jessie	SportsNation	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Corona de Lágrimas	Big Bang Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Israel Upd	PBS News-Hour	Rules Rules	Flying Wild Alaska		Gangland	The Mentalist		ANT Farm Jessie	NFL Kickoff	NBA
7:PM	Last Man Malibu	Por Ella Soy Eva	Kitchen Nightmares	Undercover Boss	Rosa Diamante (SS)	1600 Payne	Door-Wis-dom Payne	Wash Need	Nikita	Deadliest Catch	Movie: The Fugitive, Sela Ward	Movie: The Shawshank Redemption, Bob Gunton	Movie: The Shawshank Redemption, Bob Gunton	Movie: Inglourious Basterds, Christoph Waltz (DVS)	Movie: Meet the Browns, David Mann	One Mic One Mic One Mic	Gravity	NBA Basketball: Chicago Bulls at New York Knicks.
8:PM	Shark Tank	Amores Verdaderos	Fringe	CSI: NY	La Patrona (SS)	Dateline NBC	Worse Worse	Best of Light of the Southwest	Barnes Col-lect	Arrow					Movie: Meet the Browns, David Mann	ANT Farm Jessie	Boxing	
9:PM	(01) 20/20	Amor Bravio (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	Blue Bloods	Escobar Rostro de	Movie: Norbit, Cuba Gooding Jr.	Movie: Norbit, Cuba Gooding Jr.	Upd	Chef	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Flying Wild Alaska					ANT Farm Jessie	To Be An-nounced	NBA Basket-ball: Thunder at Lakers
10:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias Titulares	News Jay Leno	News Jay Leno	Alewine	Charlie Rose	Til Death Til Death	Deadliest Catch	Movie: True Lies, Tom Arnold	Movie: Rounders, John Turturro	Movie: Edge of Darkness, Danny Huston		ANT Farm Austin	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Nightline	Mar de Amor (SS)	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	Game Jimmy Fallon	Movie: Observe and Report	Justice	World	70s			Repo	Repo	Movie: Getting Played, Vivica A. Fox	Wendy Williams	NBA	SportsCenter
12:AM	Extra Paid	La Jaula Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Pagado	(:05) Today	(:45) Movie: The Fast Five	Best of Light of the Southwest	Mani (Off Air)	Browns Flying Wild Alaska			Repo	Repo	Movie: Face/Off, Joan Allen	Good Jessie	NFL Live	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Pagado			Best of Light of the Southwest	Cops	Flying Wild Alaska		Movie: The Watcher, Keanu	Repo	Repo		ANT Farm Austin	NBA	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



"IT'S CALLED 'TOUGH LOVE,' DENNIS." "I CALL IT TOUGH LUCK."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Do we hafta hold hands during grace so everybody gets to start eating at the same time?"

