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Scouts hold off decision on gays

By DAVID CRARY

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Caught in an ideological crossfire, the Boy Scouts of America is putting off until May a decision on whether to ease its policy of excluding gays. Whatever the organization eventually does, it's likely to anger major constituencies and worsen schisms within Scouting.

The delay, which the Scouts attributed to "the complexity of this issue," was announced Wednesday after closed-door deliberations by the BSA's national executive board. Under consideration was a proposal to ease the longstanding ban on gays by allowing sponsors of local troops to decide for themselves on the membership of gay Scouts and adult leaders.

As the board met over three days at a hotel near Dallas, it became clear that the proposal would be unacceptable to large numbers of impassioned Scouting families and advocacy groups on both the left and right.

The iconic youth organization is now deeply entangled in the broader cultural and political conflicts over such issues as same-sex marriage and religious freedom. Tilted toward either side will probably alienate the other, and a midway balancing act will be difficult.

Gay-rights supporters contend that no Scout units anywhere should exclude gays, and vowed

See **SCOUTS**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

This train is just one of the many woodworking creations of Bill Brooks which will be on display beginning Saturday at Heritage Museum. This exhibit runs through Feb. 28.

Wonders from wood

Brooks exhibit opens Saturday at museum

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

A lifetime of carving beauty from wood will be on display this month at Heritage Museum.

Various works from local resident Bill Brooks will make up "My World is Turning," an exhibit which opens

Saturday and runs through Feb. 28, Museum Director Nancy Raney said.

The exhibit will open with a wine and cheese reception at the museum from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Brooks became interested in woodworking at an early age. After graduating from Ira High School, he earned a bachelor's and master's degree in

industrial arts from North Texas State University (later the University of North Texas) in 1976.

He taught woodworking and drafting for several years before opening his own design business in 1976.

Raney said the exhibit is a result

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Tax time help available from AARP

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

As the tax season officially gets into full swing in the Crossroads area, volunteers with the annual AARP Tax-Aide program are ready to help local residents file their returns.

Marking the third week of the program — Tax-Aide is available each Monday from 8 a.m. until noon through April 8 — AARP program coordinator Ray Alexander said he and his team of volunteers are ready to lend a helping hand.

"The AARP program provides free federal tax preparation assistance to people who cannot afford professional tax help, such as seniors, people with disabilities, those

that don't speak English and people with low-to-moderate income," Alexander added. "AARP volunteers explain many special tax credits and deductions and how people may claim them on their tax returns. These volunteers help people complete their returns, right down to any refunds that may be due them."

Alexander said residents looking to take advantage of the program should be sure to bring all of their relevant tax information when they get ready to meet with the Tax-Aide volunteers.

"People need to be sure to bring all of the pertinent information with them, including W-2 forms and 1099 forms, when they come in to see us," Alexander said.

"They also need to bring

any forms that show their 2011 earnings and their 2010 tax returns. We also need a social security card for every person named on the return and a photo ID for the person filing," he added.

This year, taxpayers have until Monday, April 15, to file their 2012 tax returns and pay any tax due.

The IRS expects to receive more than 147 million individual tax returns this year, with about 75 percent projected to receive a refund, according to IRS officials.

Last year for the first time, 80 percent of all individual returns were filed electronically.

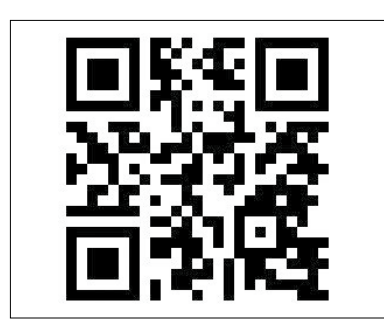
E-file, when combined with direct deposit, is the fastest way to get a refund. Last year, about three out of four refund

filers selected direct deposit, according to IRS reports.

The Tax-Aide program is held at the Big Spring Senior Citizens Center, located at 1901 Simler Dr. in the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

For more information, contact Alexander at 263-4992.

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



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Obituaries

A.J. Cain



A.J. Cain, 84, of Midland, died peacefully at his home on Sunday, Feb. 3, 2013. A graveside service with military honors will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013, at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland, followed by the memorial service at 3 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church, 2801 N. Garfield in Midland. The Rev. Cheryl Homsher, pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church, will lead the celebration of life service assisted by the Rev. Walter Thompson, First Presbyterian Church.

A.J. was born in Big Spring, Texas on Aug. 31, 1928, to Alice Haynes Cain and Andrew Jackson Cain. He graduated from Big Spring High School and then enlisted in the U.S. Army at the ripe old age of 17. After his honorable discharge in 1948, he attended Howard County Junior College. During A.J.'s high school and junior college years, he played baseball and football and ran track. After completing junior college, A.J. transferred to the University of North Texas where he graduated with a degree in marketing. On Sept. 8, 1951, he married Bonnie Dempsey in Big Spring.

Following college graduation, A.J. went to work for Hughes Tool Company selling drill bits in Odessa. He was transferred several times by Hughes during the early years of his marriage to Bonnie, living in Levelland, Brownfield, and Andrews. In 1956, A.J. accepted a job with Mustang Mud and began a life-long career in the drilling mud business. He was transferred to Midland in 1963 and moved his family to the home they would occupy for almost five decades. During his years with Mustang, A.J. could often be spotted around Midland in his field car with the aptly named "Mud Man" license plates.

A.J. was a member of Trinity Presbyterian church for 49 years, serving as a ruling elder, deacon, and trustee at various times during those years. He helped Bonnie with the youth fellowship group at Trinity for many years and accompanied them on mission trips and fellowship excursions. He recently joined Grace Presbyterian Church where he was able to worship with his family as his health allowed.

A.J.'s sales work with Mustang enabled him to meet many people and, more often than not, those clients became dear friends. He thoroughly enjoyed people and loved visiting with them and discussing the oil business or sports. The downtown morning coffee group to which he belonged usually started his work day off with much laughter and good natured ribbing.

In addition to his career in the mud business, A.J. stayed active in the community and supported many charitable organizations, non-profits, and his favorite political party. He also valued education and helped many young people and family members obtain a higher education by providing them encouragement and financial assistance.

A.J.'s generosity was legendary — his grandchildren and other folks would often come away from a handshake with A.J. to find a Benjamin Franklin staring back at them. Not only will A.J. be remem-

bered for his generous nature, but also for his loyalty, integrity, strong work ethic, kindness, great sense of humor, positive attitude and gentle way with people.

He loved sports and spent many an hour watching football, baseball, tennis and golf. He was a very loyal fan of the Dallas Cowboys and the Texas Rangers. In addition to sports, A.J. also loved beautiful art, great music and theater, fascinating books, and excellent food.

In their middle years, A.J. and Bonnie enjoyed traveling throughout the United States and around the world.

Wherever their daughters moved after starting families of their own — whether it was Jakarta or Jacksonville, Aberdeen or Albany — A.J. and Bonnie made it a point to visit and spoil the grandchildren. A.J. learned how to fly an airplane when he was in his 40s and used that mode of transportation often to go and visit those precious grandchildren.

The family cabin in Ruidoso, N.M. was a favorite destination for A.J. and Bonnie. They spent many happy hours hiking in the woods, skiing, entertaining friends, and spending time on the deck watching the blue jays and hummingbirds. A.J. loved his birds and made sure they were well fed.

A.J. was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 58 years, and his sister, Mary Alice Christensen.

He is survived by two daughters, Chris Cain Laufer and husband Jeff of Midland; and Diane Cain Warner and husband Tom of Decatur, Ill. A.J. is survived by five grandchildren and one great-grandchild, Shannon Laufer Mann and husband John of Argyll, Texas; Elyse Laufer Starr and husband Ryan and their 2-month-old daughter Hayley, all of Midland; Jake Laufer and wife Courtney of Midland; Thomas Michael Warner of Charleston, S.C.; and Luke Warner of West Lafayette, Ind.

He is also survived by his sisters Billie Carr of Big Spring and Betty Lively of Odessa, as well as his nieces and nephews: Lynn Christensen McDowell and husband Jerry of Horseshoe Bay, Texas; Barbara Carlos of Boston, Mass.; Ben Carr of Albuquerque, N.M.; Brad Carr and wife Dorth of Albuquerque, N.M.; Eddy Elmore of Kingsland, Texas; Everett Elmore and wife Sofie of Odessa; and Beth Smith and husband Andy of Odessa.

A.J. is also survived by his sister-in-law and dear friend, Jerry Dempsey; nieces Shelley Rash and Susan Hendricks and husband Jay, all of Odessa. In addition to these, A.J. leaves a host of extended family and dear friends to celebrate his life.

The family would like to thank the staff at Helen Greathouse Manor, Manor Park, and Home Hospice for their devotion to and tender care of A.J. as his health declined.

Memorials may be directed to the Community Children's Clinic, 1101 E. Front Ave., Midland, TX 7970; Grace Presbyterian Church, 2801 N. Garfield, Midland, TX 79705; Home Hospice, 901 W. Missouri, Midland, TX 79701; or the charity of your choice.

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

Paid obituary

Thersa Verdell McKnight Stifflemire



Thersa Verdell McKnight Stifflemire, 89, of Sweeny, Texas, passed away Monday, Feb. 4, 2013, at Emerus Hospital in Sugarland, Texas.

She was born June 18, 1923, in Kelsey, Texas, to Samuel McKnight and Gladys Corilla Luton.

She is survived by her four children, Linda Harkness and husband Jim of Scottsboro, Ala., Glenn Stifflemire and wife Lea of

Sweetwater, Texas, Terry Stifflemire and wife Sharon of Huntsville, Ala., and Betty Johnston and husband Gary of Sweeny, Texas; 13 grandchildren, Steve Harkness, Jason Turk, Melissa Pollock, Lisa

Polk, Seth Stifflemire, Tera Miller, Tammy Bautsch, Lori Pierce, Sheryl Herrera, Jeffrey Stifflemire, Denise Randolph, Brett Stifflemire and Amy Stifflemire; 37 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, B.T. Stifflemire; two brothers, Samuel Arthur McKnight and Austin Errol McKnight; and her parents.

Visitation will be at Lakewood Funeral Home in Lake Jackson, Texas, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints located at 502 Southern Oaks Drive in Lake Jackson. Burial will follow at Restwood Cemetery in Lake Jackson.

Pallbearers include, Steve Harkness, Jason Turk, Seth Stifflemire, Jeffrey Stifflemire, Brett Stifflemire, Chandler Pierce and Anthony Herrera.

Paid obituary

Ruth Vencil



Ruth Vencil, 65, of Big Spring went to be with her Savior on Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013, at Jayton Cemetery in Jayton, Texas with the Rev. Jess Colegrove officiating.

Ruth was born Dec. 31, 1947, in Lancashire, England. She worked as a professional dancer in a ballet company which toured Europe and the Middle East. She met Billy Vencil in Egypt and they were soon married in London.

They lived in various countries around the world before moving to the United States in 1980, where

she started a new and long career in apartment management. She recently moved to Big Spring to be closer to her family and grandchildren.

