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SPRING

TUESDAY

February 5, 2013



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McLellan files for mayor post

By THOMAS JENKINS

VOLUME 108, NUMBER 97

Vicki Slaton

The first political hat has been tossed in the city of Big Spring, as Leonards Pharmacy Inc. owner and former economic development board member Larry McLellan

filed last week to run for the mayoral seat on the city council. McLellan will be vying for the

seat currently held by Mayor Tommy Duncan, who announced last week he would not be seeking reelection. According to McLellan, his deci-

McLellan sion to run for the seat — which will be up for grabs in the May 11 contest — was influenced largely by his time working on the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation board of directors, where he served in several positions, including presi-

"I had quite a few people approach me about

See MAYOR, Page 3



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan A group of local children try their hand at a game of basketball at the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club recently.

Suspect booked on indecency charge

Local man accused of exposing self to 9-year-old girl at city park

By STEVE REAGAN

A local man was arrested on indecency with a child charges stemming from an alleged incident in Comanche Trail

Aaron Lustfeldt, 27, of Big Spring, was awaiting arraignment this morning after being arrested on the indeformation Officer Sgt. Tony

"On Friday at around 5:30 p.m., police received a complaint that a white male subject in his 20s had exposed his genitals to a 9-year-old girl while she was at a playground in Comanche Trail Park,"

suspect vehicle.

Over the course of the weekend, police and sheriff's deputies received reports of the suspect vehicle being spotted at several locations in the area, including Big Spring State Park and the Wal-Mart Supercenter, Everett said.

strangely and may have been taking photographs of women as they went about their business," he said.

The investigation eventually led officers Lustfeldt, Everett said.

"It was determined that he is a registered sex offender

cency charge, said Big Spring Everett said. "Witnesses de-Police Department Public In-scribed a maroon van as the the suspect was behaving uty Blake Jones was doing a monthly compliance check on the suspect and found the maroon mini van at his residence," Everett noted. "At this point in the investigation, a warrant for his arrest was requested and obtained."

He was booked into the county detention center.

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Judge: School finance plan unconstitutional

By WILL WEISSERT

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas The system Texas uses to fund public schools violates the state's constitution by not providing enough money to school districts and failing to distribute it fairly, a judge ruled Monday in a landmark decision that could force the Legislature to overhaul the way it pays for education.

Moments after closing arguments in his packed courtroom, state District Judge John Dietz ruled the funding mechanism does not meet the Texas Constitution's requirements for a fair and efficient system that provides a "general diffusion of knowledge." He declared that funding was inadequate and that there were wide

(The judge) declared that funding was inadequate and that there were wide discrepancies in state support received by school districts in wealthy parts of Texas vs. those in poorer areas.

discrepancies in state support received by school districts in wealthy parts of Texas vs. those in poorer

areas. He also said the system is tantamount to an income tax, which is forbidden by the state constitution. It was the second time in less than a decade the state has been ordered to remake its school finance system.

Dietz said he would issue a

written ruling elaborating on

his announcement in about

a month. The state can then appeal the case directly to the Supreme Court, which could order the Legislature to remake the system. But a ruling from the high

court is not likely to come until the end of the legislative session in May, meaning Gov. Rick Perry would need to call a special session in 2014. In the interval, the state's school finance system remains unchanged.

This was the sixth case of

its kind since 1984. During a round of litigation eight years ago, Dietz issued a similar ruling, but the all-Republican Supreme Court reversed his findings on funding — while still declaring the system unconstitutional since it violated state guarantees

against an income tax. This time around, more than 600 school districts across Texas responsible for educating three-quarters of the state's 5 millionplus public school students sued. At issue were \$5.4 billion in cuts to schools and education grant programs Legislature imposed in 2011 — but the districts said simply restoring that funding won't be enough to See SCHOOL, Page 3



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Obituaries

Donna Faye Erwin Oliver



Donna Faye Erwin Oliver, 78, of Colorado City, formerly of Big Spring, passed away on Feb. 3, 2013. A graveside service will be held Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, at the Colorado City Cemetery.

Donna was born Oct. 18, 1934, in Cuthbert, Texas to Cecil and Edna Erwin, who preceded her in

She is survived by her son, Wylie Oliver and wife Brenda of

Cuthbert, Texas; two daughters, Sonia Welch and husband Randy of Big Spring, Texas, and Lana Gray and husband Ron of Panama City, Fla.; sis-

ters, Emma Hopper of Colorado City, and Neta Terry and husband Bobby of Morton, Texas; and grandchildren, Brandy Brazil, Audra Herrington, Cody Welch, Cindy Davis, Christie Welch, Quinton Burton, Andy Burton, Kasha Merrifield, Amanda, Gray, Amy Garrard and Derrick Gray. Donna is also survived by 21 great-grandchildren, one greatgreat-grandchild, and a host of nieces, nephews and

A visitation will be held Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013, from 6-8 p.m. at Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Services are under the care and direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home in Colorado City.

Online condolences to the family can be made at www.kikerseale.com

Paid obituary

Tracy Moore
Tracy Moore, 58, of Midland, formerly of Vealmoor, died Monday, Feb. 4, 2013, in Midland. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013, at the Vealmoor Cemetery with the Rev. Walter McCall officiating.

She was born Dec. 16, 1954, in Big Spring. Tracy grew up in Vealmoor. She loved to crochet, do word search puzzles and her favorite saying was "Be Nice".

Survivors include cousins, Mike and Denise Bailey and Retta and Don Caldwell all of Big Spring.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Cordia Moore.

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

William Thomas McNealey

William Thomas McNealey, 96, passed away Jan. 27, 2013 at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home in Big Spring, Texas.

He is survived by his family; sons, Larry McNealey of Riverside, Calif.; Thomas (Tommy) McNealy of Kingsville, Texas and Robert (Bob) McNealey of Reno, Nev.; a daughter, Mardelle L. Wise of Midland and formerly of Big Spring; and a brother,

David McNealey of Davenport, Iowa; three grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

Funeral mass was held at St. Stephen's Catholic Church with Monsignor James Bridges officiating. Interment was held in Clinton, Iowa.

Funeral mass is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to: pipkin@ntsonline.net.



Kenneth J. Campbell

Kenneth J. Campbell, 85, of Lubbock, passed away in Big Spring, Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Tuesday Feb. 5, 2013, at graveside in the Aspermont cemetery, officiated by Pastor Tom Long under the care and direction of McCoy Funeral Home of Asper-

Kenneth was born in Henderson County Texas July 23, 1927. He served his country in the Navy and was a Christian. Kenneth worked for Conoco as a production foreman before he retired.

Survivors include his wife, Katie Campbell, of Lubbock; daughters, Laraine Fraser and husband Donnie of Aspermont and Roxy Belew and husband Donnie of Big Spring; son, Kenneth Campbell Jr. and wife Debbie of Lubbock; brother, Donnie Campbell of Athens; sister, Jean Bradford of Baytown, Texas; seven grandchildren and 12 greatgrandchildren.

Take Note

- My Redeemer Church, 1008 Birdwell, will hold its "Gigantic Sweetheart Sale" from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday Gifts for men, women and children, most from \$1-\$5, will be available.
- Big Spring State Hospital patients are in need of warm clothing. Clean items should be taken to the Community Relations Office near the south bers can donate new or used heaters. Monetary doentrance 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 appliance. 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 1 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.
- Home Hospice is seeking volunteers. Volunteers are needed for in office duties as well as sitters, deliveries and crafts. To find out more information or to volunteer contact Sherry Hodnett at Home Hospice by calling 264-7599.
- Hangar 25 Air Museum needs your help. We are in need of volunteers to fill a variety of positions such as tour guides, front desk, clerical, events,

- and many others. Set your hours and days of the week you are available. Meet new people and enjoy a rewarding experience. For more information, contact Emma Bogard at 432-267-2963.
- The Salvation Army is holding its annual heater drive and is in need of heaters. Community memnations are also welcomed. Donations can be made at the main office, located at 811 W. Fifth St., Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop foreclosure and are in need of foreclosure help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. The Homeowner's HOPE hotline is a counseling service provided by HPF to work with you to find a solution to your problem. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Free free foreclosure help, call the hotline.
- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.
- Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

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Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 2/6 2/7 77/47 A few clouds from time

Sunrise:

2/8

Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper

Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.

Sunrise:

Brownsville

Sunset:

to time. High 72F.