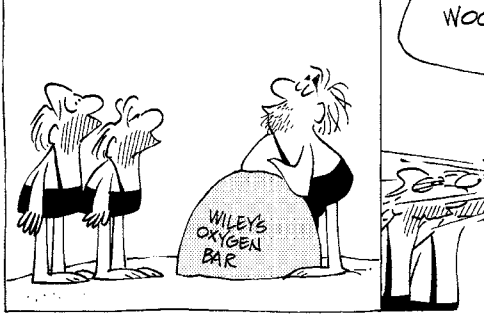
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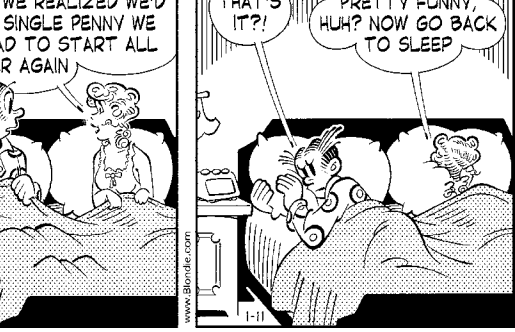
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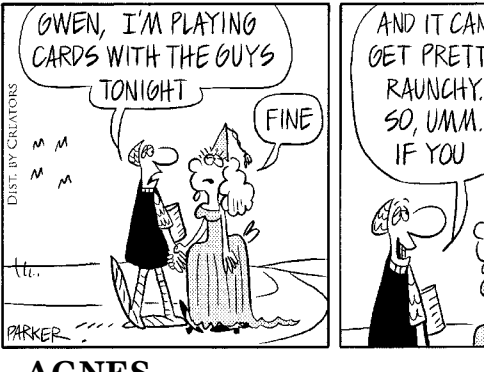
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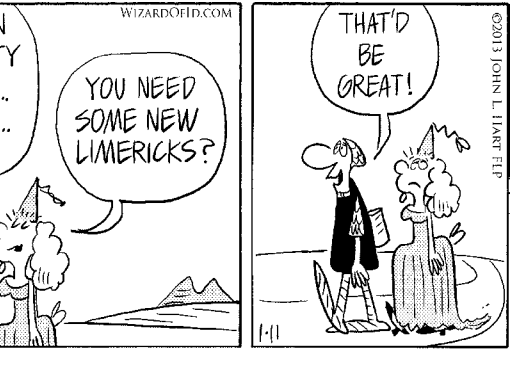
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WIZARD OF ID



WIZARD OF ID



This Date In History

Today is Friday, Jan. 11, the 11th day of 2013. There are 354 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 11, 1913, the first enclosed sedan-type automobile, a Hudson, went on display at the 13th National Automobile Show in New York.

On this date:

In 1805, the Michigan Territory was created by an act of Congress.

In 1861, Alabama became the fourth state to withdraw from the Union.

In 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed the Grand Canyon National Monument (it became a national park in 1919).

In 1927, the creation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was proposed during a dinner of Hollywood luminaries at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

In 1935, aviator Amelia Earhart began an 18-hour trip

from Honolulu to Oakland, Calif., that made her the first woman to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean.

In 1942, Japan declared war against the Netherlands, the same day that Imperial Japanese forces invaded the Dutch East Indies.

In 1943, the United States and Britain signed treaties relinquishing extraterritorial rights in China.

In 1963, the Beatles' single "Please Please Me" (B side "Ask Me Why") was released in Britain by Parlophone.

In 1964, U.S. Surgeon General Luther Terry issued the first government report that said smoking may be hazardous to one's health.

In 1972, East Pakistan changed its name to Bangladesh.

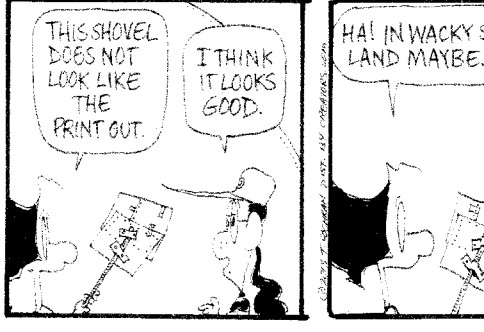
In 1977, France set off an international uproar by releasing Abu Daoud, a PLO official behind the massacre of Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

In 1995, 52 people were killed when a Colombian airliner crashed as it was preparing to land near the Caribbean resort of Cartagena — however, a 9-year-old girl, Erika Delgado, survived.

Today's Birthdays: Producer Grant Tinker is 88. Actor Rod Taylor is 83. Composer Mary Rodgers is 82. The former prime minister of Canada, Jean Chretien (zhahn kray-tee-EHN), is 79. Actor Mitchell Ryan is 79. Actor Felix Silla is 76. Movie director Joel Zwick is 71. Country singer Naomi Judd is 67. World Golf Hall of Famer Ben Crenshaw is 61. Singer Robert Earl Keen is 57. Actress Phyllis Logan (TV: "Downton Abbey") is 57. Musician Vicki Peterson (The Bangles) is 55. Actress Kim Coles is 51. Actor Jason Connery is 50. Contemporary Christian musician Jim Bryson (MercyMe) is 45.