Ruth was a caring mother who loved her family and was especially fond of animals. She will be greatly missed.

Survivors include her daughter, Michelle Cahill and son-in-law Mike Cahill of Big Spring; one grandson, Nicholas Tillman and wife Kristen of Abilene; two granddaughters, Cortnie Cahill of San Angelo and Londyn Cahill of Big Spring; one great-grandson, Talan Tillman of Abilene; and a brother, Stuart Raistrick of Blackpool, England.

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

Paid obituary

Lois Hicks

Lois Hicks, 68, of Stanton, formerly of Big Spring died Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013, at Stanton Care Center. Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Aug. 30, 1944, to Mary and Lon Hicks. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and Stanton. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Carl.

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

Police blotter

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

- MONICA RENAE POLK, 38, of Odessa, Texas, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency and warrants for assault by contact, failure to appear (three counts), no driver's license — when unlicensed and disregarding a stop sign.
- LAURA ANN MURPHY, 28, of 1102 Ridgeroad, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for backed

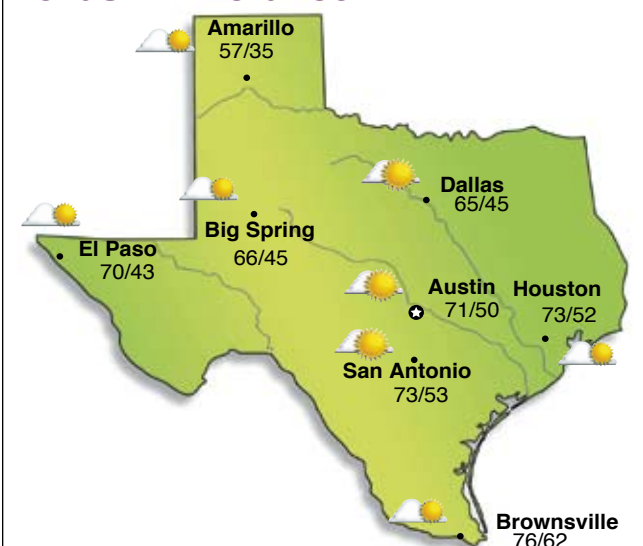
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 2/8	Sat 2/9	Sun 2/10
66/45 Partly cloudy. High 66F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.	74/41 More clouds than sun, windy. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.	65/36 More sun than clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:34 AM Sunset: 6:26 PM	Sunrise: 7:34 AM Sunset: 6:27 PM	Sunrise: 7:33 AM Sunset: 6:28 PM



Texas At A Glance



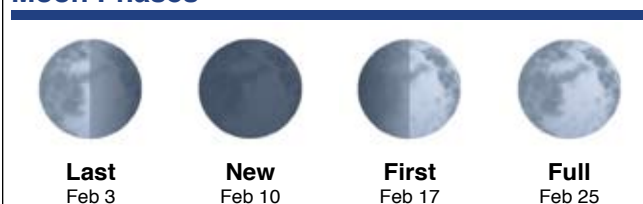
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	65	47	mst sunny	Kingsville	79	58	pt sunny
Amarillo	57	35	pt sunny	Livingston	71	45	pt sunny
Austin	71	50	mst sunny	Longview	65	42	mst sunny
Beaumont	70	49	pt sunny	Lubbock	59	38	pt sunny
Brownsville	76	62	pt sunny	Luftkin	70	45	pt sunny
Brownwood	68	49	mst sunny	Midland	65	50	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	75	59	pt sunny	Raymondville	78	61	pt sunny
Corsicana	64	44	mst sunny	Rosenberg	73	51	pt sunny
Dallas	65	45	mst sunny	San Antonio	73	53	mst sunny
Del Rio	74	56	mst sunny	San Marcos	73	50	mst sunny
El Paso	70	43	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	64	41	mst sunny
Fort Stockton	67	48	windy	Sweetwater	65	47	mst sunny
Gainesville	61	40	mst sunny	Tyler	66	43	mst sunny
Greenville	62	40	mst sunny	Weatherford	63	43	mst sunny
Houston	73	52	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	62	40	mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	61	34	pt sunny	Minneapolis	28	16	mst sunny
Boston	33	24	snow	New York	38	28	mixed
Chicago	32	21	pt sunny	Phoenix	61	40	windy
Dallas	65	45	mst sunny	San Francisco	53	40	rain
Denver	50	26	pt sunny	Seattle	46	35	mst sunny
Houston	73	52	pt sunny	St. Louis	43	30	pt sunny
Los Angeles	58	41	rain	Washington, DC	49	31	rain
Miami	86	63	pt sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Fri 2/8	Sat 2/9	Sun 2/10
5	4	5
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, 0 with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

so as to interfere (or without safety).

- SERGIO JOSEPH MARTINEZ, 21, of 805 Rosemont, was arrested Wednesday on warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, speeding and bail jumping — failure to appear (fine only, two counts).

- RONALD STANLEY HASELBY, 62, of Carlsbad, N.M., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.

- ROBERT ALLEN THORP, 24, of 1609 E. Third St., was arrested Wednesday on warrants for indecency with a child — sexual contact (two counts).

- STOLEN VEHICLE was reported in the 100 block of Hooser Road.

- THEFT was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 76 inmates at the time of this report.

- ROBERT ALLEN THORP, 24, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on motions to adjudicate guilt for indecency with a child — sexual contact (two counts).

- MONICA R. POLK, 38, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of bail jumping — failure to appear and municipal warrants for assault by contact, failure to appear (three counts), no driver's license — when unlicensed and disregarding a stop sign.

- LAURA ANN MURPHY, 28, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on a municipal capias warrant for backing so as to interfere (or without safety).

- SERGIO JOSEPH MARTINEZ, 21, was booked into the county detention center Wednesday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, speeding, failure to appear and violation of a promise to appear.

- JOHNNY LAVELL GREEN, 49, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for failure to identify — giving false information.

- RONALD HASELBY, 62, was booked into the county detention center Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Take note

• Big Spring city crews have closed the 1700 block of Virginia for utility repairs. For more information, contact the city public works department at 264-2501.

• Canterbury North, 1700 Lancaster, will host a Senior Sweetheart Dance from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday. Music will be provided by RC & Company. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. For more information, call 263-1265.

• Thy Will Be Done Ministry will hold a Yard/Food/Bake Sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at 610 Abrams. Proceeds will go toward expanding the church facility.

• 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.

• A continuing education class focusing on computer education is set to begin Feb. 12 and run through the month. This is a four-week course, with classes taking place 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Registration can be done through the continuing education department at Howard College and each student completing the course will receive a certificate of completion. To find out more information or to register, call Cris Cortez at 432-264-5077.

• Healthy Woman is presenting a heart healthy affair "Be Aware of YOUR Heart" at noon Feb. 21 at the Dora Roberts Community Center. Drs. Rudy and Chris Haddad will speak, along with a person story from Mitzi Knight. The event is free to the public, but reservations need to be made no later than Feb. 15 at 5 p.m. To reserve your spot, call Amanda Duforat at 432-268-4842 or Anita Cline at 432-268-4721.

• 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 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. 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 members can donate new or used heaters. Monetary donations are also welcomed.

WOOD

Continued from Page 1

of popular demand from the community.

"We've actually been contacted by several people in town ... They spoke about how Bill was kind of a hidden talent in town," Raney said. "We've been working to have him here the last two or three years and thankfully, it finally

worked out for everybody.

"Bill really has some beautiful work," Raney added. "I hope everyone can come out and see for themselves."

For more information, contact the museum at 267-8255.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 235, or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

SCOUTS

Continued from Page 1

to maintain pressure on the BSA's corporate donors to achieve that goal. Some conservatives, including religious leaders whose churches sponsor troops, warned of mass defections if the ban were even partially eased. They urged supporters to flood headquarters with phone calls.

"In the past two weeks, Scouting has received an outpouring of feedback from the American public," said the BSA's national spokesman, Deron Smith. "It reinforces how deeply people care about Scouting and how passionate they are about the organization."

The BSA "needs time for a more deliberate review of its membership policy," Smith added. He said the board would prepare a resolution to be voted on by the 1,400 voting members of the BSA national council at a meeting during the week of May 20 in Grapevine, Texas.

The organization had announced last week that it was considering allowing Scout troops to decide whether to allow gay membership, ensuring that the executive board meeting would be in the national spotlight.

Learning that a decision would be deferred, gay-rights leaders assailed the BSA.

"Every day that the Boy Scouts of America

delay action is another day that discrimination prevails," said Chad Griffin, president of the Human Rights Campaign. "Young Americans, gay and straight, are hurt by the inaction associated with today's news."

"A Scout is supposed to be brave, and the Boy Scouts failed to be brave today," said Jennifer Tyrrell, an Ohio mother ousted as a den leader of her son's Cub Scout pack because she's a lesbian.

"They failed us yet again," she told The Associated Press. "Putting this off until May only ensures other gay kids and gay parents are discarded."

Tyrrell was among several current and former Scouts and supporters who rallied outside BSA national headquarters Monday and delivered petitions opposing the policy.

Conservative leaders made clear they would keep pressure on the BSA ahead of the May meeting. Tony Perkins of the Family Research Council said his group would continue warning the BSA "about the grave consequences that would result if they were to compromise their moral standards in the face of threats from corporate elites and homosexual activists."

About 70 percent of all Scout units are sponsored by religious denominations, including many by conservative faiths that have supported the ban, includ-

ing the Roman Catholic Church, the Southern Baptist Convention and the Mormon church.

The delay was welcomed by Southern Baptist leaders, some of whom had said they would urge their churches to seek alternatives to the Boy Scouts if the ban were eliminated.

In comments to the Baptist Press, the denomination's official news agency, SBC President Fred Luter suggested that "prayers of the righteous" played a role in the BSA decision.

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting said it would join in the BSA's consultations over the coming months. Whatever the outcome, the committee said, "Catholic chartered units will continue to provide leaders who promote and live Catholic values."

Michael Purdy, a spokesman at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints headquarters in Utah, said the BSA "acted wisely in delaying its decision until all voices can be heard on this important moral issue."

The extra time will give local Scout leaders in Utah and elsewhere time to determine how

their members feel about the proposal, said Kay Godfrey, a spokesman for Boy Scouts in the Great Salt Lake Council. The heavily Mormon council is one of the largest in the country, with 5,500 troops and 73,400 youth members.

"It's so important and so historic in nature that serious deliberation over time, involving a broad spectrum of folks, is needed," Godfrey said.

Outside BSA headquarters, hundreds of supporters of the ban held a rally and prayer vigil Wednesday, carrying signs that read, "Don't invite sin into the camp" and "Homosexuality is a sin! BSA please resist Satan's test. Uphold the ban."

Scoutmaster Darrel Russell of Weatherford, west of Fort Worth, took his wife and five of their seven children to the rally. Russell said having gays in the scouting movement would be like mixing boys and girls.

"The whole idea is to protect our boys at all costs," Russell said, warning that if the ban is lifted, "we're shutting down our troop."