Sunrise

Winds light and vari-

Sunset: Sunset: We Celebrate Hometown Stories for and about hometowns just like your

Texas At A Glance

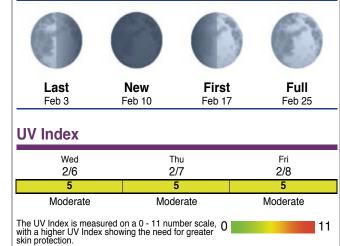
Big Spring 68/42 **Austin Houston** 76/52 San Antonio 78/56

Area Cities	;				8	3/6	5
City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	70	48	mst sunny	Kingsville	85	62	pt suni
Amarillo	65	34	sunny	Livingston	75	51	pt suni
Austin	76	52	cloudy	Longview	69	50	pt suni
Beaumont	74	54	cloudy	Lubbock	69	37	sunny
Brownsville	83	65	pt sunny	Lufkin	75	53	pt sun
Brownwood	73	50	pt sunny	Midland	73	47	mst su
Corpus Christi	80	62	cloudy	Raymondville	84	64	pt suni
Corsicana	67	51	pt sunny	Rosenberg	77	55	cloudy
Dallas	67	52	mst sunny	San Antonio	78	56	cloudy
Del Rio	78	56	pt sunny	San Marcos	77	52	cloudy
El Paso	68	42	sunny	Sulphur Springs	66	49	mst su
Fort Stockton	74	49	pt sunny	Sweetwater	70	47	mst su
Gainesville	65	43	mst sunny	Tyler	69	52	pt suni
Greenville	65	46	mst sunny	Weatherford	66	48	mst su
Houston	76	56	cloudy	Wichita Falls	67	39	sunny

National Cities

		_					
City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	60	41	pt sunny	Minneapolis	27	10	sn sho
Boston	30	24	sn shower	New York	33	30	sn sho
Chicago	34	17	snow	Phoenix	72	48	sunny
Dallas	67	52	mst sunny	San Francisco	57	44	cloudy
Denver	58	33	mst sunny	Seattle	47	42	rain
Houston	76	56	cloudy	St. Louis	54	30	mst su
Los Angeles	63	48	pt sunny	Washington, DC	43	32	cloudy
Miami	79	61	pt sunny	•			

Moon Phases



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News in brief

Ala. town relieved: Child rescued from underground bunker, captor killed after long standoff

MIDLAND CITY, Ala. (AP) — For six anguished days, people in this small Alabama town asked just one question about the 5-year-old boy being held hostage in an underground bunker by a menacing, unpredictable neighbor: "Is he free yet?" After FBI agents determined that talks with an

increasingly agitated Jimmy Lee Dykes were breaking down, they stormed the closet-sized shelter and freed the kindergartner. The 65-yearold hostage-taker was killed by law enforcement officials, an official told the AP. Authorities say the boy, who appeared to be facing

imminent danger when they went in, is doing well in the aftermath of his ordeal. But they have yet to answer questions as to how they monitored Dykes and exactly what prompted the rescue Monday And almost a week after Dykes was accused

of fatally shooting a school bus driver on Jan. 29 and grabbing the child at random from a busload of students, the man described as threatening and volatile by his neighbors lay dead on his property in Midland City.

An official in Midland City, citing information from law enforcement, said police had shot Dykes. The official requested anonymity because the official wasn't authorized to speak publicly about the investigation into the case that had captured national attention.

Obama looking for more diversity in next wave of jobs; Pritzker, Burwell on list for top jobs WASHINGTON(AP)—As he prepares to announce

a new wave of Cabinet and other senior posts, President Barack Obama is aiming to put a more diverse face on his administration — an image that was missing as he filled the first round of vacancies of his second term with a parade of white men.

Obama is said to be looking at women, Latinos and openly gay candidates for top slots at the departments of Commerce, Labor and Interior, and

for his own White House budget office.

The leading candidate for nomination to be secretary of commerce is Penny Pritzker, a longtime Obama ally and big-money fundraiser from Chicago, according to people familiar with the White House selection process. The top candidate to lead the White House Office of Management and Budget is Sylvia Mathews Burwell, who was a former budget, White House and treasury official in the Clinton administration and is now the president of the Wal-Mart Foundation. Both women, if nominated, would replace men,

bringing business and government experience to the jobs and helping rebalance the male dominance of Obama's early nominations at the State Department, Treasury and the Pentagon the three top posts in the Cabinet. In addition to selecting former Sen. John Kerry for secretary of state, Jack Lew for treasury secretary and former Sen. Chuck Hagel for defense secretary, Obama last month also nominated John Brennan to be CIA director. Then he appointed Denis McDonough as his new chief of staff.

The initial series of personnel decisions stood out not only because the posts are so high-profile, but because Obama has pledged to bring a racial and gender mix to his administrative team. Obama also chose Kerry to replace Hillary Rodham Clinton, who had been the most high-profile woman in the Cabinet, after weighing whether to nominate U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice to the post.

Son of slain Minneapolis business owner joins Obama, leads state's push for gun law changes MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (AP) — Sami Rahamim has

committed statistics about gun deaths to memory, folding them into sentences that make his case. He talks like a lawyer, not a high school senior — no pauses or filler, no public trace of his pain. On Sept. 27, Rahamim's father, Reuven Rahamim,

was shot and killed along with five others at Accent Signage Systems in Minneapolis, the company he founded, by an ex-worker who recently had been fired. In the months since, Sami Rahamim has become a 17-year-old lobbyist for reducing gun

violence.

Rahamim has been at the state Capitol nearly every day for a month, missing school to push for legislation that would boost background checks and tighten gun regulations in Minnesota. He's spoken at churches, synagogues and gun violence

And Monday, Rahamim sat two chairs from

President Barack Obama as part of a round-table

discussion on how best to reduce gun violence, before the president took his push to tighten gun laws on national TV from Minneapolis. Rahamim shared his story and ideas with Obama — not just as a victim, but as a committed advocate. "Nobody would blame him if he were curled up in a

corner crying even until this moment," Minnesota Rep. Keith Ellison said. "But he's on his feet. He's talking to people about gun violence. He has truly harnessed his grief.'

After avoiding comment for days, N.J. Sen. Menendez forcefully denies prostitution allegation WASHINGTON (AP) — After ducking comment

denying allegations he engaged with prostitutes in the Dominican Republic, calling the claims false Menendez told reporters on Monday that he had done nothing wrong. His voice rose with anger as he described "anonymous, nameless, faceless

for days, Sen. Robert Menendez is forcefully

individuals" who he said have driven false stories into the mainstream media. "That's what they've done successfully," he said his first public remarks since the allegations began to spread on Wednesday. "The bottom line is all of those smears are absolutely false."

Menendez's public denial came after the FBI conducted a search of the West Palm Beach offices of a Florida doctor who also was the senator's biggest political donor in his re-election campaign last year. A week before the November election, The Daily Caller, a conservative website, reported that Menendez had used a business jet owned by Dr. Salomon Melgen to fly to the Dominican Republic for trysts with prostitutes.

SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1

fix a fundamentally flawed system. "It's not just dollars;

it's how we use them,' David Thompson, an attorney representing school districts educate about million students, said in reaction to Dietz's ruling. "I think there's a lot of room there to begin a discussion with the Legislature."

The districts noted that the cuts came as the state requires schools prepare students for standardized tests that are getting more difficult and amid a statewide boom in the number of low-income students and those who need extra instruction to learn English, both of whom are more costly

"There is no free

lunch," Dietz said while issuing his ruling. "We either want increased standards and are willing to pay the price, or we don't." The trial, which began

Oct. 22, took more than 240 hours in court and 10,000 exhibits to get this far. Sen. Rodney Ellis,

D-Houston, said Dietz's decision confirms what his party has been saying all along.

"Hopefully latest in a long line of decisions will force the legislature to truly and systemically address the inequities in our school finance system to ensure that every child in every school regardless of wealth has access to a top-notch education," Ellis said in a statement.

The attorney state general's office declined to comment. But Texas Education Commissioner Michael Williams said he'd wait for appeal. "The Texas Education

Agency will continue to carry out its mission of serving the students and educators across our state," he said in a statement.

spokeswoman for Perry declined to comment. But Lt. Gov. Dewhurst said he was disappointed in Deitz's decision and that he would work with other top state leaders to "ensure that Texas continues to have an accountable, efficient system of public education that produces graduates ready compete in college and in our global economy."

Texas relies on local

taxes property fund its schools. But attorneys for the school districts said the bottom 15 percent of the state's poorest districts tax an average of 8 cents more than the wealthiest 15 percent of districts, but receive about \$43,000 less per classroom.