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AGNES



AGNES



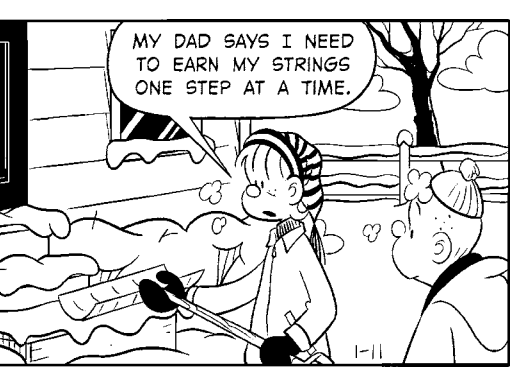
Newsday Crossword

SELF-DESCRIPTIVE by Lonnie Burton Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

HI AND LOIS



HI AND LOIS

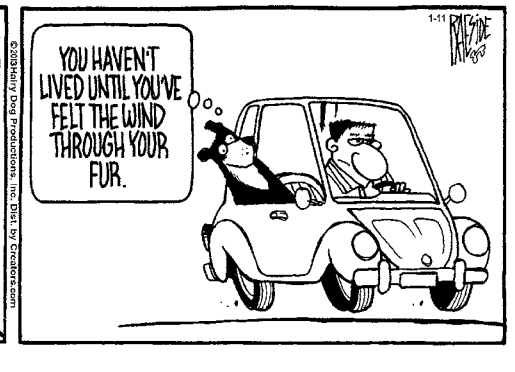


- ACROSS**
- 1 Censure
 - 6 Yankee with 3300+ hits
 - 11 Breach
 - 14 Kick back
 - 15 Coffeehouse feature
 - 16 Hoop group
 - 17 Bridge
 - 19 Cool and refreshing
 - 20 Chops away at
 - 21 Video gear
 - 23 Much of '20s traffic
 - 26 Make tight
 - 30 Large bills
 - 31 Fancy twist
 - 32 Made two-by-fours
 - 33 Coriolanus costumes
 - 34 Drops in the morning
 - 35 BP checkers
 - 36 Fussy females
 - 37 Author Patchett
 - 38 Foldable furniture
 - 39 Pedal pusher
 - 40 Mazda model
 - 42 Approaches
 - 44 Canadian prime minister
 - 45 Whodunit heroes
 - 46 Snail, for one
 - 47 Symbol of industry
 - 48 Four Seasons leader
 - 49 "Let's play with my tug toy"
 - 51 Beat a retreat
 - 57 Corrode
 - 58 Way to go
 - 59 Alphabet
- DOWN**
- 1 Shaker's sound
 - 2 Golf pro
 - 3 Sort of like
 - 4 Bamboo cutters
 - 5 Sighed, perhaps
 - 6 Poker pair
 - 7 Goes astray
 - 8 Excessively
 - 9 111 response grp.
 - 10 Miscreants
 - 11 Headed for stardom
 - 12 Shark Tank broadcaster
 - 13 Be worthwhile
 - 18 Successful legislation
 - 22 Poetic pugilist
 - 23 Toastmasters
 - 24 Hot at the moment
 - 25 Unpretentious
 - 26 Beet product
 - 27 Timeline segments
 - 28 Mexican novelist
 - 29 Hardly any
 - 31 Bewitching bunch
 - 33 Polynesian carvings
 - 36 Cable alternative
 - 37 Pressurized vehicle
 - 38 Includes in an emailing
 - 39 Improves upon
 - 40 Teen window-shopper
 - 41 Indy Jones quest
 - 43 One rising at dawn
 - 44 Aperture
 - 46 Master hand
 - 48 Nix
 - 49 Stony sparkler
 - 50 Grammy category
 - 52 "Or ___ thought"
 - 53 Daiquiri, in part
 - 54 Sundry figure
 - 55 Symbols for hugs
 - 56 ___ Goose (Donald Duck cousin)