Among those joining the debate was New

York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, an Eagle Scout who told reporters the ban should be lifted.

"I can't urge them enough to make sure that every young man is eligible, regardless of his orientation, to be a scout and to benefit from a great program that really helps kids develop," he said.

In Washington, White House spokesman Jay Carney declined to comment on the BSA's delay but reiterated President Barack Obama's view that gays should be able to participate in the Scouts.

Members of the Scouts' executive board remained silent about their deliberations during and after their meeting. Police and security guards blocked journalists from entering the meeting area, and board members approached as they walked to their cars outside the hotel declined to comment.

However, it's likely the board — and corporations that contribute to the BSA — will face

continued pressure.

By delaying the vote, the Scouts "have guaranteed continuing controversy and increased pressures on corporate sponsors to withdraw funding," said professor Kenneth Sherrill, a gay rights advocate who teaches political science at Hunter College in New York.

No national polling has been released conveying how current Scout parents and leaders feel about the ban. But overall, U.S. voters favor eliminating it by 55 percent to 33 percent, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released Wednesday. Quinnipiac said the poll's margin of error was plus/minus 2.3 percentage points.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

Lois Hicks, 67, died Saturday. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Trinity Memorial Park.

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50¢ Off Children
Sunday Only
11-3 Buffet or
Any Entree \$7.95 or above
1 Coupon Per Person
Must Be Presented For Discount
Expires 02-28-2013

Dragon China Buffet
1300 Gregg 268-8888

\$1.00 Off Per Adult
.50 Off Per Child
Up to 10 People
(NOT FOR CARRYOUT)
EXP. 02/28/13

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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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OTHER VIEWS

Looking for leadership in education

Gov. Rick Perry said some nice things Tuesday in his State of the State address about how well Texas is doing. We agree. It's booming.

He boldly recommended spending \$3.7 billion from the boom-fattened Rainy Day Fund, after having guarded it more diligently the past two years than the Louvre staff monitors the Mona Lisa. He wants to spend it on water and transportation infrastructure.

We agree. Do it. They're critical, underfunded necessities. Strategically speaking, Texas needs to move ahead on them if it wants to continue to boom.

Too bad Perry's speech was a limo ride, tinted windows firmly up, around two of Texas' most pressing needs — public education and health care.

Education is, as we've pointed out often, where the Legislature cut \$5.4 billion in 2011, cheer-led by the governor.

On Tuesday, instead of asking that at least some of the funding be restored, Perry proposed a \$1.8 billion tax refund and invited suggestions on how to do it. Near as we can tell, it would involve going through a whole lot of wrinkled sales receipts, assuming folks kept them, since sales tax is the state's primary funding mechanism.

But back to education: Perry also proposed more charter schools and a “scholarship” program for private school tuition to give students and parents more choice. We won't dismiss his call for more charter schools, which at least are free to their students.

But a private school scholarship or voucher program would be a diversion of funds from public education.

It's also a puzzling digression from Perry's supposedly less-government, pro-free enterprise philosophy.

He likes to say that Texas is a pay-as-you-go state. Why, then, would a parent's decision to send a child to private school not also be a purely pay-as-you-go option?

“Governor Perry refuses to invest in our future,” was the headline on a news release Tuesday from state Rep. Abel Herrero, D-Robstown. “No matter what you call it, ‘scholarships’ or ‘vouchers,’” Herrero said, “the idea will further grow the disparity in the Texas education system.” We agree. It will.

And we agree that Perry is refusing to invest in the future of his state, which he called “not merely strong but exceptional,” with which we also agree.

On health care, Perry reiterated his resoluteness not to do anything to help the one in four uninsured Texans because to do so would capitulate to Obamacare.

Just to recap his stance: He won't accept federal funds to expand Medicaid to cover those people because it's unsustainable, which means they continue the less sustainable, vastly most expensive method of going directly to the hospital emergency room.

Don't expect the Legislature to trump Perry on health care. Education funding may stand a better chance, since House Speaker Joe Straus said restoring at least some of the cuts is a goal.

“If the governor is unwilling to help,” Texas American Federation of Teachers president Linda Bridges said in a statement, “legislators must take the lead.”

We agree. They must. Texas' future depends on it.

— *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*

A debate we can't resolve

A few weeks ago, in his second inaugural speech, President Obama waded into the longest-running argument our history offers. “Progress does not compel us to settle centuries-long debates about the role of government for all time,” he said, “but it does require us to act in our time.”

He had just laid out a rationale for government action on infrastructure, protecting the security and dignity of people, climate change, inequality, the strength of arms and the rule of law. Even though he also spoke about limiting government's reach, replacing outmoded programs, and reforming its shortcomings, liberals saw the speech as a call to arms, while conservatives cringed.

However you responded, though, there's one point I suspect we could all agree on: this is not a question we'll ever settle. After more than two centuries of discord over the proper role of government, the only consensus we've been able to arrive at as a nation is a consensus not to have a consensus.

That's okay, because the issue is never going to go away. Changing circumstances, new challenges facing the country, and shifting national moods will always demand that we rethink what we want out of government. But that is not the same as saying that we can't approach the question more thoughtfully.

If you bring up the issue before an audience, someone invariably

quotes Henry David Thoreau's phrase, “That government is best which governs least.” Everyone usually nods in agreement.

But Thoreau was writing more than 150 years ago. As appealing as small government might be to the rugged-individualist, market-oriented strain in the American character, talk about it is misleading. The growing number of Americans on Social Security and Medicare; the interest on the national debt; the public demand for regulations that promote safety and well-being, protect the environment, and keep rapacious firms in check; the sums we spend on defense and taking a robust leadership role in the world; the government's interest in promoting economic activity, in part by funding infrastructure — all guarantee that the federal government won't be shrinking anytime soon.

This is not to say that government can't be restrained, however. Talking about “limited government,” I think, is far more useful these days than about “small government.” An energetic government that nonetheless knows how to restrain spending, ensures that regulations are fair, calibrates the tax code so that it promotes economic growth and provides what government needs without stifling initiative, and rigorously oversees its own actions to correct slip-ups quickly and ensure they don't happen again — how to create that is worth debating.

Most Americans are uncomfortable with an aggressive, expansive government. They want it to provide the resources for people to solve the problems that confront us, they want it to

lay the groundwork for opportunity, they want it to protect liberty, individual freedom and federalism, they want it to keep us secure, and they want government leaders to do the best they can — given how limited their control over the economy actually is — to promote economic growth. But they don't want it to take over.

Still, I am concerned by our failure as a country to deal with issues that demand government action: income inequality, poverty, hunger, the lack of access for too many Americans to high-quality education, and the sluggish economy. Government can't solve these alone, but we can't solve them without government.

The public sector does a lot of things wrong. It fixates on short-term benefits and ignores long-term costs. It remains slow to act when action is needed. It is reluctant to spend now — as on infrastructure — even when it knows that the longer it delays the higher costs will rise. It often spends too much and too inefficiently. It fails to reckon early enough with the consequences of its activities.

Yet it is also indispensable. So it is high time, I believe, to set aside the black-and-white argument about “big vs. small” government and to adopt a more thoughtful, less ideological approach to the role of government. For those things we want government to do, we should be talking about how a limited government can do them better.

Lee Hamilton is Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



LEE HAMILTON

Standing at Ed Koch's lucky corner

The mayor of New York, already rumpled-looking in his gray suit though it is only 7:30 a.m., stands on the northwest corner of 77th and Lexington under a Te-Amo Imported Cigars sign. A fringe of white hair crowns his head like a laurel wreath upon a Caesar.

“Good morning,” Ed Koch booms to the knot of reporters that soon surrounds him and then begins without preamble: “I don't make predictions. I hope Al Gore does well; I put my trust in God. I don't know whether God is watching or not.”

But if God is not watching New York, He is the only one who isn't.

It is 1988, and a few weeks earlier Jesse Jackson had won the Michigan primary. The panjandrums of the Democratic Party are in full panic. Who is going to stop Jackson? Michael Dukakis, whose campaign seems to be flabby and floundering, appears unable to do the job.

A Great White Hope is needed. Al Gore steps forward.

“I am dismayed by Jackson's embrace of Yasser Arafat,” Gore tells Jewish leaders in New York City. “I categorically deny (Jackson's) notion that there's a moral equivalence between Israel and the PLO. In a Gore administration, no one will have reason to doubt America's commitment to the survival and security of Israel.”

This goes over very well in New York City. And afterward, Gore, a southern Baptist whose favorite Shakespeare play is “The Merchant of Venice,” joins the Jewish leaders at a kosher deli for lunch. The Gore campaign announces that Gore has “pulled off the gloves to challenge front-runner Jesse Jackson.”

The next day, April 1, Ed Koch says Jews “would have to be crazy to vote for Jackson.” The stage is set. Koch endorses Gore,

the man who has the guts to kick Jesse Jackson in his tuchus.

Now, on the day before the New York primary, Koch goes to 77th and Lex to show Gore how it's done, to show him how you win New York.

“I had a stroke,” Koch, 63, says apropos of nothing, “and Mother Teresa prayed for me. And I'm Jewish! This is my lucky corner, you know. I've run 24 times, congressman and city council, mayor. And I come here at 7 a.m. and stand here until 8 p.m. on Election Day. I had a stroke, but I walk. I dance. I talk.”

The words gush forth from his mouth in a torrent. Thus far, he has not been asked a single question by reporters. But somehow question-and-response seem unnecessary for Koch, who is willing to provide not only the answers but also the questions.

“I am most vociferous in my criticism of Jesse Jackson,” Koch goes on, “but none of my attacks have been disputed.

Some people don't want the truth. You criticize a black, and you're called a racist.” He shrugs. Go figure.

During an uncharacteristic pause, I wedge in a question. Hasn't the New York primary been divisive and hate-filled? I ask for a book I am doing (and from which this column is taken).

“Lemme tell you,” Koch continues. “Al Gore has the potential for greatness that Jack Kennedy had.”

Al Gore? Who's he? Where's he? Oh, you mean the silent guy in the suit over there looking like the second wheel on a unicycle? The guy running for president but unable to get a word in edgewise because the mayor of New York will not shut up? Yeah, that guy.

“Dukakis is ... acceptable,” Koch says through pursed lips, again in response to no question. “Acceptable. But he ...” Koch points to Gore. “He has the potential for greatness.”

The “he,” Gore, brightens at the mention of his name and takes a half-step forward like an actor who has been waiting in the wings and has finally heard

his cue.

“He took me to deli on the lower East Side,” Gore begins. “And we had pickles. Different kinds of pickles. They were called, uh ... uh ...”

“Sours and half-sours,” Koch says and then winks at the reporters as if to say: Goyim. What can you do?

“Right, right,” Gore says. “I liked the half-sours better than the sours.”

This being New York, where anything can happen and does on a daily basis, McGeorge Bundy, one of John Kennedy's best and brightest, and now a professor of history at New York University, innocently walks by on his way down into the subway.