Rick Gray, a lawyer representing districts mostly in poorer areas of the state, said during closing arguments that the funding system was "woefully inadequate and hopelessly broken." He said Texas must begin producing better educated college graduates, or it would see its tax base shrink and needs for social services swell due to a workforce not properly prepared for the jobs of the future.

"Texas should be ashamed," Gray said of the funding system. The state countered

that the system is adequately funded and that school districts don't always spend their money wisely. "We are not here to debate whether the state is providing the best system money can buy," argued Assistant Attorney General Shelley Dahlberg. "We are here asking if the state system is a constitutional one and we believe that it is."

Districts in rich and poor parts of the state are on the same side of the case since the funding mechanism relies on a "Robin Hood" scheme where districts with high property values or abundant tax revenue from oil or natural gas resources turn over part

Up to 10 People

(NOT FOR CARRYOUT)

EXP. 02/28/13

of the money they raise

to poorer districts. But many "property wealthy" districts say that while they are in better shape than their counterparts, poorer the system still starves them of funding since local voters who would otherwise support property tax increases to bolster funding for their schools refuse to do so, knowing that most of the money would be

Also suing schools, charter wanted state funding for their facilities and for Texas to ease or a remove a cap allowing only 215 licenses to operate charter schools statewide. Dietz said those complaints did not violate the state constitution.

sent somewhere else.

MAYOR

Continued from Page 1

filing my candidacv." McLellan said. "After everything that happened with the EDC and the water and wastewater project, I felt like the city was really looking in the wrong direction when it comes to that type of funding.' Big Spring voters ap-

proved a multi-million dollar overhaul of the city's water and wastewater facilities in a special election in May 2012, a move which will tie up nearly half of the Big Spring EDC budget for the next 20 years, a move McLellan and many other local residents and officials spoke-out against vehemently.

McLellan also led the charge against Duncan's efforts to abolish the existing EDC and replace it with a Type B corporation in hopes of gaining more funding for municipal infrastructure projects.

"I feel like the situation with the water wastewater cilities was something that should have been addressed a long time ago," he said. "And, we're about to run into a similar situation with the municipal landfill, as the old one will have to be closed and a new one opened. We have to plan ahead for the future. As the number of citizens continues to increase, so is the amount of waste produced by the community. We're going to have to be careful how we handle this."

McLellan said the city's infrastructure needs to be more than just a topic of discussion for local politicians and representatives.

"We have to stop talking about the needs of our city's infrastructure and start doing something about it," McLellan said firmly. "We've seen steady increases in sales tax revenues over the past few years and we need to begin using

our problems, not pad

our general fund. It's good to have a healthy general fund, however, there's work that needs to be done. It's time to take action." Also up for grabs in

the May election will be the seat currently held by first-term District 5 Councilman Craig Olson, who announced recently he would not be seeking re-election. According to Big

Spring officials, political hopefuls can begin picking up filing packets from city hall — located at 310 Nolan St. – until March 1. Filing for the election

is being handled by the city of Big Spring Administration, while the election itself will once again be coordinated by the Howard County Elections Administration Office. For more information on filing to run in the May election,

necessary forms from

contact Big Spring City Hall at 432-264-2513. Those looking to get a jump on the filing process can also downthat money to address load applications and the Texas Secretary of State website, located at www.sos.state.tx.us

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

sudoku **ANSWERS**

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

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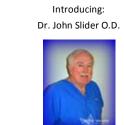
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Lois Hicks, 67, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.





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"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."

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated **Glenn Stifflemire** Publisher Managing Editor

Steve Reagan Staff Writer

Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

OTHER VIEWS

Excuses for not building XL pipeline fading

fter giving an unabashedly liberal inaugural address, approving pipeline that environmental groups say will contribute greatly to global warming and possibly taint a major Midwestern aquifer would probably not be among President Barack Obama's priorities for his second

But the president should do so and soon, before the Republicans and the energy industry on one side and the environmentalists on the other can make it a major political issue. And it would remove a major irritant in U.S.-Canadian relations since the Canadians very much want to see it built.

One by one the Obama administration's objections to the \$7 billion project, which would carry 800,000 barrels of crude oil a day from Canada's tar sands to refineries on the Gulf Coast, have been met.

Nebraska, the state that potentially could be most adversely affected by a spill from the proposed Keystone XL pipeline, has signed off on the project, as have the other five states the line will cross.

Nebraska GOP Gov. John Heineman, initially an opponent, said that a rerouting of the pipeline around environmentally sensitive lands had satisfied his concerns, the same concerns Obama cited when he blocked the pipenne last January. Heineman might also have Sandy Hook shoot been swayed by the \$418 million in economic ing massacre, but benefits the line would bring to his state.

House Speaker John Boehner said Nebraska's approval of the route "means there is no bureaucratic excuse, hurdle or catch President Obama can use to delay this project any further."

Actually, there is one: the State Department is reviewing the project, which was first proposed in 2008. The study is expected to approve the project in March, which would leave the administration truly out of excuses.

Obama professes to be serious about climate change, but the various forms of "clean" energy have yet to be proved economically and technologically feasible on anything like the scale needed to fill America's energy needs.

Thanks to major finds of natural gas and oil, the United States is virtually energy independent and is actually exporting modest amounts of oil. Given the instability of many of the global energy-producing areas, that independence should not be surrendered lightly.

— San Angelo Standard-Times

LETTER POLICIES

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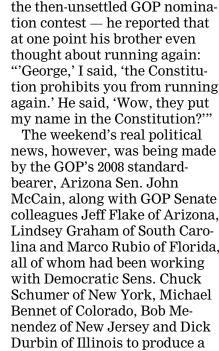
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205 · By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at

Forgotten, but not gone

ormer presidential nominee, Mitt Romney, and his wife, Ann, were in Washington, where they met with friends and supporters and attended

the annual Alfalfa Club dinner, an exclusive black-tie event. One of the more

memorable lines from last year's closed-to-the-press dinner was former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's needling of his most famous sibling, when while addressing



That plan — which said that after measures were taken to secure the border, undocumented immigrants could obtain legal status on a probationary basis once they had undergone a background check, and paid a fine and any back taxes owed — was proudly unveiled by the eight

comprehensive compromise im-

migration plan.

By losing the growing Hispanic vote nationally 71 percent to 27 percent to President Barack Obama after running a fierce get-tough-on-illegal-immigrants campaign, Romney not only made the senators' bipartisan immigration proposal possible. For his fellow Republicans, Romney made the switch on immigration imperative.

As McCain put it on Wednesday at a breakfast hosted by Politico, "If you have a large bloc of Americans who believe you're trying to keep their ... fellow Hispanics down and deprive them of an opportunity, obviously that's going to have an effect."

What sort of an effect? Mc-Cain: "The trend will continue of lack of support from Hispanic voters, and also, as you look at the demographics of states like mine, that means we will go from Republican to Democratic over time."

One irony is that McCain was one of Romney's most important 2012 endorsers for the nomina

This surprised some of us who remembered the Romney TV spot four years earlier that charged that McCain had "pushed to let every illegal immigrant stay here permanently even voted to allow illegals to collect Social Security. And Mitt Romney? He opposes amnesty for illegals."

Earlier in 2007, Romney testdrove his 2012 campaign when he attacked an Arkansas plan that enabled the children of undocumented immigrants to apply for college scholarships. Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee counterpunched: "I'm standing here tonight on this stage because I got an education. If I hadn't had the education,

I wouldn't be standing on this stage, I might be picking lettuce In all due respect, we're a better country than to punish children for what their parents did'

In 2008, Romney got even tougher on Texas Gov. Rick Perry and the Lone Star State's Dream Act: "One of the things I still can't get over is the idea that a state would decide to give \$100,000 discounts to the children of illegals to go to school in their state."

According to projections from the respected Pew Research's Social & Demographic Trends, Hispanics, who constituted just 3.5 percent of the U.S. population in 1968 and 17 percent in 2011, will jump to 29 percent of the U.S. total in 2050. Asian-Americans, who were a tiny 0.6 percent in 1960, will increase to 9 percent. With African-Americans growing to 13 percent of the nation, this would mean that whites — who had been 85 percent of all Americans in 1960 would shrink by the middle of the century to approximately 47

A bipartisan immigration bill staking out the path to citizenship will not, by itself, be a political silver bullet for a GOP still trying to shake off the antiimmigrant baggage the Romney candidacy saddled it with. But it could mean that Republican candidates might eventually, after hard work, hope to reach the 40 percent of the Hispanic vote George W Bush won in 2004.

To find out more about Mark Shields and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.