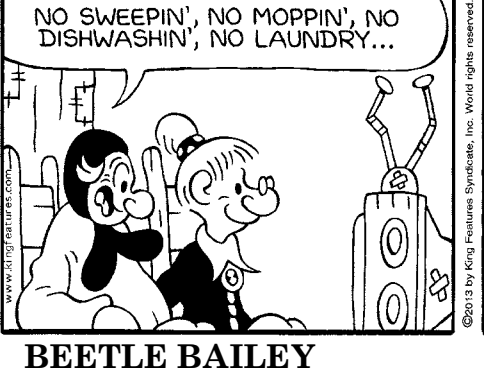
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THE OTHER COAST



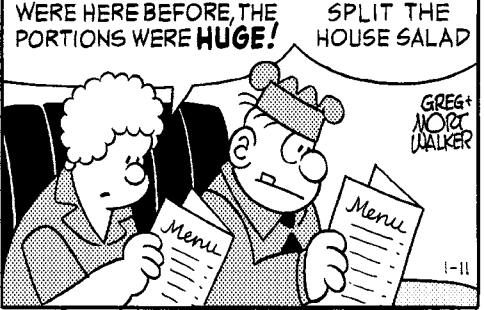
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SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



BETLE BAILEY



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Garage Sales

CARPOT SALE: 2310 Roemer, Friday 8-5 and Saturday 8-12. (2) Lawn mowers, rocking chair & glider, bedding, stuffed toys, Christmas stuff, microwave stand, table and chairs.

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Assistant Manager/Collector Security Finance is now taking applications. We offer benefits, competitive pay, and advancement opportunities. Apply in person at 501 E. 3rd.

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* Crew Tech
Must have valid Texas Drivers License, will train, Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., Pick up application. No phone calls please.

CLERICAL POSITION available, must be proficient in Microsoft Applications and a background in the construction industry is preferred. Please bring resume to 1003 East FM 700 or email to erica.cobb@mastec.com

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

EARTHCO CONSTRUCTION has position available for Backhoe Operator with Class A or B CDL. Competitive wages plus monthly bonus and benefits. If interested please apply in person at 101 Wooten Rd.

EXPERIENCED HAIR Dresser & Nail Tech. needed full-time with clientele. Call Christy's Hair Studio 432-714-4577 ask for manager to set up interview.

EXPERIENCED WAIT-STAFF needed for day and evening shift. Apply in person at Big Spring Country Club. No phone calls please.

Full Time Bookkeeper/Teller

Western Bank is seeking a Full Time Bookkeeper/Teller for the Coahoma Operations Center. Experience is preferred but not required. Will be responsible for overseeing all bookkeeping functions for the Western Bank Branches. Candidate must be detail oriented, familiar with banking platforms, ten key, word, and excel. Western Bank offers Comprehensive Benefits and compensation is DOE.
Western Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Please email resume to HR@thebank.net.
No phone calls please.

FULL-TIME BREAKFAST Hostess needed. Apply directly at Super 8, 2900 E. I-20. No phone calls please.

FULL-TIME Contract Maintenance positions available with TLC Property Management LLC.. Please call (432)264-6337 immediately to schedule today. Applicants must be skilled in all areas of Maintenance.

HILLCREST CDC has a Position Available, Mon.-Fri. If you are energetic and love kids please come apply. Must have high school diploma or GED. Hillcrest CDC, 2000 West FM 700.

NOW HIRING: CDL Class A drivers. Good pay w/benefits. Apply at Ft. Worth Pipe Services at 3805 Bethel Dr. or call (432)714-4526 for more information.

Help Wanted

TOP JOBS

HIRING WASTEWATER Treatment Plant Operators in Pecos area.

Apply by calling Lee Conatser at 713-805-6670 or send resume to Quail Run Services P.O. Box 1662 Wimberley, Texas 78676 or leeconatser@lmenvironmental.com

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Join our professional cleaning team! Advancement opportunities. We provide paid training, all necessary supplies and uniform. Must have own transportation & speak English. All cleaners are drug tested & background checked. Bonded and insured. Call **J. Williams Management at 432-699-2090**

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LAQUINTA INN & SUITES-- Hiring Full-time Housekeeping. Must be able to work week-ends. Apply at 1102 West I-20. No phone calls please.