Koch grabs him and demands a vote for Gore.

“I'm from Massachusetts,” Bundy says, apologetically. In other words, he's for Dukakis.

Koch turns his back on him. “So? We can lose one vote,” he says.

They will end up losing more than one. Dukakis will take New York by 51 percent, Jackson will get 37 percent (winning New York City in the process), and Gore will get 10 percent. But in the preceding week, Gore secretly has been calling Jesse Jackson at night and apologizing for Koch. Jackson is mollified. Gore has shown respect.

Koch is unrepentant. “You cannot show me a single sentence that wasn't legitimate and truthful,” he tells reporters. And then he has a rare moment of introspection.

“Maybe I would package it better,” he says.

Ed Koch died Friday at age 88. His funeral was held Monday. Some are trying to have the corner at 77th and Lexington named for him. Famous political leaders said fine things about him.

Understandably, but uncharacteristically, Ed Koch was silent.

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.



ROGER SIMON

News in brief

Confirmation hearing for a new CIA director comes as Obama approves drone report for lawmakers

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's choice to head the CIA faces a Senate Intelligence Committee confirmation hearing just hours after lawmakers are expected to receive a classified report providing the rationale for drone strikes targeting Americans working with al-Qaida overseas.

John Brennan, the White House counterterrorism chief and Obama's nominee to run the nation's spy agency, helped manage the drone program. The confirmation hearing Thursday sets the stage for a public airing of some of the most controversial programs in the covert war on al-Qaida, from the deadly drone strikes to the CIA's use of interrogation techniques like waterboarding during President George W. Bush's administration.

Obama directed the Justice Department to provide access to the secret document to members of the Senate and House intelligence committees, an administration official said Wednesday. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., the Senate committee's chairman, said the legal opinion would be provided to her committee by Thursday morning.

An unclassified memo leaked this week says it is legal for the government to kill U.S. citizens abroad if it believes they are senior al-Qaida leaders continually engaged in operations aimed at killing Americans, even if there is no evidence of a specific imminent attack.

That unclassified memo is based on classified advice from the Office of Legal Counsel that is being made available to the intelligence committees' members, the official said. The official was not authorized to speak publicly about the decision and requested anonymity.

Major storm heading to New England could bring up to 2 feet of snow; ski resorts could benefit

BOSTON (AP) — A major winter storm heading toward New England may not be one for the record books, but even some of the nation's snow-hardest people should proceed with caution, according to at least one expert.

As much as 2 feet of snow could fall on a region that has seen mostly bare ground this winter, the National Weather Service said. That's exciting for resort operators who haven't had much snow this year.

The storm would hit just after the 35th anniversary of the historic blizzard of 1978, which paralyzed the region with more than 2 feet of snow and hurricane force winds from Feb. 5-7.

"This has the potential for being a dangerous storm, especially for Massachusetts into northeast Connecticut and up into Maine," said Louis Uccellini, director of the weather agency's National Centers for Environmental Prediction.

Uccellini, who has written two textbooks on Northeastern snowstorms, said Wednesday it was too early to tell if the storm would be one for the record books. But he said it will be a rare and major storm, the type that means "you can't let your guard down."

In safety measure, police officers do paperwork in their cars outside suburban Denver schools

CASTLE ROCK, Colo. (AP) — Stunned by the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings in Connecticut, police and school officials in one Colorado county felt they had to do something to reassure students.

Their solution: Have police officers on patrol do their arrest reports and other paperwork in school parking lots, rather than simply pulling off the road or returning to the police station.

It's had an immediate calming impact at a time when the nation is embroiled in the emotional debate over gun control and gun violence.

"The kids get to see us in a new light. We're not

showing up after something bad has happened," said Sgt. Chris O'Neal of the Douglas County Sheriff's Department south of Denver.

O'Neal spoke while filling out paperwork outside Fox Creek Elementary School — one of six schools he visits daily.

Obama to push his agenda, promote economic growth in meeting with House Democrats

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is promoting his second-term agenda to House Democrats, eager to keep them unified as a bulwark against a Republican majority on issues as diverse as the economy, immigration and guns.

Obama was meeting with Democratic lawmakers Thursday during their retreat in Lansdowne, Va., a day after he held a closed-door session with Senate Democrats at their off-campus conference in Annapolis, Md.

The meetings with legislators from his own party come just days before Obama's State of the Union address next Tuesday to a joint session of Congress. This week's meetings have served as something of a preamble for that nationally televised speech.

Obama was to deliver public remarks to the House members and then take questions in a private session, officials said.

White House officials say that Obama's top priority is job creation and that he will make a case for fiscal policies that encourage economic growth. Setting up a contrast with Republicans who are insisting on spending cuts, not tax increases, to stanch federal red ink, Obama told reporters Tuesday, "We can't just cut our way to prosperity."

N.M. medical board to rule on complaint against one of nation's few late-term abortion providers

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A woman from New York came to New Mexico to terminate her pregnancy at one of the nation's four late-term abortion clinics after she found out the fetus she had been carrying for more than eight months had severe brain abnormalities. There were complications during the abortion and the 26-year-old woman was rushed to the hospital with a ruptured uterus.

Nearly two years later, the intimate details of her medical treatment, her mental state, her religion and family status have become public as part of a state medical board probe that was initiated not by the patient, but by anti-abortion activists with Operation Rescue who aggressively monitor and file complaints based on 911 calls made from abortion clinics.

On Thursday, the New Mexico Medical Board is expected to decide whether to revoke the license of or otherwise discipline Dr. Shelley Sella, a former colleague of slain Kansas abortion doctor George Tiller and one of the few doctors in the country who still openly performs third-term abortions. It's a case that highlights Operation Rescue's aggressive attempts to halt abortions and raises questions about whether the tactics are an invasion of privacy when patient records become public.

The case also highlights the sensitivity surrounding late-term abortions, which several states have made illegal in recent years. Supporters of abortion rights say the procedures are rare and used only in cases where the health of the mother or child is in danger. Abortion opponents say they are a danger to mothers and painful for the unborn baby. The procedure involves injecting the fetus with a drug to stop its heartbeat and administering drugs over the next three to four days to pre-

pare the cervix and induce labor.

Sella gave the woman drugs commonly used in late-term abortions, drugs that, according to transcripts in the case, are known to potentially cause contractions strong enough to cause uterine ruptures in women who previously have delivered a baby through cesarean section, as this woman had.

FBI: No other explosives found near Ala. bunker where man held boy; captor's body removed

Bomb technicians have found no more explosive devices after an arduous search of the rural Alabama property of Jimmy Lee Dykes, the gunman who shot dead a school bus driver and held a boy captive for nearly a week in a rigged underground bunker.

Dykes was killed Monday by SWAT team members during a gunfight when officers raided the bunker and rescued the kindergartner unharmed, officials said.

With the work of bomb experts concluded, Dykes' body could be safely removed from the bunker, the FBI said.

An autopsy was planned Thursday and the FBI said evidence-collection and review teams had already begun the next phase — sifting the crime scene.

The FBI said after the raid that the 65-year-old man had planted one explosive artifact in a ventilation pipe used by negotiators to communicate with him in his underground bunker in the bucolic farming community of Midland City. The agency said a second device was found in the roughly 6-by-8-foot hand-dug bunker. Both were safely removed.

9 dead, including child, after tsunami swept into Solomon Islands in South Pacific

SYDNEY (AP) — Aid workers struggled to reach remote, tsunami-ravaged villages in the Solomon Islands on Thursday, as the death toll rose with more bodies found in wrecked homes and debris in the South Pacific island chain.

At least nine people, including a child, were killed when a powerful earthquake set off a small tsunami that sent 1.5-meter (4 foot, 11-inch) waves roaring inland on Santa Cruz Island, in the eastern Solomons, on Wednesday. Around 100 homes across five villages were damaged or destroyed.

The waves proved deadly for five elderly villagers and a child, who weren't fast enough to outrun the rushing water, said George Herming, a spokesman for the prime minister. Three more bodies were found Thursday, but Herming said details of how those victims died were not immediately available.

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

All Rules Have Exceptions

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 10 7 3
♥ A 6 5 2
♦ A Q
♣ A K J 10

WEST
♠ Q 2
♥ Q 9 4
♦ J 8 6 5 3
♣ 8 6 5

EAST
♠ A K J 9 6
♥ 8
♦ 9 7 4 2
♣ 7 4 3

SOUTH
♠ 8 5 4
♥ K J 10 7 3
♦ K 10
♣ Q 9 2

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

Opening lead — queen of spades.
Most players are taught early in life that they must never knowingly give declarer a ruff-and-discard. But, as with all general rules, there are times when this injunction should be violated.

Assume you're East and your partner leads the queen of spades against South's four-heart contract. You overtake the queen with the king — just in case the queen is a singleton — and continue with the A-J. West discards a diamond on the third

round of spades, and the question is what to do next.

Ordinarily, you'd discontinue the suit, bearing in mind the ancient ruff-and-discard bugaboo. In the present case, however, you should play a fourth round of spades!

There are basically two reasons for doing this. The first is that a heart, a diamond and a club return are all give-up plays that can't help your cause at all. The second is that you might manufacture a trump trick for your partner that does not exist naturally, and in that way defeat the contract.

In the actual case, once you lead the fourth round of spades, declarer is in a hopeless position. If he discards either a diamond or a club, or ruffs low, your partner ruffs with the nine to promote a trump trick for himself. South is in equally bad shape if he ruffs the fourth spade with the ten or king. In either case, West discards a club to assure a trump trick later on.

Note that if you fail to play a spade at trick four, South can bring the contract home by finessing against your partner's queen of trumps. Note also that playing a fourth round of spades would be equally successful if West's trump holding were the K-9-x.

Tomorrow: Bidding Quiz.
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News in brief

3 charged in East Texas oil tank explosion

VAN, Texas (AP) — Investigators say a man and two women have been charged with trespassing and criminal mischief after an East Texas oil storage tank exploded.

Van Zandt County fire Marshal Chuck Allen on Thursday announced the arrest of 24-year-old H.R. Price of Mineola, 24-year-old Brandy Wolfe of Grand Saline (sub-LEEN) and 25-year-old Heather Wolfe of Van.

Officials have said two people allegedly were smoking atop a storage tank during the Jan. 29 blast near Van, about 75 miles east of Dallas. Both were treated for burns.

Warrants were issued Wednesday for the suspects with bond set at \$150,000. All were no longer in custody Thursday and jail records did not list attorneys for them.

Ex-bank teller nabbed in nearly \$108K theft

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A former bank teller has returned to Texas to face charges that he stole nearly \$108,000 from the financial institution and fled the country.

The FBI arrested Pedro Godinez after he voluntarily returned to San Antonio on a flight from Mexico. Investigators say Godinez faces theft charges related to a Bank of America branch in Lakeway, near Austin.

The San Antonio Express-News reports Godinez disappeared from his job on Jan. 29, 2009.

Investigators say surveillance video shows Godinez walking into the vault and allegedly removing a cash packet that had \$80,000 worth of \$100 bills. Nearly \$28,000 turned up missing from the defendant's cash drawer.