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Doctored videotapes are peanuts

any have rightly condemned MSN-BC's serpentine editing of a video to make it appear that certain gun rights activists heckled the

father of a 6-yearold victim of the let's not pretend this was a one-off

The liberal media long ago forfeited their respected role as watchdog over the government and have voluntary descended to the

status of a public relations arm of the Democratic Party and various liberal causes.

DAVID

LIMBAUGH

It doesn't do it justice to call them cheerleaders, for they are active participants, every bit as much involved in bringing about the events as the party with which they collude.

They no longer merely report the news. They deliberately influence it to advance the liberal political agenda. So while they engage in plenty of deceptions on the micro level, they daily engage in a category of sin that far exceeds the despicable doctoring of videos.

For what they're about is grand deception on a macro scale. They aren't watchdogs, and they aren't just cheerleaders. Cheerleaders wear uniforms and are readily recognizable. These progressive media mavens are cloaked in a disguise of pseudo-neutrality and pseudoobjectivity, such that when they root for the political team that is assaulting America's founding principles and driving us headfirst into national ruin, many in their unwitting audience have no earthly idea they've got skin in the game.

The liberal media's fraud is so pervasive that by presenting the news through a distorted, progressive prism, they've created an alternate reality that bears little relationship to actual

reality. What has emerged is a new normal, foisted on us by a cluster of malicious manipulators who long ago abandoned their honor and their professional calling.

This manufactured pseudouniverse is what allowed President Barack Obama to win re election despite presiding over (and largely causing) the longest period of high unemployment since World War II and the worst recovery in 50 years. It's what enables him to enjoy a 60 percent approval rating despite being conspicuously radical, hyperpartisan, consciously divisive and dogmatically uncompromis-

Just ask yourself whether Obama could have won if the media had reported on his economy objectively and let the facts speak for themselves. But they did much worse; they apologized for him and his failures every step of the way, shamelessly conspiring with him to scapegoat his predecessor, President George W. Bush, even four years after his term ended. This was as immoral as it was preposterous. but they did it with such faux earnestness that those who rely on them for their news lapped it up and digested its poisonous

These are media that appointed themselves the chief prosecutors against Bush for his alleged mishandling of the federal cleanup operation in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. They were on that story 24/7 from the outset, not to apprise the public of the conditions in New Orleans and other stricken locations but to cause premeditated political damage to President Bush. Contrast that with their orchestrated cover-up of the Obama administration's selective negligence for some of Hurricane Sandy's victims and affected areas.

This is a press whose superstars, with exceptions, insinuated themselves into moderating the presidential debates and actively interceded on behalf of President Obama, both in their

questions and in their improper injections.

These are the "professionals" whose job is to hold our governing class to account with legitimate, pointed questions and follow-ups. Instead, they offer French kisses and free passes, despite the smorgasbord of corruption, scandal, mismanagement and policy failures that would be a welcome feast for journalists with a modicum of

integrity. Whereas they aided Democrats in constructing false scandals against the Bush administration, they wholly ignore very real ones under Obama, from the dismissal of the New Black Panther Party voter intimidation case to "Fast and Furious"

to Benghazi. From the corruption and waste in the president's stimulus plan to myriad green energy schemes to the fraudulent calculation of projected Obamacare costs to their protective reporting on the administration's handling of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the media have done this president's bidding.

Worst of all, Obama's media cohorts are helping him get away with not addressing the major culprit in our impending nation al financial catastrophe, entitlement spending. If it were not for the media's complicity, we could avert this imminent national calamity, but they simply will not perform even their rudimen tary duties so as to expose this president as the uncompromising spendaholic ideologue he is

So while we justifiably complain about doctored videotapes, let's not miss the larger point: that if this nation goes over a Greek-style financial cliff, we need look no further than President Obama's comrades in the institutionally corrupt media, without whom his destructive path could be deterred.

David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney.

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Remember the last time

Doctors around

the world agree

that one of the

best ways to

avoid getting sick

and spreading

germs is to wash

your hands.

HAND SANITIZER vs. SOAP & WATER

Using hand sanitizer shouldn't be a

do a very good job of getting rid of

as just a little "touch-up" hand washings with good ol' soap

and water.

Fill in the missing words.

GERMS

hands with soap and

WATER

REPLACEMENT

sanitizer does kill

for washing your

dirt. Think of hand sanitizer

. While

, it doesn't

BETWEEN

VISIBLE

you had a cold or the flu?

HOW TO JOIN: You join automatically

every time you wash your hands!

Standards Links: Health: Know basic personal hygiene

It was pretty

miserable. You

sneezed, coughed

and had no energy.

But there's an easy

SCRUB SQUAD.

way to avoid all

that: Just join

Kid Scoop's

Puzzle answers, games, opinion polls

www.kidscoop.com

Hand Exercises

Now that your hands are nice and clean, they could use a little exercise. Try these:

Stretch & Squeeze

Spread your fingers out as far as possible. Feel that s-t-r-e-t-c-h? Now squeeze them into two tight fists. Repeat 10 times.

The Big Reach

Stand with your feet slightly apart. Reach your hands up, up, UP as high as you can. Now bend and reach for your toes. Repeat 10 times.

Helicopter Hands

Extend your arms straight out, level with your shoulders. Slowly start twirling your arms in a circular motion. Spin them faster and faster for 60 seconds.

Pat on the Back

Hold your hands out in front of you. Reach over your shoulders and pat your back for 30 seconds. Cross your arms and try again. Do this for 30 seconds. You deserve a pat on the back!

Standards Links: Physical Education: Use a variety of basic and advanced movement

This week's word:

SQUAD

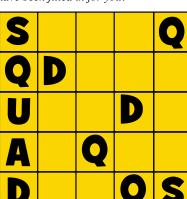
The noun **squad** means a team or crew that work together.

My **squad** was in charge of cleaning the playground.

Try to use the word **squad** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.



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



THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

and much more at:

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Experts say that washing your hands for at least 20 seconds is the best way to make sure you remove germs and gunk. Memorize

and sing this song while you scrub to help you wash long enough.

(Sung to the tune of "Old MacDonald")

Washing hands is sudsy fun Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! I wash eight fingers and two thumbs Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! With a little soap here And a little more there Bubbles here Bubbles there

Give those germs a splashing scare! Washing hands is sudsy fun Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub!

If your hands are extra dirty, sing this second verse and keep on scrubbing!

Now my hands are getting clean Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Even dirt that can't be seen Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! With a little soap here And a little more there Bubbles here Bubbles there Watch them floating in the air Now my hands are nice and clean Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Scrub! Standards Links: Music: Memorize and sing simple songs.

More fun hand-washing songs at www.kidscoop.com/kids

Synonym

A **synonym** is a word that means the same or nearly the same thing as another word. Search the newspaper for synonyms for the word **CLEAN**. Then, look for synonyms for the word **DIRTY**. Which were easier

to find? Standards Links: Vocabulary: Identify grade-level appropriate vocabulary in reading.

and bubbles can you find on this page?

fingers for at least 20 seconds. Rinse your hands to get rid of

bar soap are all great.

the soap (and dirt and germs).

Rub your hands together under

warm running water. Make sure

Use a generous amount of soap.

Liquid soap, powdered soap or

SCRUB: Get the palms, back

of your hands, wrists, under

your nails and between your

to get wet up to your wrists.

Air dry your hands or use a clean towel, either cloth or paper.

Standards Links: Health: Students know practicing good personal hygiene is a way to prevent or reduce risk of disease. **Scoop** Puzzler

Unscramble each of the mixed-up words.

When should I wash my hands?

• after using the STROMORE R ___ • before eating or KONCOGI ___ O O

after petting SANIMLA _____

before and after visiting a sick DRFNEI <u>F</u>

• after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing

• after taking out the RATHS T

Standards Links: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Healthy fun! Get a set of FREE hand washing activity pages for your classroom at www.kidscoop.com/kids

Double

How many hands

SANITIZER BATHROOM COUGHING **MEMORIZE BUBBLES SQUAD ELBOW SCRUB** DIRTY AVOID **GERMS TOWEL**

PALMS

NOSE

SOAP

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

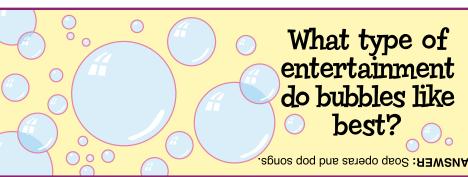
STHGPAOSDB MOSNAELCAU RWCILANTUB EERHMYHOQB GLUGSRTNSL DWBUOASRHE MEMORIZEI S INMCWAVOID GREZITINAS

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

Scrubbing the News

Select three paragraphs in a newspaper article. Can you scrub away some of the words to make shorter sentences without losing important details?