MAINT TECH needed for Property in Big Spring. Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. Ability to work independently with minimal supervision. 40 hours/wk. Hourly, Benefits, & Vacation. Fax resume 432-264-1761

TOP JOBS

MAINTENANCE person needed. Call 432-517-0311.

MIDWEST FINANCE CORP now hiring Part-time/Temporary CSR. Apply in person, 600 S. Gregg. No Phone Calls!

NEED part-time caregivers and substitute teachers for a busy Christian pre-school. Also need part-time kitchen help. Approx. 15 hours per week. Must be over the age of 21 and have a high school diploma. Experience preferred, but not a requirement. Apply in person at New Hope Christian School 118 Cedar Rd.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

PART-TIME JANITORIAL Work. Dependable. Call (432)213-1186, (432)267-6027.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

New Moon Reality Check

Reality is subjective. That's why reality television shows can seem fake while the colorful world of a fantasy film such as the upcoming Disney release "Oz: The Great and Powerful" can be experienced by some as more real than their own breakfast bowl. The Capricorn new moon of realism asks: What's most real to you?

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't be in two places at once. Also, if you leave all your doors open, you'll live in a very insecure place where unwanted elements can drift in and out. You have to close some doors to fully go through others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Hard work is usually uncomfortable, and sometimes it hurts. You'll feel better when it's done. Later, you'll be proud of the leaps of experience and the maturity you gained by knuckling down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be mingling, trying to figure out who will be a help to you in the weeks to come. Think of social environments as labs to learn more about yourself. Be aware of how you feel around certain people.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Whether you're making a commercial purchase or an energetic investment in another person, feelings of attraction can make you overlook red flags. Being very excited isn't a good reason to rush forward. Be more judicious.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If you can give your understanding, encouragement and acceptance to another person, you can certainly give it to yourself. It doesn't matter which comes first, but definitely do both.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Boundaries, in their

many forms, serve a real purpose these days. The fences you build will establish territorial lines and also assign responsibility. They also offer protection and a greater sense of control.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Under these practical skies, it's easy to get caught up in work, and you're far less likely to get caught up in a daydream. So give yourself credit for any fantasizing you can manage; it will improve your mood.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). As it is with a chili pepper, it's the size and not the color that indicates its spiciness. The smaller the pepper the hotter it is. Similarly, today a lot of excitement will spring from a small package.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Instead of searching far and wide for your next adventure, search close and narrow. The mystery you can solve inside yourself will make all things possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You will get many chances to make a first move, but this new moon in your sign is one of the most powerful start dates of the year for you. Seize the opportunity. Claim your destiny.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Since most people don't listen, and you do, you'll find it easy to make a favorable impression. You'll wow someone with your insightful remarks — made possible by focused attention and careful listening.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Whatever you've been thinking about, go ahead and do it! You don't have to have all of the information and resources you need to get started. A singular intention is enough.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 11). Your emotional intelligence goes up a few points in the next six weeks as you find new ways of relating and bonding with your loved ones. What you observe in February helps you build an acute social awareness that you'll later utilize in an important breakthrough. New professional goals will be met in August. Leo and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 4, 44, 1 and 15.

WEEKEND LOVE

FORECAST: **ARIES:** You're hot when you laugh. Maybe it's because it shows confidence and a positive attitude.

TAURUS: It's not too much to ask that the other person does the dishes once in a while.

GEMINI: You'll bond with another over your mutual devotion to a child, a pet, an ideal or a pursuit. **CANCER:** While you see the comfortable side of your friend, another sees the glamour. You could have some competition. **LEO:** You like it when a partner makes you feel special. It doesn't take money to do this, but money doesn't hurt, either.

VIRGO: Singles: Finding the one for you takes time. Have fun while you're waiting. **LIBRA:** Don't be too quick to find a compromise. Let the other person work at this, too.