Godinez was arrested Tuesday at San Antonio International Airport. A judge Wednesday freed Godinez to the custody of his mother.

Godinez didn't immediately comment.

Texan convicted in \$300K bogus checks case

DALLAS (AP) — A North Texas man

has been convicted of passing more than \$300,000 in worthless checks during a five-year scam with a bank executive.

Prosecutors in Dallas on Wednesday announced 45-year-old Jason Dvorin of Southlake has been convicted of conspiracy to commit bank fraud.

Dvorin remains free on bond pending sentencing in July. He faces up to 30 years in prison, a \$1 million fine and being ordered to make restitution.

Investigators say Dvorin had a deal with Chris Derrington, who was a vice president of Pavillion Bank in Richardson, to deposit worthless checks. Dvorin then received immediate access to the funds. Prosecutors say the scheme led to more than 200 fraudulent deposits.

Derrington last May pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bank fraud and awaits sentencing.

Man seeking sex from Texas girls gets prison

DALLAS (AP) — Prosecutors say an ex-Oklahoma City man has been sentenced to seven years in prison for online encounters that he thought would lead to sex with Texas girls.

A federal judge in Dallas on Wednesday afternoon sentenced 36-year-old Andrew Dale McKee. McKee in October pleaded guilty to transferring obscene material to a minor.

McKee last April contacted a 14-year-old Dallas-area girl via Facebook and texted her a sexually explicit photo and messages. Prosecutors say McKee asked her to find another girl to also have online sexual conversations and eventually meet.

A Garland police officer assumed the online identity of the real girl and a fake second youth.

Prosecutors say McKee was arrested April 26 when he used public transportation to travel to Garland to meet the second girl for sex.

Attorney testifies in inquiry of former DA

GEORGETOWN, Texas (AP) — An attorney who defended a Texas man who served nearly 25 years in prison

for a wrongful murder conviction is testifying in a special case to determine if prosecutorial misconduct led to the verdict.

William Allison defended Michael Morton during the 1987 trial in the slaying of Morton's wife Christine. Morton was exonerated by DNA evidence and freed in 2011.

Ken Anderson, who was the original prosecutor in the case, is now a judge. Morton's legal team alleges he withheld evidence that indicated Morton's innocence.

Anderson is facing a court of inquiry in Georgetown, near Austin, to determine if there was wrongdoing. It enters its fourth day Thursday.

Allison has described how Morton's defense repeatedly sought police case notes and other evidence in the case but was rebuffed by Anderson.

Wildflower Center aiding Bastrop tree effort

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Thousands of pine seedlings grown at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at the University of Texas are being packed up and shipped for planting in Bastrop County.

There, they'll replace trees lost in a disastrous wildfire nearly two years ago.

The Austin wildflower center is among tree growers contracted with the Texas Forest Service's reforestation program for the Central Texas county. Some 6 million trees are to be planted over the next several years.

The 2011 fire destroyed 1,691 homes and burned 33,000 acres.

The trees being organized Thursday by wildflower center staff and volunteers will be used for planting events this weekend. The center itself is nearly doubling its size to handle its portion of the Bastrop tree project.

Funeral for slain prosecutor Saturday

TERRELL, Texas (AP) — A Saturday funeral is scheduled for a North Texas prosecutor shot dead by a masked gunman near the county courthouse where the prosecutor worked.

The funeral for Kaufman County Assistant District Attorney Mark Hasse (HA'-see) is scheduled for Saturday afternoon at the Terrell Performing Arts Center.

The 57-year-old prosecutor was shot multiple times the morning of Jan. 31 just after he'd stepped from his car to walk to the Kaufman County Courthouse in Kaufman. No arrests have been made in the case, but federal, state and local investigators are working to find his killer.

Hasse had been with Kaufman County for three years and was a former assistant Dallas County district attorney.

Colleague: Ex-DA keet notes from defense

GEORGETOWN, Texas (AP) — A former Texas prosecutor who worked for an ex-district attorney at the center of a wrongful conviction case said Wednesday that his former boss indicated he didn't like calling investigating police officers to testify at trials because it meant turning over their notes to the defense.

A court of inquiry is examining whether Ken Anderson, then a district attorney in Georgetown and now a state district judge, acted improperly in the 1987 case of

Michael Morton. Morton spent nearly 25 years in prison for killing his wife, Christine, but was exonerated in 2011 based on new DNA testing.

Such proceedings are extremely rare against sitting court officials. Morton's lawyers have accused Anderson of hiding evidence during the trial that would have pointed to Morton's innocence, including case notes collected by the police officer who investigated the case, Sgt. Don Wood.

Doug Arnold, a former colleague of Anderson's and now a judge himself in another part of Texas, testified that Anderson told him he had a habit of not calling investigators to keep their case notes out of court.

Texas prison escapee caught after 16 years

HOUSTON (AP) — A Texas prison escapee on the run for almost 16 years has been captured by authorities in Mexico and awaits extradition to the U.S. to finish serving his sentence on charges of attempted capital murder of a police officer, state Department of Criminal Justice officials said Wednesday.

Juan Salaz was apprehended last week. The 37-year-old American citizen had been sought for years by authorities on both sides of the border.

Salaz escaped the night of March 22, 1997, from the Garza East prison in Beeville in South Texas by climbing over three 16-foot fences all topped with razor wire.

At the time, he was serving three concurrent 35-year sentences for aggravated kidnapping with a deadly weapon and two counts of attempted capital murder of a police officer for a 1995 incident involving two Houston officers.

He now also faces a felony escape charge besides serving the remainder of his sentence.

Prison records show on April 2, 1995, Salaz and another man, Gerónimo Soto Alvarado, abducted a man at gunpoint and demanded a ransom. Houston police undercover officers involved in the case arranged for the exchange. After the abducted man was freed, they identified themselves as police and Salaz and Alvarado opened fire on them. A police sergeant avoided serious injury when he was saved by his body armor. Another officer suffered a hand wound.

Psych exam sought for vet in SEAL's death

DALLAS (AP) — An attorney for the Iraq War veteran accused of killing a former Navy SEAL sniper and his friend at a Texas shooting range said Wednesday that he will ask for a court-appointed psychiatrist to examine his client.

R. Shay Isham, who was appointed by the court to represent Eddie Ray Routh, said the psychiatrist's exam is necessary to determine whether Routh is competent to stand trial for gunning down Chris Kyle, author of the best-selling book "American Sniper," and friend Chad Littlefield.

Routh's other court-appointed attorney, J. Warren St. John, said Routh was released from the Dallas Veterans Affairs hospital against his family's wishes just two days before the shootings.

"There are just so many mental health issues associated with this case," St. John said Wednesday.

Routh, 25, is jailed on \$3 million bond. He's charged with a capital murder count and two murder counts stemming from the killings at a rural shooting range Saturday about 50 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

Members of Routh's family have told authorities that he was a troubled vet who had been hospitalized for mental problems and had been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, according to records and 911 recordings.

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8	9	5	3	4	6	2	7	1
1	6	4	7	5	2	3	9	8
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Big Spring's Nunez signs with WTAMU

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

Before Big Spring senior Chris Nunez signed his letter of intent to play football at West Texas A&M University in front of a foyer packed with family, friends and classmates Wednesday, Head Football Coach and Athletic Director Phillip Ritchey had a few remarks about his success.

"I challenge any future athletes who are going to be seniors that have the goal and the desire to go to the next level to good student and to be a good citizen," Ritchey said. "That's what it takes to carry on. Chris, we're very proud of you, we're very happy for you. This is a big step that comes with a lot of responsibility. You're going to represent us — all of us — if you look around, this is a big deal. You'll be a Big Spring Steer for life."

Nunez was awarded All-District honors his junior year for his work on the gridiron and All-District and All-State as a senior. A tuba player, Nunez was also an All-State band selection. The future finance major said WTAMU seemed like a good fit for both his athletic and academic careers.

"It's really exciting," Nunez said of the signing. "I went over to the visit and I just liked the environment. The people were nice. I've continued to better myself and I need to make sure that I'm bettering myself in college. When I went

See NUNEZ, Page 12



HERALD photo/Brian McCormack

Big Spring senior Chris Nunez is shown signing a letter of intent to play football for West Texas A&M University. Nunez is joined by his parents, Rick and Patricia. Nunez plans to major in finance and has earned several accolades while at BSHS, including All-State and All-District selections in football and All-State band.

Mavs beat Blazers, Carlisle gets 500th win

DALLAS (AP) — O.J. Mayo was at the center of a play that cost Dallas a game in Portland last week.

He made up for it Wednesday night against the Trail Blazers in a yet another game the Mavericks really needed.

Mayo scored 28 points, Vince Carter hit a big jumper in the final minute and the Mavericks beat the Blazers 105-99 for coach Rick Carlisle's 500th career victory.

Eight nights earlier, Mayo was called for a charge with 1.5 seconds left in a tie game, giving Portland a chance to win. LaMarcus Aldridge hit a jumper at the buzzer, and it wasn't much consolation to the Mavericks when the NBA said the next day that

the call should have been a block and Mayo should have been shooting free throws for the lead.

The loss started a 1-3 road trip with the Mavericks struggling to get into playoff contention and keep alive a 12-year postseason streak, meaning the rematch in Dallas was even more important.

"It's an opportunity for us to gain ground in the standings before the All-Star break," Mayo said. "It's a game we needed to win. We remember what happened last week in Portland."

Mayo had 20 in the first half and was mostly quiet before getting two important baskets with Portland trying to rally late in the fourth quarter. Carter put Dal-

las ahead 99-94 with 26 seconds left on a jumper just inside the 3-point line with the shot clock winding down.

Aldridge had 27 points and 10 rebounds for the Blazers, who had just 38 points in the second half and fell to 1-1 on a six-game road trip.

"I think we definitely had a chance to win tonight," Aldridge said. "I thought we had a tough stretch tonight when they had us down by one and then we had turnover after turnover. We still have to do better."

With Aldridge watching in the fourth quarter, the Mavericks went on a 10-2 run for a 93-86 lead and scored again when Aldridge returned on a dunk by Mayo to go up nine before Aldridge helped Portland get

close.

Aldridge had a pair of baskets, and Damian Lillard hit two free throws to pull Portland within 97-94. Wesley Matthews had a chance to tie the score, but his 3-pointer rimmed out with 50 seconds left.

Carter, who finished with 17 points, hit his big shot on the other end. He missed his first game of the season Monday night in Oklahoma City because of illness, and the Mavericks weren't competitive without him.

"There's a reason he's such an important guy to us," Carlisle said. "All year long, he's been one of our facilitators. He came up with a couple of big ones for

See MAVS, Page 12

Local sports briefs

Benefit hoops game slated for today

The Big Spring ISD Athletic Department is sponsoring a benefit basketball game for John and Anna Sotelo on Thursday at Steer Gym.

Their daughter, Cecilia, was in a severe accident out of state and the family has accrued unexpected medical expenses.