Standards Links: Reading Comprehension: Understand the main



Bubble Trouble

Someone put too much detergent in the washing machine, and now your town is getting covered in soapsuds! Write a news article describing the scene.

Bird Poop: Mr. and Mrs. Finch pay a visit

fter breakfast, Art gathered our plates and ward the kitchen. Just as I finished the last paragraph of a lengthy newspaper article, he walked hurriedly to the hutch,

grabbed our binoculars, and headed back to the window over the sink. "Look at

couraged.

Веве the shallow dish,' McCasland he en-

"Mr. and Mrs.!" Perched on the rim of one of our elevated basins, the pair seemed to relish their early morning drink.

To my right, our large window had been a delight, since it was close to our dining table. Throughout every meal, we had always been able to see numerous species flying in for water.

After a few sips, the male sidled in her direction. Easily, she moved a few steps away. Although it was the first week of February, courting season

was approaching.

With his bright red crown, throat, breast, and rump, the male was easy to identify. His brownish wings and tail were dull in comparison.

In contrast, she was grayish-brown and noticeably streaked underneath. Often mistaken for sparrows, both were welcome in our side yard and trees.

Known for their voracious appetite for weed seeds, including those of the dandelion, the birds would also frequent the lots behind our property.

Once spring encouraged trees to "bud-out," these opportunists would be seen fluttering atop elms and mulberries as they gorged on new, emerging green-

Even hedges and perennials were a source of temptation for the house finches.

Delighted to see the active duo prompted me to refresh my memory. Turning to the alphabetized ledger that is a record of over 114 different species and 3,000 plus rescues, I noticed that under "F," my first recording of this specie was 1983.

Years passed, and then in 1987, incidents involving house finches increased. Throughout the ensuing years, they were always present.

Throughout that day, I kept thinking about those birds. Not too long ago, we had seemed to have a rash of injuries involving house finches.

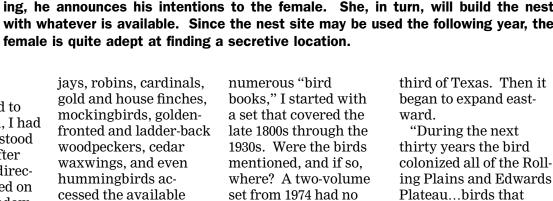
Discovering that it had only been five years, I noticed that three of the mishaps had occurred in February, and with our large window. At that time, our feeders had been mobbed with seed eating birds.

Knowing we had to solve the problem, I had gone outside and stood at each feeder. After looking in every direction, I concentrated on staring at our window. The reflection from it was seductive.

Indicating there was a passageway through the trees and to the sky above, the glass was a temptress for disaster. Any bird could be duped into believing it could fly in that direc-

When window decals of hawks slowed but did not stop the impacts, we removed the feeders. Concentrating on the need and lure of water for drinking and bathing, we watched to see what would happen.

Instead of hordes of doves bullying the smaller birds for seeds, their appearance at the water basins was staggered as to need throughout the day. An increase of blue



moisture. Although we had enjoyed offering what we thought was a part of everyone's diet, we came to the realization that nature was quite adept at fulfilling need.

When food was not available naturally, species would migrate to areas with a more plentiful supply. For us, water was the attraction for more varied visits from the avian community.

Through my research regarding our handling and rescue of house finches, I had also wondered why I had not entered the species during the 1970s. Momentarily, I questioned my ability to identify these birds.

Having collected

numerous "bird books," I started with a set that covered the late 1800s through the 1930s. Were the birds mentioned, and if so, where? A two-volume set from 1974 had no information. For some authors, the house finch was non-existent.

Two editions, printed in 1980 and 1983 respectively, had the information I sought.

In 1940, an illegal operation, thwarted in New York City, had sought to smuggle house finches into the United States as "cage birds."

The confiscated birds were released on Long Island. An ensuing population explosion occurred in the eastern portion of our country over the next few decades.

In Mark Lockwood's Basic Texas Birds of 2007, he mentioned that before the 1950s, the house finch was found only in the western

third of Texas. Then it began to expand eastward.

"During the next thirty years the bird colonized all of the Rolling Plains and Edwards Plateau...birds that originated from an introduced population in the eastern United States began colonizing the eastern half of the state." Except for the lower tip of Texas, house finches now in 2013 are found through-

out our state. Because of a basic necessity for our avian friends, and through Art's watching a colorful character on a water dish, my memory had been challenged. An unusual dividend was learning through our collection about the house finches' very existence in our country.

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



A male house finch enjoys a sip of water from a basin. During courting season his

song punctuates a quiet morning. With his tail pointed upward and wings flutter-

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net



By Steve Becker

The Magic Number

East dealer. East-West vulnerable NORTH **♠**J73 ♥AKJ WEST **EAST ♥**976532 SOUTH ♥O 10 8 ♦ O 10 3 2

The bidding: East South West North Pass 1 NT Pass Opening lead — king of clubs.

The number 13, regarded by many as unlucky, is, without question, the single most important number in bridge. Hardly a deal goes by where an experienced declarer or defender does not take advantage of the knowledge that each suit contains 13 cards and that each player is dealt 13 cards

Consider this case where South wound up in four notrump after North had invited a slam. North's raise to four notrump asked South to continue bidding toward slam if his one-notrump opening was based on 16 or 17 points.

West led the king of clubs, East playing the jack, and continued with the queen of clubs, taken by South with the ace. Anticipating no diffi-culty at all, declarer next cashed dummy's A-K of diamonds, but when East showed out on the second diamond, South unexpectedly found himself with only nine tricks.

Unfazed by this development, he proceeded to make the contract anyway. He cashed the A-K-O of hearts and A-K of spades, reducing all hands to four cards. At this point, West was known to be holding the J-9 of diamonds and 10-6 of clubs, while South's last four cards were a spade, a club and the Q-10 of diamonds.

Declarer now led a club, and after West collected his two club tricks, he had to lead a diamond into South's Q-10. As a result, South made

exactly four notrump. In effect, West's distribution was an open book after the first six tricks had been played. At trick two, it became known that West had started with six clubs. At trick four, South learned that West had also started with four diamonds, and at trick six, South learned that West had started with precisely one heart. West's two unknown cards therefore had to be spades, and all South had to do while cashing his remaining heart and spade winners was to keep an eye on West's discards.

Tomorrow: Hidden weapon. ©2013 King Features Syndicate Inc

How Humpty Dumpty got up on that wall his morning, original versions and or what was he? As I was opposed to the as I was havto know why and where looked for an answer, crown.

ing my coffee, I thought of the old nursery rhyme of Humpty Dumpty. Remember him? Humpty **Dumpty**

sat on a wall. Humpty **Dumpty** had a great fall. All the kings' horses and all the kings' men couldn't put

DARRELL

Ryan

Humpty back together again. I am a person who is infatuated with the

origins of stories like

this. I like to know the

they came from. So I began to seek some answers about Humpty and was quite interested in what I found.

In England starting in the fifteenth century, Humpty Dumpty was a term that people used to call someone who was obese. As time went by, Humpty Dumpty was used to describe a clumsy person. Humpty Dumpty was portrayed in Lewis Carroll's "Through the Looking Glass" and in the nursery rhyme as an egg. Was Humpty an egg or a clumsy guy or an obese fellow who fell of a wall?

Well, Humpty Dumpty was apparently none of the above, so who

I found a version of the story that appears to be the origin of this famous nursery rhyme.

During the English civil war, which took place from 1642 to 1649, there was a battle in the summer of 1648, referred to as the Siege of Colchester, which was one of the most important battles of the war. Colchester was a walled city that was guarded heavily by the Royalists, who were supporters of King Charles I; however, they were trapped inside the walls by the Parliamentarian Army, known as the Roundheads because of their close cropped hair, and were led by Thomas Fairfax, who

Inside the city walls stood a castle and a few churches. One church, St. Mary's, stood right beside the wall. There was a large cannon, believed to be called **Humpty Dumpty which** was placed on the wall

next to the church. The story is that the walls of the fortified city were bombarded for 11 weeks before finally falling. The wall beneath Humpty Dumpty was destroyed and the cannon fell to the ground. Therefore "All the kings horses and all the kings men" tried to put Humpty back together again by attempting to place the cannon onto another part of the wall. Unfortunately, Humpty Dumpty was too heavy and could not be replaced.

This siege ended when the Royalist army surrendered and the leaders of the Royalists were executed behind Colchester Castle. And so, as Paul Harvey used to say, that is the "rest of the story."