SCORPIO: Opposites won't attract. You'll be fascinated by the one who is remarkably similar to you. **SAGITTARIUS:** Accept that there's a reason it didn't work with an ex, and keep looking ahead.

CAPRICORN: The one who tells you intimate details may be talking out of line — but still, it's interesting. **AQUARIUS:** Love will wrap you in arms of security. **PISCES:** You'll reevaluate your personal "deal breakers." Maybe you're more tolerant than you once thought.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND:

Can Capricorns have a stellar romance with one of their own? It's a power match for sure, and Capricorn/Capricorn couples will rule the social and professional scenes they inhabit. They must be careful to schedule time for each other, or these two will get so involved in trying to run the world that their love will get lost in the shuffle. The Capricorn new moon breathes fresh attraction into these relationships.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2013 CREATORS.COM



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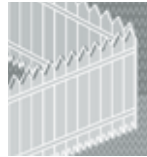
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LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of this Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Request for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing within fifteen days of publication to the Environmental Services Section Oil and Gas Division Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792). #7624 January 11, 2013

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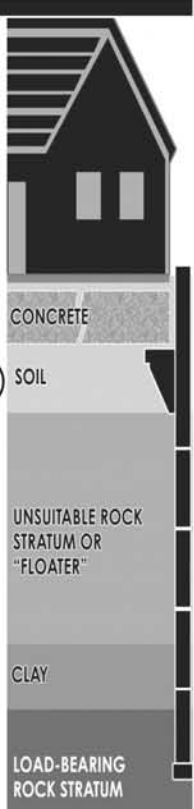
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MLB to expand blood testing for HGH

BOB BAUM

AP Sports Writer

PARADISE VALLEY, Ariz. — Major League Baseball will test for human growth hormone throughout the regular season and increase efforts to detect abnormal levels of testosterone, a decision the NFL used to pressure its players.

Baseball players were subject to blood testing for HGH during spring training last year, and Thursday's agreement between management and the Major League Baseball Players Association expands that throughout the season. Those are in addition to urine tests for other performance-enhancing drugs.

Under the changes to baseball's drug agreement, the World Anti-Doping Agency laboratory in Laval, Quebec, will keep records of each player, including his baseline ratio of testosterone to epitestosterone, and will conduct Carbon Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (IRMS) tests of any urine specimens that "vary materially."

"This is a proud and a great day for baseball," commissioner Bud Selig said following two days of owners' meetings. "We'll continue to be a

leader in this field and do what we have to do." The announcement came one day after steroid-tainted stars Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens and Sammy Sosa failed to gain election to the Hall of Fame in their first year of eligibility.

Commenting on the timing, Selig noted the drug program changes had long been in the works "but it wasn't too bad, was it?"

Selig reflected on how far baseball had come on performance enhancing drug issues.

"This is remarkable when you think of where we were 10, 12, 15 years ago and where we are today," he said. "Nobody could have dreamed it."

Baseball began random drug testing in 2003, testing with penalties the following year and suspensions for first offenders in 2005. Initial penalties were lengthened from 10 days to 50 games in 2006, when illegal amphetamines were banned. The number of tests has gradually increased over the past decade.

Selig called the latest change a "yet another indication how far this sport has come."

Rob Manfred, baseball's executive vice president for econom-

ics and league affairs, said each player will be tested at least once.

"Players want a program that is tough, scientifically accurate, backed by the latest proven scientific methods, and fair," union head Michael Weiner said in a statement. "I believe these changes firmly support the players' desires while protecting their legal rights."

Selig praised the cooperation of the players association, once a staunch opponent of drug testing, in agreeing to the expansion.

"Michael Weiner and the union deserve credit," Selig said. "Way back when they were having a lot of problems I didn't give them credit, but they do."

Christiane Ayotte, director of the Canadian laboratory, said that the addition of random blood testing and a "longitudinal profiling program makes baseball's program second to none in detecting and deterring the use of synthetic HGH and testosterone."