Tickets will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. Any further donations to the Sotelo's are greatly appreciated. No free passes will be accepted as entry to the event.

John Sotelo is a postal worker and his wife, Anna, is the receptionist at the high school.

The game will feature members of the Big Spring coaching staff against senior boys.

Hilarity on the coaches' part is guaranteed. The public is urged to come out and have fun while supporting a good cause.

For more information, contact Kay Cook at 264-3662.

Big Spring Little League registration now open

Sign-ups for Big Spring Little League are being held at the Big Spring Mall on

Saturday, Feb. 9 and Sunday, Feb. 16 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Another registration will be held on Monday, Feb. 11 through Friday, Feb. 16 from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m., also at the mall.

There are several age divisions and children from 4-16 years are invited to join. The cost is \$80 per child, regardless of age. A birth certificate must be presented at the time of registration.

For more information, call Robert Smith at 816-8161 or Paige Jackson at 213-2062.

Big Spring Country Club set to hold scramble

The Big Spring Country Club will be hosting a four-person scramble Saturday and Sunday, February 23-24. Entry fee is \$100 per player plus cart fees. Private carts are welcome.

A shotgun start will commence at 1 p.m. each day.

Entrance fee includes one mulligan per day and barbeque on the course Saturday. Practice rounds will be available Friday.

Field will be flighted by first round score, with the number of flights determined by number of entires.

For more information, contact the pro shop at 267-5354.

Green shoots Spurs past Timberwolves, 104-94

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A nationally televised game with Commissioner David Stern in the house, and there sat Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili.

No controversy or fines coming this time. Duncan and Ginobili were both out with legitimate injuries for the San Antonio Spurs, who taught the Minnesota Timberwolves a lesson on how to handle adversity.

Danny Green hit eight 3-pointers and scored a career-high 28 points to help the Spurs to their 11th straight win, 104-94 over the Timberwolves on Wednesday night.

Tony Parker had 31 points and eight assists and Kawhi Leonard added 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Spurs, who kept right on rolling without two of their big three.

"I think they do have a confidence level. The system doesn't change when guys are out," San

Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. "If Tony was out, somebody else would play. We just run the same stuff, we don't change anything. I think they're pretty used to the execution no matter who's on the court. Obviously you've got to make shots and Danny and Kawhi were pretty good at that tonight."

Nikola Pekovic had 21 points and 10 rebounds and Derrick Williams added 15 points and 12 boards for the Timberwolves, who added do-it-all forward Andrei Kirilenko (bruised right quadriceps) to a seemingly endless list of injured players.

Still, the game was tied at 77 with 8 minutes to go, but Green hit two 3s and scored on a put-back to put the Spurs back in front for good.

"It came out of nowhere. Sometimes it happens that way," Green said. "I got a little rhythm going, guys started looking for

me and they started falling. We needed it."

Unlike the Spurs' game at Miami in November, when Popovich sent Duncan, Ginobili, Parker and Green home early to rest, drawing Stern's wrath, the coach had an excuse this time around. Duncan has a sprained left knee and Ginobili has been bothered by a nagging left hamstring injury.

"Timmy's missed four, five games in a row, Manu's been in and out of the lineup, so we've gotten used to playing without them," Parker said. "Obviously I'd rather have them because it would be a lot easier to have Timmy and Manu, but it definitely helps the other guys."

Whether his big stars have been injured or just needed the night off, the rest of the Spurs have never laid down. With Parker

See SPURS, Page 12

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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.

BIG SPRING Country Club is looking for Line Cook/Sauté person, 1 year experience preferred. Apply in person. No phone call.

CAT CONSTRUCTION now hiring Roustabout Pushers, Hands and Dozer Operators. Top Pay. Apply in person 600 S. E. Broadway, Coahoma.

CHEMICAL PRODUCTION Company accepting applications for Truck Treating Driver and Truck Treating Driver Trainee. Individual will be responsible for delivering chemical to customer locations and other duties, as needed. Oilfield knowledge preferred. This position is based in Big Spring, TX. We offer a \$5,000 sign on bonus, competitive salary, 401(K), Medical, Dental, and Vision, paid vacation and holidays. Submit resume c/o P.O. Box 1431/ Blind Box 226, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

Check this one!

CHILD CAREGIVER- 2 Positions available 1:30pm-6:30pm & 5:30pm-8:30pm. Apply at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.

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CROSSROADS HOSPICE is hiring for the position of Volunteer/Bereavement Coordinator. This is a part-time position... approximately 20-24 hrs/week. Application can be completed at 421 Main St or fax resume to 432.263.5304 attention Debbie Read.

Help Wanted

CROSSROADS HOSPICE is hiring for the position of social worker pt/ft. Candidate will provide care to hospice patients in the Howard and surrounding counties. Bi-lingual candidate preferred. Candidate must meet DADS/MC requirements for a hospice social worker. Interested candidates should fax resume to 432-263-5304 attention Debbie Read.

CROSSTEX ENERGY Services is a midstream natural gas company. We are seeking a Plant Operator on a contract basis. This position is responsible for assisting in the operation of natural gas cryogenic processing facility in Glasscock County. This includes but not limited to monitoring operations of natural gas processing plant, product treating, and compression, making necessary adjustments, performing inspections, preventive maintenance, lab tasks, and truck loading. Send resume to Michael.Solomon@crosstexenergy.com

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

DESERT TANKS LLC. Locally based company now accepting applications for Experienced Truck Driver in a fast paced work environment. Must have a Class A CDL. Benefits including vacation and retirement. Call 432-816-5570 ask for Jared

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Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Howard County Auditor will accept sealed bids for the purchase of one (1) new 2013 Six (6) Yard Dump Truck to be used for maintenance of County Roads.

Specifications may be obtained in the Auditor's Office, 300 S. Main, Room 203, Big Spring, TX or by calling (432)264-2210.

Bids must be received by 10:00 A.M. on Friday, February 22, 2013 in the office of the County Auditor, Jackie Olson, 300 S. Main, Room 203 and will be opened at that time.

Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M. on February 25, 2013 for their consideration.

The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Jackie Olson, County Auditor www.co.howard.tx.us #7648 February 7 & 17, 2013

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Howard County Auditor will accept sealed bids for LRA Paving to be used for maintenance of County Roads.

Specifications may be obtained in the Auditor's Office, 300 S. Main, Room 203, Big Spring, TX or by calling (432)264-2210.

Bids must be received by 10:00A.M. on Friday, February 22, 2013 in the office of the County Auditor, Jackie Olson, 300 S. Main, Room 203 and will be opened at that time.

Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00A.M. on February 25, 2013 for their consideration.

The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Jackie Olson, County Auditor www.co.howard.tx.us #7648 February 7 & 17, 2013

Legals

PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

The City of Ackerly has recently received a Texas Community Development Block Grant contract award from the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) for water system improvements. Accordingly, the City is seeking to contract with a qualified engineer/engineering firm (registered to practice in the State of Texas) to prepare all preliminary and final design plans and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections.

Please submit your proposal of services and a statement of qualifications for these proposed services to the address below:

City Secretary
City of Ackerly
P.O. Box 37
Ackerly, Texas 79713

The City must receive proposals no later than 5:00 PM, February 18, 2013 to be considered. Ackerly reserves the right to negotiate with any and all persons or firms submitting proposals, per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards.

Ackerly is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.
#7654 February 7, 2013

Jupiter Goes All Headbanger

Quantum physicists insist that the material world is a trick of the senses. Still, it's hard to disagree with the impact of, say, the wall you're banging your head against. A seemingly futile pursuit may remind you of this fact as Jupiter prepares to challenge a conjunction of Mercury, Mars and Neptune.

Take breaks to renew your perspective.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19).

Hopefully you're not trying to hide or slip under the radar, because that won't work out for you today. You'll command the spaces you inhabit. Everyone will know where you are and respond in kind.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). From time to time, you get so busy that you can't watch your favorite shows, read your magazines or talk to friends. Later, you'll luxuriate in the resulting buildup of information and entertainment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If your outsiders don't match your insides, don't worry; you're not alone. Everyone pretends to some degree. It's the way of all social animals. You



HOLIDAY MATHIS

will navigate the complexities of this behavior quite well today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The prospect of unpredictable interactions may scare you. Just know that your desire to control what happens is normal. Futile, but normal. Truly wonderful things will happen when you relax into an improvisational mode.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be in a staring contest with a metaphorical or actual blank page. The very fact that you can sense the eyeball of said page is proof that it's not really blank, after all. There's something inside it, awaiting your discovery.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be prone to impulsiveness and could channel this in an extremely positive way by putting yourself in low-risk situations that

call for fast decisions — like ordering food at a restaurant or picking out books at the library.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There are givers, and there are takers. Some people you like very much fall into the "takers" category, and there is no denying it. You're wise to go into every interaction knowing what you are and are not willing to part with.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Once your basic needs are met, it's easy to see everything else as bonus luck. You recognize the extras as treats instead of taking them for granted, and so your fortunes multiply.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be in just the mood to entertain silly suggestions and ridiculous dares. Also, you will find out that the friends you consider to be your best feel the same

way about you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Avoid accepting someone else's purpose as your own. Happiness and satisfaction depend on your ability to answer this question: Why?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Success depends on many factors, but attitude is the most important one today. Your uncanny ability to stay focused and flexible at the same time will help now, too.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The saying goes that you can never have too many friends. But beyond a certain number, how could you possibly spend time with them all? Keep reaching out to new people anyhow. You'll do together what you couldn't do alone.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 7). You'll aim high and for reasons much larger than your own

personal gain. This month will present a tough decision. Make things easy on yourself. Trying to be perfect is futile. You'll be accepted and celebrated for being exactly who you are. Invest in a hobby, and it pays you back. July features a romantic proposal. Sagittarius and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 24, 3, 13 and 50.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: No stranger to tough neighborhoods and bullying, Chris Rock used his childhood pain as motivation to become one of the world's most successful comedians. A humor so uninhibited takes courage and a unique point of view, which are two Aquarian strengths. Rock was born when the sun, Mercury and Venus were all in Aquarius and the moon was in fiery Aries.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I am a grandmother in my 60s. I was excited to learn about Facebook and start conversing with friends and relatives. I love seeing all of their pictures and videos and reading their statuses and comments. I always make comments and give compliments on their pictures, etc.

But is it wrong for me to be hurt and resentful when some of them completely ignore me in return? It is mainly the relatives who do this. These are the same people to whom I have sent checks in hard times and for every occasion, and it bothers me when I see that they comment to other friends, but act like I don't exist.

I hate to say anything to them, because they would resent me for it, but it hurts my feelings, and I don't understand their behavior. They act as if it would cost them long-distance money to respond to me.

I believe you can find out a lot about people by friending them on Facebook. You discover which ones are really interested in you and which ones simply like to post pictures of themselves. It is so self-centered. What should I do? — *Hurt in Virginia*

Dear Hurt: Please don't mistake Facebook for genuine friendship and a true relationship. It is simply a convenient way to keep track of others' activities and life events and let them know about yours. Some people are considerate and responsive (like you), and others, less so. Your relatives, in particular, may think that their relationship with you is covered outside of Facebook and therefore doesn't require the same degree of attentiveness online. It's OK to ask when you see them in person, but we urge you not to take this too seriously. We don't believe it is anyone's intent to hurt your feelings.