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



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Page 7 Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Hawk b-ball **squads lose** again to Chaps

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

MIDLAND Howard College women had a chance to avenge their Jan. 7 home loss to Midland College on Monday, but the Lady Chaparrals hung on to edge the Hawks 63-61 despite a strong effort on the road.

"I thought we played really well defensively." HC Head Women's Coach Earl Diddle said. "We did a good job on their All-American, Achiri Ade, and we were in a good position to win the game, but you've got missed free throws, missed blockouts that's how you get beat."

HC point guard Marion Lemonnier put up 10 points, Tori Tucker hit 18 and Brittany Aikens had a gamehigh 20 points, but the Hawks gave up some costly plays at the end, including a three-point basket to put the Lady Chaps up by one just before time expired.

"That three-point shot was a big shot," Diddle said of Midland's lategame rally. "Giving up that shot was a tough play, because if she'd missed, we got the rebound and the game is over."

Despite coming away with a loss, Diddle is pleased with the his team's effort and

remains focused on a strong conference finish.

"I'm proud of the girls and the way they battled," Diddle added. "Every game comes down to threefive possessions. We just couldn't execute down the wire. When you are in conference play, every game means so much. Every play means so much — it's all important. The next game is always the biggest game."

That means Thursday's road trip to Clarendon College — whom the Hawks scored a 22-point home win over in their last meeting — will be the biggest game.

"(Clarendon) just beat Frank Phillips College by 20," Diddle said. "They've gotten better. We will have to play well to beat them."

Howard College will wrap up its four-game road affair against Clarendon and will welcome South Plains College to the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on Saturday, Tip off is slated for 1 p.m.

MIDLAND Hawks led the Chaps 27-25 at the halfway mark Monday and Cameron Forte — one of the nation's leading scorers who is averaging

See HAWKS, Page 10



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Howard College's Tori Tucker puts up a shot during Monday's 63-62 loss against Midland College on the road. The Lady Hawks are 3-6 in WJCAC play. Both the Hawk men and women will be on the road for one more game Thursday against Clarendon before returning to host South Plains at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on Saturday. Games are slated to begin at 1 p.m.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Boys Basketball

- Big Spring at Greenwood, 7:30 p.m.
- Forsan at Tahoka, 8 p.m.
- Denver City at Coahoma, 8
- Stanton at Lamesa, 8 p.m.
- Grady at Dawson, 8 p.m.
- Garden City at Paint Rock, 8
- Sands at Borden County, 8 p.m.

Girl's Basketball

- Big Spring at Greenwood, 6:15 p.m.
- Forsan at Tahoka, 6:30 p.m.
- Denver City at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.
- Stanton at Lamesa, 6:30 p.m.
- Grady at Dawson, 6:30 p.m.
- Garden City at Paint Rock, 6:30 p.m.
- Sands at Borden County, 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY Men's Basketball

Howard College at Clarendon College, 7:45 p.m.

Women's Basketball

 Howard College at Clarendon College, 5:45 p.m.

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

Fhunder scorch Mavericks, 112-91

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — After two desperation shots and two overtime thrillers, the Oklahoma City Thunder were done playing close games against the Dallas Mavericks.

Russell Westbrook scored 24 points, Kevin Durant had 19 points and 10 rebounds, and Thunder blew out Dallas 112-91 Monday night while avoiding a third straight overtime game between the teams.

"The last time they came in here, they hit us in the mouth early," Durant said. "And I just told the guys that we've got to be the first hitter tonight and we've got to come out with a lot of

energy, and I think we did hitting 10 of 14 shots and

that.' The Mavericks had tied the first two meetings this season with 3-pointers at the very end, but there was no such drama the third time around.

Oklahoma City led by at least 20 throughout the second half, winning for the 10th time in 11 meetings between the teams since Dallas beat the Thunder in the 2011 Western Conference finals on its way to the NBA championship. That includes a four-game sweep of the Mavs in the first round of last year's playoffs.

Shawn Marion was the lone bright spot for Dallas,

scoring 23 points. Dirk Nowitzki had 10 points on 3-for-11 shooting after missing the previous two games with a right adductor strain.

The Mavericks finished a four-game road trip 1-3, and now head home for their next five games — their second-longest stretch at the American Airlines Center.

"We don't have any excuses. At this point, that would be lame to blame it on that," said coach Rick Carlisle. who was denied in his first chance to earn his 500th career win. "We got two days of rest. We were in Phoenix for a couple days. Supposedly that air makes you feel

He said the absence of reserve Vince Carter, who was out sick and missed his first game all season, was a factor, but "we've got to play better, too."

"When you put these guys on the open floor with catastrophic turnovers, they're going to make you look bad. I think that was it more than anything," Carlisle said.

Kevin Martin chipped in 17 points off the bench for Oklahoma City, which rested its starters in the fourth quarter and got some playing time for seldom-used reserves Perry Jones III

See MAVS, Page 10

Documents: Worries about outage before Super Bowl

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Superdome officials warned just months before the Super Bowl that the venue's electrical system could suffer a power outage and rushed to replace some of the equipment ahead of the big game

While the cause of Sunday's 34-minute outage is still under investigation, records released Monday show that Superdome officials were worried in October about losing power during the NFL championship.

Tests on the electrical feeders that connect incoming power from utility lines to the stadium showed decay and "a chance of failure," state officials warned in a memo dated Oct. 15. The documents, obtained through a records request by The Associated Press, also show the utility that sup-

The memo said utility Entergy New

plies the stadium expressed concern about the reliability of the service before the Super Bowl.

Orleans and the Superdome's engineering staff "had concerns regarding the reliability of the Dome service from Entergy's connection point to the Dome."

The memo was prepared for the Louisiana Stadium & Exposition District, the state body responsible for the Su-

Authorities then authorized spending nearly \$1 million on Superdome improvements, including more than \$600,000 for upgrading the dome's electrical feeder cable system, work that was done in December.

"As discussed in previous board meetings, this enhancement is necessary to maintain both the Superdome and the New Orleans Arena as top tier facilities, and to ensure that we do not experience any electrical issues during the Super Bowl," said an LSED

document dated Dec. 19. Superdome commission records

show a \$513,250 contract to replace feeder cables was awarded to Allstar Electric, a company based in suburban New Orleans.

A lawyer for the LSED, Larry Roedel, said Monday a preliminary investigation found the replacement work done in December did not appear to have caused Sunday's outage.

Entergy and the company that manages the Superdome, SMG, said Sunday that an "abnormality" occurred where stadium equipment intersects with an Entergy electric feed, causing a breaker to create the outage. It remained unclear Monday exactly what the abnormality was or why it occurred.

The lights-out championship game proved an embarrassment for New Orleans just when it was hoping to show the rest of the world how far it

See OUTAGE, Page 10

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Less Is More with Mercury in Pisces

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only 26 characters. The Mercury transit through Pisces will inspire to simplify HOLIDAY our

MATHIS

with

expressions while simultaneously endowing them

richer meaning.

ARIES (March April 19). It seems that lately authority figures are constantly throwing down limits or telling you what to do. It's a sign that you're on the cutting edge and a threat to the old guard. Don't back off now; you're on to something.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's pretty clear that you need more stimulation. There's not enough in your environment now to your motivate hard work. Put yourself in a demanding risky situation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The natural world holds many mysteries much intrigue should you choose to give it your attention. Today the elements will be kind to you, so step outside to make some detailed observations.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Before you do the dull thing, like dive into your work to the exclusion of all social interaction, fresh air and remember this: Pleasure is useful. All of most amazing creators you know would

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The response you get from people, animals and technology will be of an unexpected if not downright weird variety. Also, they may seem to know you better than you know them, which is a little weird.

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VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sometimes a partner makes you feel better about yourself and at times Either way, you must admit, you feel more alive, and that's what it's all about for you right

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You like to think you're a regular kind of person, but like "regular" people movies, today you wind unusual circumstances that move you to heroic action.

SCORPIO (Oct. Nov. 21). Figuratively speaking, unless you with your show up paints and brushes, the world around you will lack color. If you can say "your thing" without hurting another person, you should.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Just because an action is within the law doesn't make it right. You hold yourself to a higher and selfstandard. created Usually, you're quiet about this, but the world will be better off if you speak up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Instead of asking "why," you will ask "why not" and go forward. You will never get an answer to that second question, mostly there because is no reason why shouldn't act today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You do have a way of putting things. So don't be surprised if you hear your own words echoed conversation of loved ones -- proof that they are listening to you even when they don't show it.