She said the program compares favorably with any program conducted by WADA.

HGH testing remains a contentious issue in the National Football

League. At a hearing last month, U.S. Rep. Elijah Cummings, the ranking Democrat on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, accused the NFL players' union of trying to back out of HGH testing.

"Other professional sports leagues, including the National Football League, must also implement their own robust testing regimes," Cummings and committee chairman Darrel Issa said in a statement Thursday. "Major League Baseball's announcement increases the pressure on the NFL and its players to deliver on pledges to conduct HGH testing made in their collective bargaining agreement that was signed two years ago."

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Thursday "we hope the MLB players' union will inspire the NFLPA to stop its stalling tactics and fulfill its commitment to begin testing for HGH. If the NFLPA stands for player health and safety, it should follow the lead of the MLB players' union and end the delay."

NFLPA spokesman George Atallah says the union is not backing out of anything.

Swiss lab chief disputes USADA claim on Armstrong

GRAHAM DUNBAR

AP Sports Writer

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — The director of Switzerland's anti-doping lab has disputed claims by U.S. Anti-Doping Agency CEO Travis Tygart that he helped Lance Armstrong avoid being caught for doping.

Lab director Martial Saugy called a news conference Friday to challenge accusations that he provided Armstrong with information on how to avoid detection for use of EPO.

Tygart told the television program "60 Minutes Sports" on

Wednesday that Saugy acknowledged to him that he gave Armstrong and team manager Johan Bruyneel, "the keys to beating EPO tests" before the 2002 Tour de France.

Saugy says he and Tygart have "different memories" of their discussion in 2010 soon after U.S. federal investigators opened a probe into Armstrong.

Saugy repeated his claim that his 2002 meeting with Armstrong was ordered by international cycling federation UCI. He denies it was wrong to meet with the rider.

TEXANS

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Foster signed a five-year, \$43.5 million contract before this season, and says that he rarely thinks about the inauspicious start to his NFL career anymore.

"Anytime you can achieve an elite level performance in any sport ... I think it's special," Foster said. "Me being undrafted I don't think had anything to do with it. It didn't change my opinion of myself."

The draft snub once motivated him, but it doesn't anymore.

"At one point it was. That training camp and that season it was," he said. "But after that nobody cares that you

went undrafted anymore."

Coach Gary Kubiak saw many good qualities in Foster before the Texans picked him up, but he's been really impressed with the ways in which he's grown since.

"The thing that helps players really take their game to the next level is when they don't have to work so darn hard on game plans because they know things," Kubiak said. "You can walk in with 40 new runs and 100 new passes and it will take Arian about an hour to sit there and read and study and he can go right out there and it's no problem. His talents take over all the time because he is such a smart player."

HAWKS

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The HC men (14-2, 1-1) had some trouble of their own last week against the Chaparrals, but played a more patient game against Clarendon College on Thursday.

Though the Hawks fell behind early, they never let it get out of hand. A strong second half propelled HC to its first conference win as they beat the Bulldogs 82-73.

"It was an ugly win," Head Men's Coach Mark Adams said. "But we we played better the second half and showed a little more patience. Clarendon is very unorthodox team and

they are hard to prepare for. They made us play way too fast in the first half. I am pleased we found a way to win.

Adams said scoring from the outside may be the key to success against South Plains on Saturday.

"It's difficult for anyone to match up with South Plains," Adams added. "They have tremendous size — their inside players are all 6'9"-6'10". We will have to spread the floor and rely on our quickness."

Tipoff in Levelland is slated for 3 p.m.

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

TEBOW

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created buzz that he would be a huge hit with the Jaguars. He would sell tickets and merchandise, many said, and bring the small-market franchise national recognition and Super Bowl rings.

Despite all the hype, the Jaguars passed on drafting Tebow in 2010 because former general manager Gene Smith didn't view him as a franchise quarterback.

But after Khan took over last year and the Denver Broncos started quietly shopping Tebow, Khan told Smith to look into ac-

quiring the left-hander.