Dear Annie: This is about the letter from "A Long-Term Care Employee," who urges family members to bring new clothing to residents in nursing homes.

In the past five years, my husband has been in three different nursing homes for rehab after a stroke and numerous falls. You learn not to bring "good" clothes because they disappear. Even with every article identified with a name tag, a hamper to put dirty clothes in and instructions that "family

will do laundry," the clothes go missing.

I visited my husband daily. Finding his missing clothes was an ongoing problem in each nursing home. I visited the lost and found department in one facility, and the amount

of clothing there could have outfitted every one of the 102 residents. Please don't blame the family. We try. — *Royal Oak, Mich.*

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

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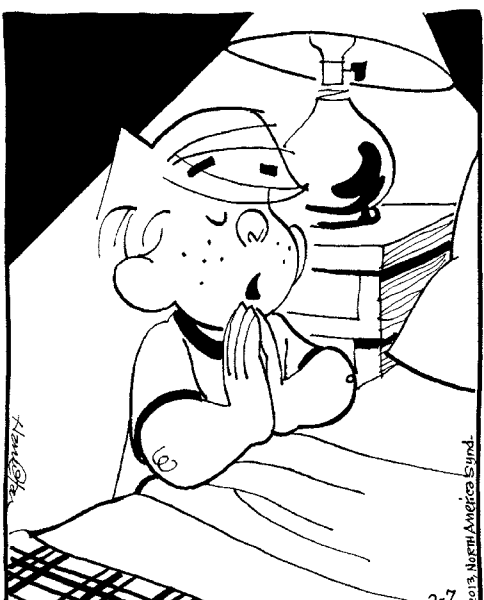
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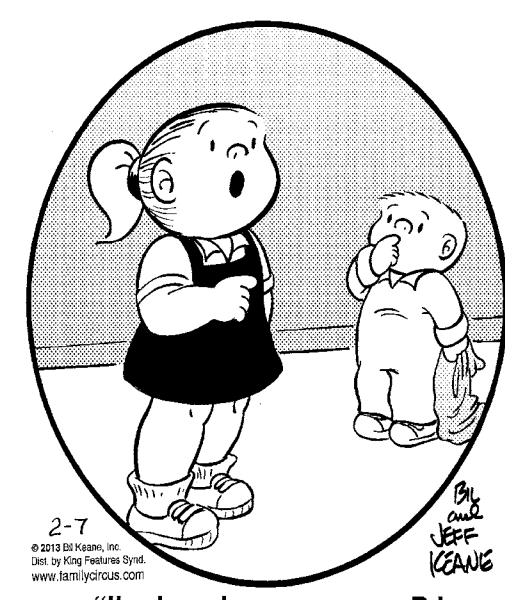
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5:PM :30	News ABC	Casa	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News Noticiero	King Seinfeld	Yohanan House	Charlie Rose	King Property	Property		Bellator 360	The Mentalist	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Good Jessie	Around Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy! Wheel	Corona de Lágrimas	Big Bang Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cerado	Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Swallow R. Shap	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Rules	Gold Rush		Bellator 360	NBA Tip-Off		Good Dog	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.
7:PM :30	Shark Tank	Por Ella Soy Eva	American Idol	Big Bang Two Men	Pasión Prohibida	Commun Parks	Fam. Guy Upd	Daytrip Parks	The Vampire Diaries	Property Moonshiners		Movie: Demolition Man, Sandra Bullock	IMPACT Wrestling	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Celtics	Movie: He Got Game, Milla Jovovich	Movie: Cars, Bonnie Hunt	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.
8:PM :30	Grey's Anatomy	Amores Verdaderos	Glee (DVS)	Person of Interest	La Patrona (SS)	Office 1600	Big Bang King of the Nerds	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Cops Property			Bellator MMA Live	NBA Basketball: Chicago Bulls at Denver Nuggets.	Second Second	Gravity Good	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.
9:PM :30	(:02) Scandal	Amor Bravo! (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	(:01) Elementary	El Rostro de	(:01) Do No Harm	King of the Nerds		Charlie Rose	Rules Moonshiners		(:31) Movie: Constantine, Shia LaBeouf	Bellator MMA Live	Inside the NBA	Movie: Lakeview Terrace, Kerry Washington	Wizards Wizards	College Basketball	SportsCenter
10:PM :30	News Jimmy Kimmel Live	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met Raymond	Letterman	Noticias Titulares	News Jay Leno	Conan	McGee Justice	Charlie Rose	Rules Moonshiners			Bellator MMA Live	The Closer	Movie: Enter the Dragon, Jim Kelly	Wizards Wizards	College Basketball	SportsCenter
11:PM :30	Nightline	Mar de Amor (SS)	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd R. Shap	World T. Smiley	King Property			Bellator MMA Live	The Closer	Movie: Enter the Dragon, Jim Kelly	Wizards Wizards	College Basketball	SportsCenter
12:AM :30	Extra Super	Conducta American	Ent	Pagado	Pagado	(:06) Today	Movie: Scream 2, Courteney	Light of the Southwest	World T. Smiley	King Property			Bellator MMA Live	The Closer	Movie: Enter the Dragon, Jim Kelly	Wizards Wizards	College Basketball	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	Paid	Paid	Casa	Paid	Paid				World T. Smiley	King Property			Bellator MMA Live	The Closer	Movie: Enter the Dragon, Jim Kelly	Wizards Wizards	College Basketball	SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



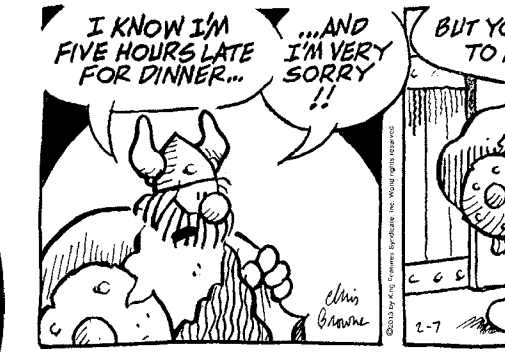
"SORRY, I DON'T KNOW ALL THOSE BIG WORDS LIKE OUR PREACHER DOES."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

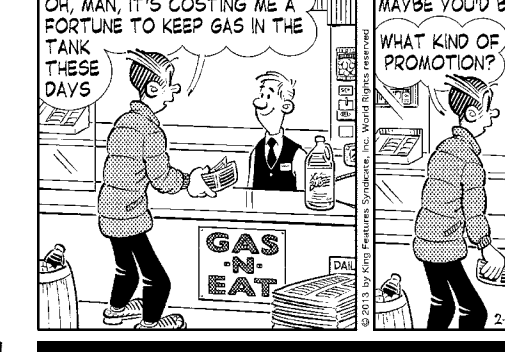


"I'm keeping an eye on PJ like you asked, but he's still not doin' anything."

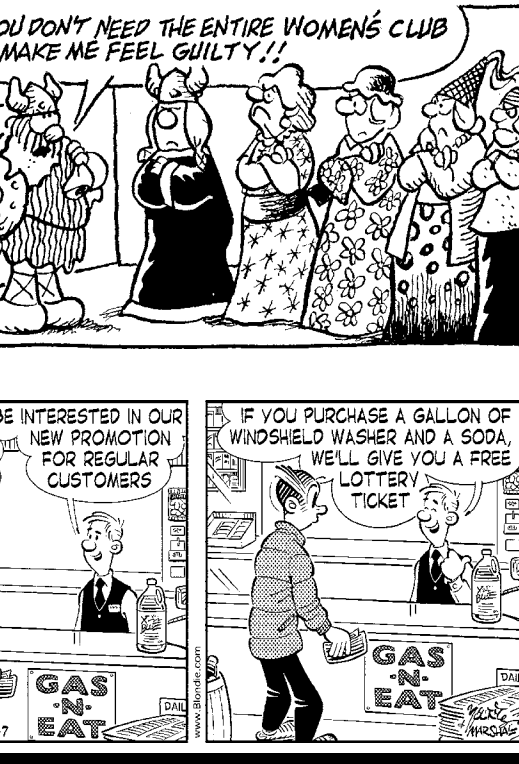
HAGAR



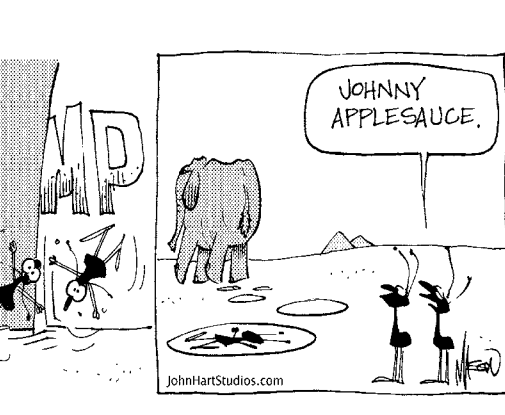
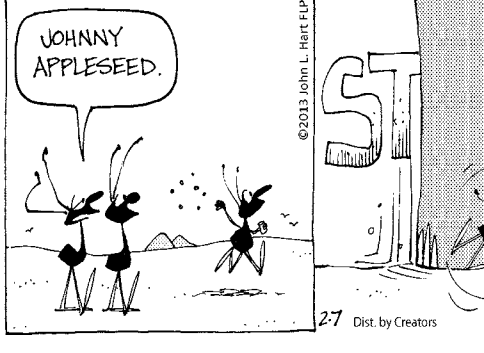
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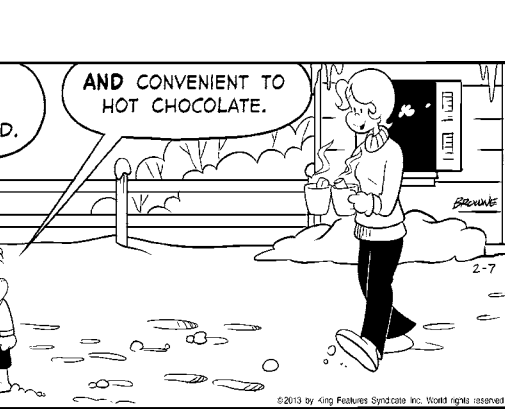
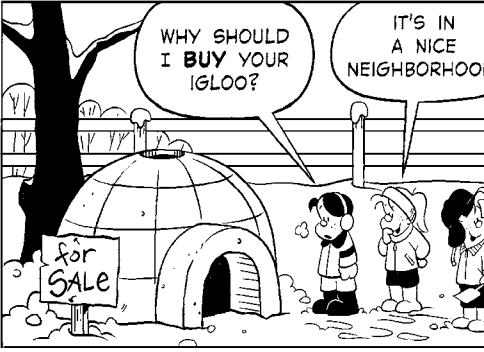
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AGNES



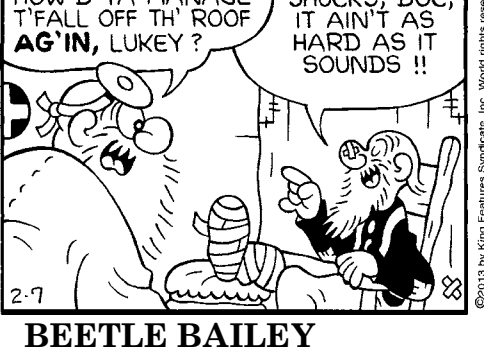
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Feb. 7, the 38th day of 2013. There are 327 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 7, 1943, during World War II, the government abruptly announced that rationing of shoes made with leather would go into effect in two days, limiting consumers to buying three pairs per person per year. (Rationing was lifted in October 1945.)