PISCES (Feb. March 20). If you react without knowing your reasons, the effect will be minimal. But if you your reasons before you make a move, you'll create

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY: (Feb. 5). It's your year to bridge the gaps. Where there is a lack of understanding or knowledge, you'll learn. The cycle of relationship luck over the next seven weeks starts the ball rolling. March shows a

lifestyle upgrade. Like a poker shark, you'll use your talent for reading people to make great money in April. Taurus and Gemini people adore Your lucky numbers are: 1, 13, 20, 44 and 9.

ASTROLOGICAL **QUESTIONS:** "The other day, I walked out my front door and startled a who had swinging upside the from

something I saw out of the corner of my eye before it flew away. It happened twice in the span of a few hours, so obviously the bat chose my front stoop as a good place to hang out. I'm superstitious. Given the associations with bats, witches and Halloween, I'm guessing this means something bad is going to happen, and I wish it would already so I can

stop worrying.'

too, superstitious, although I believe it's up to each person to decide what constitutes a good or bad omen. Did vou know that Chinese consider bats to be an extremely good omen associated with wealth abundance? and According to Chinese fortunetelling methods, if your home is visited by bats, you will soon be blessed with financial luck, as bats gravitate to the most auspicious places. I hope this new interpretation of your bat incident will stop your worries. I challenge you to release any superstitions that

only the helpful ones. If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis. please www.creators.com 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 Creators Syndicate Web page www.creators.com.

cause you to walk

around in fear and keep

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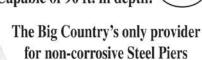
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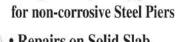
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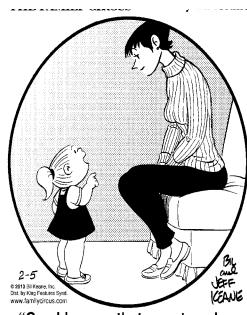
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5	:30	ABC	Notic.	Two Men	CBS	Noticiero	News	Seinfeld	A. Shelby	1	'70s	1				BET's Top 10	Jessie	Pardon	,
_	:PM	Jeopardy!	Corona de	Big Bang	News	Caso Cer-	News	Seinfeld	Dr. Diana	PBS News-	Seinfeld	Dual Survival	Ī	J. Schmo	Castle	Live	Good	College	College
b	:30	Wheel	Lágrimas	Big Bang	Ent	rado	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Sala	Hour	Rules						Dog		Basketball:
7	:PM	The Taste	Por Ella Soy	Raising	NCIS (DVS)		Betty White	Big Bang	Upd	Pioneers,	Hart of Dixie	Dual Survival		J. Schmo	Castle	Second	Jessie	Villanova at DePaul.	Florida at Arkansas.
	:30		Eva	Hope		bida		Big Bang	Alewine	Television			Shawshank			Second	Shake It	Del aul.	Arkarisas.
0	:PM	The Bachelor		New Girl	NCIS: Los	La Patrona	Smash	Big Bang	Light of the	Silicon	Emily Ow-	Dual Survival	Redemption, Bob Gunton	J. Schmo	Castle	Husbands	Dog	NBA Coast	College
Ø	:30		Verdaderos	Mindy	Angeles	(SS)		Big Bang	Southwest	Valley:	ens, M.D.		DOD GUINOIT			Husbands	ANT Farm	to Coast	Basketball
•	:PM :30		Amor Bravío	Simpsons	Vegas	El Rostro de		Cougar		American	Cops	Africa		J. Schmo	Castle	Husbands	Good		
9	:30		(SS)	How I Met				Big Bang		Lost	Seinfeld					Second	Good		
40	:PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Conan	Shepherd's	Charlie Rose	Rules	Dual Survival		J. Schmo	CSI: NY	Husbands	ANT Farm	SportsNation	SportsCenter
10	:30	Jimmy Kim-	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Victorinos	Jay Leno		Heart		'70s		Shawshank			Second	Austin		
44	:PM	mel Live	Al Diablo	Law Order:		(SS)		Cougar	Ministerios	World	King	Africa	Redemption, Bob Gunton	J. Schmo	CSI: NY	Wendy Wil-	Wizards	Best/NFL	SportsCenter
11	:30	Nightline		CI	Ferguson	Decisiones	Jimmy Fallon	Office	Vida	T. Smiley	'Til Death					liams	Wizards	NBA	
12	:AM	Extra	Mar de Amor	Raymond		(SS)		Conan	Upd	(Off Air)	'Til Death	Dual Survival	1	J. Schmo	Cold Case	Movie:	Deck	Basket	SportsCenter
12	:30	Super	(SS)	Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	Daly		Chevalme]	Browns					The Best Man, Morris	Deck	NFL Live	
4	:AM	Paid	Conducta	American	Ent	Pagado	(:06) Today	Movie:	Light of the		Browns	Dual Survival		Ways Die	Southland	Chestnut	Good		SportsCenter
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"I LIKE MY CARBS JUST THE WAY THEY ARE."

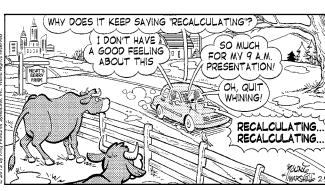


"Can I borrow that sweater when it turns into my size?"

MOONED

HER.





BET 26

\mathbf{BC}





IT'S A SMALL MIRACLE THAT OUR SPECIES MADE IT THROUGH THE STONE AGE.

WIZARD OF ID

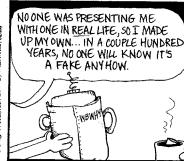






AGNES







This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 5, the 36th day of 2013. There are 329 days left in the year. Today's Highlight

History: On Feb. 5, 1973, services were held at Arlington National

Cemetery for U.S. Army Col. William B. Nolde, the last official American combat casualty before the Vietnam cease-fire took effect.

On this date:

In 1783, Sweden recognized the independence of the United In 1811, George, the Prince of

Wales, was named Prince Regent due to the mental illness of his father, Britain's King George III. In 1887, Verdi's opera "Otello"

premiered at La Scala.

In 1917, Congress passed, over President Woodrow Wilson's veto, an immigration act severely curtailing the influx of Asians. Mexico's constitution was adopted.

In 1922, the first ed

Reader's Digest was published. In 1937, President Franklin

D. Roosevelt proposed increasing the number of U.S. Supreme Court justices; the proposal, which failed in Congress, had critics accusing Roosevelt of attempting to "pack" the nation's highest court.

orchestra recorded "Tuxedo Junction" for RCA Victor's Bluebird label. In 1953, Walt Disney's ani-

In 1940, Glenn Miller and his

mated feature "Peter Pan" was first released. In 1967, "The Smothers

Brothers Comedy Hour" premiered on CBS-TV. In 1971, Apollo 14 astronauts Alan Shepard and Edgar Mitchell stepped onto the sur-

face of the moon in the first of

two lunar excursions.

In 1983, former Nazi Gestapo official Klaus Barbie, expelled from Bolivia, was brought to Lyon (lee-OHN'), France, to stand trial. (He was convicted of war crimes and sentenced to life in prison; he died in 1991.)

In 1988, the Arizona House impeached Gov. Evan Mecham (MEE'-kuhm), setting the stage for his trial in the state Senate, where he was convicted of obstructing justice and misus-

ing funds. Today's Birthdays: Country singer Claude King is 90. The Rev. Andrew M. Greeley is 85. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Hank Aaron is 79. Actor Stuart Damon is 76. Tony-winning playwright John Guare is 75. Financial writer Jane Bryant Quinn is 74. Actor David Selby is 72. Singer-songwriter Barrett Strong is 72. Football Hall-of-Famer Roger Staubach is 71. Singer Cory Wells (Three Dog Night) is 71. Movie director Michael Mann is 70. Rock singer Al Kooper is 69. Actress Charlotte Rampling is 67. Racing Hall-of-Famer Darrell Waltrip is 66. Actress Barbara Hersheyis65. Actor Christopher Guest is 65. © 2013 The Associated Press.

Answer to previous puzzle

NETSTESTYNODS

42 Expo featuring

new vehicles

43 "Don't even try"

48 College military

50 Science or social

studies: Abbr.

unit: Abbr.