The Jaguars increased their offer several times. By the end of negotiations, Jacksonville had offered a fourth-round pick and agreed to pay \$3 million of the \$5 million in advance salary the Broncos had already paid Tebow. The money the Jaguars offered was better than the little more than \$2.5 million the Jets agreed to pay, and the draft pick was nine spots higher than New York's fourth-round selection.

But it never really got down to the details.

The Broncos told the Jaguars they were allowing Tebow to choose between the teams, and the Jaguars believe Tebow picked the Jets because he felt

he would have a better chance to compete for the quarterback job with Mark Sanchez than Blaine Gabbert and Chad Henne.

Still, the Jets failed to find a way to effectively use Tebow this season.

Apparently, the Jaguars don't want to try now, either.

"We plan to address the quarterback situation, obviously," Caldwell said. "Blaine is the second-youngest quarterback in the NFL, but we're going to have open competition. Whether it's through draft or through free agency, we'll bring in some more people to compete at the quarterback position. We're going to let the best player win that position."

MAVS

Continued from page 9

Marion said. "It's a baby step in the right direction. We just got to keep crawling."

The game marked the first time the Kings played since the latest — and perhaps most serious — round of relocation talks began a day earlier, when word spread that Seattle investor Chris Hansen has contacted the Maloof family about buying the

Kings. No deal has been reached yet.

Newspaper and television reporters from Seattle showed up along with an increased local media presence. Fans contemplated whether they should keep supporting a team they love. Ushers and parking attendants who depend on the team for work approached reporters asking if they knew what might happen.

Even players and coaches admitted all the attention made it difficult to focus on the

game.

"It's definitely going to be a distraction," Kings coach Keith Smart said before the game.

"But we're pros. We've got to figure out a way how to separate the two and then get ready to play."

The crowd remained its usual scattered, and sometimes spirited, self this season.

So did both struggling teams.

Evans ignited Sacramento's stagnant start when he scored the final seven points of a 13-0 spurt, capped with a steal and fast-break layup over Collison for a three-point play that gave the Kings a 42-29 lead late in the second quarter.

Francisco Garcia highlighted another Sacramento surge in the third quarter. He hit two jumpers and a 3-pointer to put the Kings ahead 71-54 to spark the crowd to life.

The Mavericks found their rhythm late.

James stole Cousins'

pass for an uncontested layup, Marion added another steal and threw the ball ahead to Mayo for a layup and Carter converted a running layup to cap a 14-3 run that put the Mavericks up 96-93 with less than 2 minutes remaining in the fourth.

Then Cousins missed a difficult shot in the lane, Marion grabbed the rebound and was fouled. After Marion made both free throws to put Dallas ahead by five, John Salmons hit a 3-pointer.

The Kings forced Dirk Nowitzki to miss a contested jumper. Smart decided not to call timeout, and Carter drew a charge on Salmons. Mayo made 1 of 2 free throws to give the Mavericks a 101-98 lead before Thomas hit the tying 3-pointer to force overtime.

"We've been scratching and clawing of late," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said, "so it's good to have something to show for it."

MANUEL R. CARRASCO, MD

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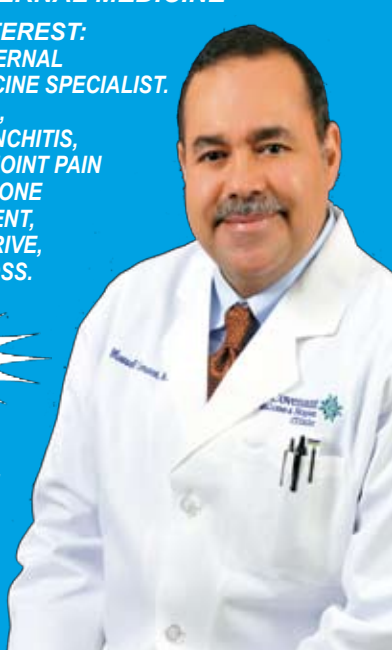
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