On this date:

In 1795, the 11th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, dealing with states' sovereign immunity, was ratified.

In 1812, author Charles Dickens was born in Landport, Portsmouth, England.

In 1857, a French court acquitted author Gustave Flaubert of obscenity for his serialized novel "Madame Bovary."

In 1863, the British Royal Navy corvette HMS Orpheus struck a sandbar and sank off the coast of New Zealand, killing 189 out of the 259 men on board.

In 1904, a fire began in Baltimore that raged for about 30 hours and destroyed more than 1,500 buildings.

In 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized a flag for the office of the vice president.

In 1948, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower resigned as Army chief of staff; he was succeeded by Gen. Omar Bradley.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy imposed a full trade embargo on Cuba.

In 1971, women in Switzerland gained the right to vote through a national referendum, 12 years after a previous attempt failed.

In 1983, Elizabeth H. Dole was sworn in as the first female secretary of transportation by the first woman to sit on the Supreme Court, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

In 1984, space shuttle Challenger astronauts Bruce McCandless II and Robert L. Stewart went on the first untethered space walk, which lasted nearly six hours.

In 1999, Jordan's King Hussein died of cancer at age 63; he was succeeded by his

eldest son, Abdullah.

Today's Birthdays: Author Gay Talese is 81. Former Sen. Herb Kohl, D-Wis., is 78. Actor Miguel Ferrer is 58. Reggae musician Brian Travers (UB40) is 54. Comedy writer Robert Smigel (SMY'guh) is 53. Actor James Spader is 53. Country singer Garth Brooks is 51. Rock musician David Bryan (Bon Jovi) is 51. Actor-comedian Eddie Izzard is 51. Actor-comedian Chris Rock is 48. Actor Jason Gedrick is 46. Actress Essence Atkins is 41. Rock singer-musician Wes Borland is 38. Rock musician Tom Blankenship (My Morning Jacket) is 35. Actor Ashton Kutcher is 35. Actress Tina Majorino is 28.

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Answer to previous puzzle

SPAR	AROP	MOOT
LONE	REVUP	OUCH
IOTA	FAMANI	ONCE
THEAF	FAMILY	CIRCUS
FIATS	DEERE	
RAPIDS	SLED	
ICER	MALIA	SHE
THEMICE	WILL	PLAY
EEL	OILED	RARE
SWAT	SPIRES	
PASTA	ASPEN	
ACTING	IN	CONCERT
DUAL	INNER	EVER
DRAT	SCENT	SILLO
YAKS	TAXES	SLOT

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Aspect
 - 6 Post-op spots
 - 10 Rudiments
 - 14 Low-priced, in product names
 - 15 Miso soup ingredient
 - 16 Smudge
 - 17 Just great
 - 18 Sticky stuff
 - 19 Major month for matrimony
 - 20 Remain on the bench
 - 21 Tot's boo-boo
 - 23 Come forth
 - 25 Hollywood multitasker
 - 28 Designer Kors
 - 30 Squabble
 - 31 Court org.
 - 32 Prepare carefully
 - 33 Southern end of I-95
 - 36 Academia multitasker
 - 41 Mayday relative
 - 42 Buoyant
 - 43 One of ten in a paper box
 - 44 Mile., in Madrid
 - 45 Sad story
 - 48 Diamond multitasker
 - 52 Topknot or high bun
 - 53 Isolated
 - 54 E-file agency
 - 57 Censorship-challenging org.
 - 58 Way of walking

DOUBLE DUTY by Ki Lee

- Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com
- 8 Meteor, maybe
- 9 Campaign finance group
- 10 Hopeless
- 11 Utter
- 12 River through Kinshasa
- 13 Cattle drive participant
- 22 Misfortune
- 24 Had in mind
- 26 Nigeria neighbor
- 27 Spot of land
- 28 Touse
- 29 Analogy phrase
- 32 Work hard at
- 33 Parasite
- 34 Be in charge
- 35 Fighting force
- 37 Golden-__ corn
- 38 The atmosphere, mostly
- 39 Disneyland shuttle
- 40 Force along
- 44 Overly sweet
- 45 Some govt. securities
- 46 Unraveled
- 47 Go-between
- 48 Developmental stage
- 49 Tied up, in a way
- 50 Wasn't at one's best
- 51 Elite group
- 55 Deteriorate
- 56 Does and ewes
- 59 Draught serving
- 61 Taunting cry

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Stern says Seattle group has filed for relocation

With one more procedural move, the Sacramento Kings took another step toward Seattle. NBA Commissioner David Stern said Wednesday night that the Seattle group led by Chris Hansen and Steve Ballmer, which recently reached an agreement to purchase the Kings, has formally filed for relocation with the league. Stern spoke in Minneapolis before the Timberwolves hosted San Antonio. He called the Seattle group "very strong," and said the appropriate committees have been convened to look over the proposed sale of the Kings and the prospective move. Stern said the relocation proposal calls for the team to play in KeyArena for "two years, possibly three," while a new arena in Seattle is

being built. "We have had submitted a signed agreement to have the team sold to a very strong group from Seattle," Stern said. "We have received an application to have the team moved from Sacramento to Seattle." The deadline for teams to file for relocation is March 1. It's been expected that the Hansen/Ballmer group would file to move the team, but Stern's comments were the first time that decision had been verified. The filing for relocation is just another step, but big in the efforts to bring professional basketball back to Seattle for the 2013-14 season. Hansen's group reached an agreement with the Maloof family last month to buy 65 percent of the franchise, which is valued at \$525

million, and move the team to Seattle and restore the SuperSonics name. The deal will cost the Hansen group a little more than \$340 million. The Kings' sale price of \$525 million would surpass the NBA-record \$450 million the Golden State Warriors sold for in 2010. Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson has been trying to find investors with the financial means to match the sale price, keep the Kings in Sacramento and help on the construction of a new arena in California's capital city. Johnson responded on Twitter on Wednesday night, saying again that Sacramento "is playing to win." "We know that with an ownership partner both to Sacramento and an arena plan already supported by the city and NBA, Sacramento is ready to show what a great one-team market

can be, should be, and is," Johnson said in his post. A day earlier, Johnson said he planned to attend the NBA All-Star game in Houston and lobby anyone he could on the merits of keeping the Kings in Sacramento, but he has yet to reveal any of the large equity investors he's attempting to pull together. Johnson said he hoped to be able to announce them next week. "My guess is it's likely that the mayor of Sacramento will appear before the board with an alternate plan," Stern said. "And that's why we have a board of governors, to make difficult decisions like this one." Stern said he didn't feel the situation between Seattle and Sacramento would turn into a battle to see who can make the most lucrative bid. "I don't think it's a bidding war," Stern said.

SPURS

Continued from page 7

on the throttle and Green hitting every 3-pointer in sight, the Spurs were able to pull away from the Wolves. Green only missed four times in 12 attempts and scored 11 straight points for the Spurs in the fourth quarter. "You've got to play perfect for 48 minutes to beat that team," Pekovic said. San Antonio's nine-game road trip began with some good news when there was no structural damage in Duncan's left knee. He was hurt after taking a nasty fall in a game against the Wizards, an injury that first was feared to be season-ending. He is day to day.

"It looked awful," Popovich said before the game. "He just kind of grinded the bones there, bone on bone." The Spurs improved to 21-1 against losing teams and have not lost a game since Jan. 11 at Memphis in overtime. J.J. Barea scored 15 points for Minnesota and Micael Gelabale made a last push to have his second 10-day contract extended into a deal for the rest of the season with 10 points. Ricky Rubio had 11 assists, but was just 3 for 13 from the field. The injury-plagued Timberwolves (18-28) have won only twice in their last 15 games, with a season that started with playoff aspirations in danger of swirling down the drain.

MAVS

Continued from Page 7

us when the shot clock was down." Matthews scored 21 points, while J.J. Hickson had 14 points and 10 rebounds for Portland. Lillard finished with 19 after scoring 15 in the first half. Dirk Nowitzki had 16 points and eight rebounds for Dallas, with Shawn Marion adding 13 points and 10 boards. Portland coach Terry Stotts, who was an assistant under Carlisle the previous four years, sneaked across the midcourt line to shake hands with his old boss before the game ended, and Mayo said players gave their coach a standing ovation in the locker room after the game. Carlisle is the 28th coach to 500 wins and is among five active coaches with at least that many. The others are Denver's George Karl, Minnesota's Rick Adelman, San Antonio's Gregg Popovich and Boston's Doc Rivers. Carlisle's career record is 500-353. "It's meaningful, but I'm not into that kind of stuff," Carlisle said. "I'm into the day-to-day stuff."

The Mavericks took their first lead on a 3-pointer by Nowitzki early in the third quarter, starting an eight-minute stretch that included six ties, four lead changes and neither team going ahead by more than two. Portland went back up by eight on a 10-0 run that included eight from Aldridge, who had 14 of Portland's 21 points in the third and scored 10 straight carrying over into the fourth. The Mavericks pulled back within two at 82-80 on a 3-pointer by Carter with 1.9 seconds left in the quarter. Defense was mostly nonexistent in a first half that ended with Portland leading 61-57. Mayo's 20 first-half points included a 3-pointer and three-point play on a fast-break layup during a 12-0 run that tied the score at 43-all midway through the second quarter. Mayo was 8 of 9 from the field in the first half. Lillard and Matthews combined for seven 3-pointers in the first 15 minutes, the last coming from Lillard for a 43-31 Blazers lead with 9:19 left in the first half. Lillard and Matthews were 7 of 11 combined from long range in the first half.

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NUNEZ

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over (to WTAMU), it just seemed like a family." Nunez hopes he is remembered at Big Spring for his hard work and selflessness in athletics. "I want my legacy to be that I put everything I could into the team," Nunez said. "I'm a team player, I'd rather not play just for myself, but for the team." Rick and Patricia Nunez couldn't be happier about their son's future plans. "My wife and I are really proud of him,"

Rick Nunez said. "It's one of those things where you expect your kids to do the right thing. He took the time and visited schools, he chose it very carefully. He was very impressed with West Texas A&M. He's all-around, he's athletic at everything. We're extremely proud of him." WTAMU is also excited to have Nunez aboard. He was offered a partial sports scholarship to help pay the cost of tuition. Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

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