53 Jeweler's

magnifier

55 South Pacific

56 Prepare for a

island nation

boxing match

57 Walk back and

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THE OTHER COAST









SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY UH-OH! I CAN'T LET







40 "Do others . . ." 41 One ascending Pikes Peak 44 Banana covering 45 Loosen, as laces 46 Most high-school grads 47 State with confidence 49 Sports team's setback

15 14 17 20 23 24 28 29 30 36 38 37 41 42 44 47 48 49 <u>52</u> 57 **56** Healthful resort 64 68 69 (Chinese entrée) 71 72 CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2013 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM

Newsday Crossword

69 Whitish

71 Enjoy a

gemstone

magazine

73 Makes, as a

salary

DOWN

1 Up to now

2 Yale students

3 STOP or YIELD

4 Moral principle

5 Crucial tennis

situation

6 Self-esteem

7 Maple syrup

sources

8 Fabric fold

9 Current events

film of yore

10 Under the

weather

70 Anything heard

ACROSS 1 Affirmative

- replies 6 TV sports
- channel 10 "A likely story"
- **14** High-society
- group
- 15 Powerful wind
- 16 Volcanic flow
- 17 Circus performer 20 Take potshots
- (at) 21 Talk back to
- 22 Sixth sense,
- for short
- 23 Parka, for example
- 25 Mouse-catching device
- 27 Garment label 30 Eye-color area
- **32** Join the army **36** "It's __ a day's
- work" 38 Make less
- difficult

- 51 Whoop-de-_ 52 Wrench or
- hammer
- 54 Bits of wordplay
- **59** General _ chicken
- **61** Talk big 64 Skydiver
- **68** Scored 100 on

WAY UP THERE by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- **11** Use the oven 12 Nights before
- holidays 13 Rain-delay cover
- 18 Caboose's place 72 Spiders' snares 19 Wise owl
 - 24 Promotional
 - connection 26 Fancy feather
 - 27 City near
 - St. Pete
 - 28 Skin lotion additives
 - 29 Model-airplane adhesives
 - 31 Type of bank, for short
 - 33 Still asleep
 - 34 Dictation-taking pro
 - **35** Sculpted figure
 - 37 Seashore nook
 - 39 Ice cream
 - serving
- 58 General location 60 Wild guess **62** Cowboy-boot

forth

- attachment 63 Nashville's state:
- Abbr.
- 65 Calculate a total 66 Letters after kays
- 67 Highways: Abbr. 10 |11 |12 |13

2/5/13

19

26 25 33 34 35 39 40 43 46 50 62 70 73

Yanks will support A-Rod, Rivera says

NEW YORK (AP) — Sitting on a stage with their manager and GM during a fundraiser, Mariano Rivera and Mark Teixeira vowed to welcome Alex Rodriguez back to the New York Yankees following the latest drug allegations against the New York Yankees star.

Rodriguez is recovering from hip surgery expected to sideline him until at least the All-Star break. The Miami New Times reported last week that Rodriguez is included in records the paper claims show he bought performance-enhancing drugs from a defunct Florida anti-aging clinic. Rodriguez denied the charges.

"We have to embrace him. He's our teammate,"

Rivera said.

Rodriguez was among a half-dozen major leaguers accused in the report by the alternative weekly and could face a 50-game suspension. He admitted four years ago that he used PEDs while with the Texas Rangers from 2001-03.

"He wears that uniform, that New York Yankees uniform, and I have to go out and be there for him," Rivera said. "Besides, he's my friend and I will respect and wait for him to give you the answer that you want."

"We're hopeful and we're confident that he's going to come back healthy but you've got to find out," Yankee Manager JoeGirardi said.

OUTAGE

Continued from Page 7

has come since Hurricane Katrina in 2005. But many fans were forgiving, and officials expressed confidence that the episode wouldn't hurt the city's hopes of hosting the championship again.

To New Orleans' relief, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said the city did a "terrific" job hosting its first pro football championship in the post-Katrina era.

Fans watching from home weren't terred, either. An estimated 108.4 million television viewers saw the Baltimore Ravens beat the San Francisco 49ers 34-31, making it the third most-viewed program in television history. Both the 2010

and 2011 games hit the 111 million mark.

As for possible culprits, it couldn't be blamed on a case of too much demand for power.

Meters showed the 76,000-seat stadium was drawing no more electricity than it does during a typical New Orleans Saints game, according to Doug Thornton, the Superdome manager.

He also ruled out Bevonce's electrifying halftime performance. She brought along her own generator.

Officials with the utility and the Superdome were quick to note that an NFL game, the Sugar Bowl and another bowl game were played there in recent weeks with no apparent problems.

Determining cause will probably take days, according to

ly committed a turnover

Dennis Dawsey, a vice president for distribution and transmission for Entergy. He said the makers of some of the switching gear have been brought in to help figure out what happened.

The blackout came after a nearly flawless week of activity for football fans in New Orleans leading up to the big game.

Mayor Mitch Landrieu told WWL-AM on Monday that the outage won't hurt the city's chances, and he joked that the game got better after the blackout: "People were leaving and the game was getting boring, so we had to do a little something to spice it up."

Sunday's Super Bowl was New Orleans' 10th as host, and officials plan to make a bid for an 11th in 2018.

fense set, we didn't get much going. They got whatever they wanted. They got 3s, they got layups, they got backdoor cuts. We were ball-watching. It was just an all-around tough game."

Once the lead got lopsided, tempers started to flare. Kendrick Perkins and O.J. Mayo had to be separated, and referee Ken Mauer issued a technical foul against Perkins after reviewing the play on video. The Thunder protested that Dallas players were inflammatory using language, but Mauer explained that he was limited to video — and not audio — on the re-

play. Oklahoma City led by as many as 33 in the fourth quarter.

HAWKS

Continued from Page 7

22 points per game had a game-high 26 points, but a second half regurgence by Midland College gave them the 74-60 win over HC — its second of the season.

No Hawk aside from Forte scored in doubledigits. HC Head Coach Mark Adams attributed the loss to inconsistent shooting and defensive play in the second half of play.

"We shot very poorly from the three-point line and we were under 50 percent at the free throw line," Adams said. It was a poor defensive effort in the second half, which makes it very hard to win."

AlsohurtingtheHawks were matchup issues. The Chaps enjoyed a height advantage, especially at the guard posi-

"We really have matchup problems against Midland," Adams said. "We went back-and-forth with them until about 10 minutes left in the game. but then the bottom fell out and we gave up a lot of easy baskets."

The Hawks (19-4, 6-3) will try to get back on track with a win over Clarendon College on the road Thursday.

South Plains will be making the trek to Big Spring on Saturday. Game time is set for 3 p.m. at the Dorothy Garret Coliseum.

"Our backs are to the wall," Adams added. "We have to start winning, that's all there is

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237.

MAVS

Continued from Page 7

and Daniel Orton. The Thunder have alternated wins and losses for their past nine games, and have lost two in a row only once this sea-

"A good team usually responds to losses like that. I remember we used to be like that," said Nowitzki, who's

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not used to being on a team struggling to contend for a playoff spot.

"We responded well," said. "The Durant toughest test is to see how we do the next game. It's easy to do it. ... We've got to see if we can sustain it and keep going the next game."

The Thunder charged ahead to stay after Darren Collison headed to the Mavericks' bench with his second foul,

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Buster Gartman 949

picked up while reaching in against Durant on a made jumper with 4:10 left in the first quarter. Martin had a twohanded, alley-oop dunk and a 3-pointer during a string of nine straight Oklahoma City points, and Hasheem Thabeet's short jumper to start the second quarter made it

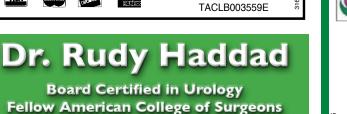
Even when Collison who had a seasonhigh 32 points and hit a tying 3-pointer at the fourth-quarter buzzer in the teams' first meeting this season — returned, the Mavs could never stop Oklahoma City's momentum.

31-22 Thunder.

Collison checked back in and immediatethat led to runout lavup by Westbrook, and the Thunder kept rolling until their lead reached 27. Oklahoma City hit 12 of its first 16 shots in the second quarter and had outscored Dallas 21-1 on the fast break by the time Durant bounced a slick pass to Martin for a layup on a backdoor cut to make it 61-34.

"That always gets us in trouble when we turn the ball over. We're usually not very good when we can't go back and set our defense up. That really, for us, is a recipe for disaster," Nowitzki said.

"But even defensively when we had our de-



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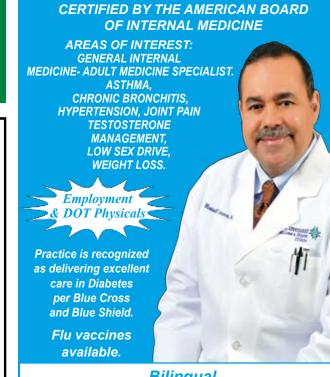
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