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APRIL 17, 2013



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VOLUME 108, NUMBER 157

Baker earns top honors at convocation

By STEVE REAGAN

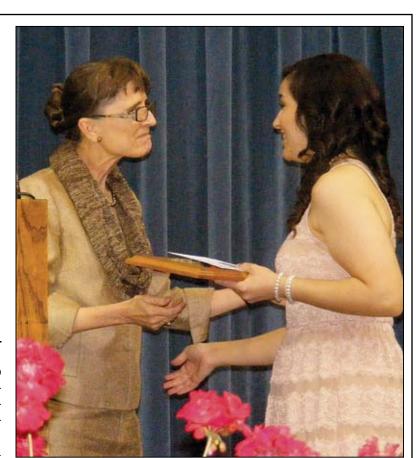
Staff Writer

Kyrstin Baker was the top honoree at the annual Howard College Awards Convocation, held Tuesday in Garrett Coliseum.

Baker, a sophomore from Ira, was named recipient of the Presidential Award, given to the outstanding student at the college.

More than 200 HC students were honored during the convocation.

Baker was selected for the award based on academic excellence, participation in student life, leadership qualities and overall college



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks, left, presents the college's President's Award to Kyrstin Baker during Tuesday's Awards Convocation at Garrett Coliseum.

spirit. While at Howard, she has been a cheerleader, Diplomat, resident assistant and has been active in the music department, Student Government Association and

BSM. In addition, she was a member of the dean's list for academic achievement.

"Kyrstin has a fun-loving

See AWARDS, Page 3

Candidate forum slated Thursday

Herald Staff Report

Made up your mind over who to vote for in the May 11 city council and school board elections? If not, plan on attending

Thursday's Meet the Candidates Forum, scheduled for a 6 p.m. start in the Hall Center for the Arts. The format will be sim-

"Each candiate will be allowed to speak for five minutes," said Debbye ValVerde,



Hall Center for the Arts

Chamber executive director. "This will not be a question

See FORUM, Page 3

In Tommorrow's Herald:



IN BIG SPRING

Thursday

6 p.m., Meet the Candidates Forumn at Hall Center for the Arts on the Howard College campus. Free admission.

Friday-Saturday

7 p.m. Friday, Opening Ceremonies for the 2013 Howard/Glasscock Relay For Life event at Blankenship Field on the Big Spring High School camups. Free admission; donations for the American Cancer Society accepted. All night activities. Closing ceremonies at 8 a.m. Saturday.

Saturday-Sunday

Annual Big Spring Powwow at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the Howard College Campus. Indian dancing is from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$3 for adults. Children under 12 are admitted free.



CISD board to discuss security

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

COAHOMA — Trustees are expected to take another step toward having a permanent security presence at Coahoma Independent School District campuses when they hold their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday in the administration building board room.

Trustees will hold a closed session during the meeting to discuss security matters. While declining to go into specifics about what will be discussed, CISD Superintendent Amy Jacobs confirmed the district has been working for the past several months at increasing security presence at its campuses.

"We've been in communication with the Howard County Sheriff's Office and

Forsan ISD," she said. "We've all been working and talking about different security options for our district. One of the things we're looking at is the possibility of having extended security personnel at the campuses."

Currently, CISD employs HCSO deputies to provide security at special events, such as football games, but would like to employ a "resource officer" on a more day-to-day basis, Jacobs said.

While in closed session, trustees also will discuss a complaint filed against district personnel, but Jacobs declined to provide any details on that issue.

Also Thursday, trustees will consider reports on insurance premiums, vehicle maintenance, drug testing and personnel matters.

BSISD trustees to hold training workshop

Big Spring Independent School District trustees will hold a special meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday to stage their annual board training workshop. Topics to be considered include "clarifying roles and relationships for the board" and "improving community relations."

In the only action item on the agenda, trustees will consider approval of employment recommendations.

The meeting will be held at the high school board room.

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

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Officials with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services hope their current campaign — April is Child Abuse Prevention Month — will help stave off the rising number of abused and neglected children reported each year. According to Marleigh

Meisner, spokesperson for DFPS, the key to stopping abuse is recognizing the signs and preventing it from within the community.

"More than 200 children died at the hands of their par-



"Stopping abuse after the fact is important, but it's not enough. We need to stop it before it starts. That's what the Help for Parents, Hope for Kids campaign is all about." Marleigh Meisner, DFPS spokesperson

ents or caregivers, and more than 64,000 children were abused or neglected in Texas last year," Meisner said. "We can all reduce the terrible toll of child abuse by listening to children and learning the signs of child abuse.

"Child abuse and neglect destroys families, scars children and undermines communities. That's why the Texas Department of Family and

Protective Services (DFPS)

teams with local governments

and groups every April to call

attention to how to prevent, recognize and report child abuse. Stopping abuse after the fact is important, but it's not enough. We need to stop it before it starts. That's what the Help for Parents, Hope for Kids campaign is all about."

Meisner said the current campaign is being funded by the federal government, allowing DFPS to reach as many families and caregivers as possible.

"Thanks to a federal grant, DFPS is spending \$1 million on the campaign from

See ABUSE, Page 3

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Obituaries

Betty Lloyd Mitchel



Betty Lloyd Mitchel, 82, of San Angelo, formerly of Big Spring died Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at her residence. The family will receive friends Thursday from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Robert Allen Nelson officiating. Burial will be at Cushing Cemetery in Cushing,

Texas.

She was born Sept. 14, 1930, in Wink, Texas, to Doll and George Cooper. She grew up in Reklaw, Texas. She moved to Big Spring in 1952 from

She married Blaine Mitchell in 1991 and he preceded her in death in 2004. She married Glyn Mitchel on Oct. 5, 2004. She was a Baptist. She is survived by her husband, Glyn Mitchel of

San Angelo; two sons, Rodger Lloyd and wife Betty Jean of Big Spring and Rick Lloyd and wife Leslie Ann of Austin; and five grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one husband; two brothers; and three sisters.

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

Arnulfo Sandoval

Arnulfo Sandoval, 51, of Knott died Tuesday, April 16, 2013, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Geraldine Yardley

Geraldine Yardley, 82, of Stanton died Tuesday, April 16, 2013, in a Midland nursing home. Her services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Tuesday and 7 a.m. today: • TIFFANY ANN ELDER, 31, of 2600 Langley, was

- arrested Tuesday on a charge of no driver's license when unlicensed. • STEPHANIE DIANA YEATS, 38, of 624 Caylor,
- was arrested Tuesday on a warrant for theft more than \$500 and less than \$1,500. • RONALD STANLEY HASELBY, 62, of 1302
- Tucson, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication. • JAMES ARTHUR WHITED, 47, of 309 W. Fifth
- St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of public intoxication.
- THEFT was reported in the 1700 block of
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 3000 block of Navajo.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the

following activity:

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 78 inmates at the time of this

- RONALD HASELBY, 62, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JAMES ARTHUR WHITED, 47, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JORGE CARRASCO, 35, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- JACKIE TRUETT HOLMES, 31, was booked into the county detention center Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

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USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811 BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$9.00 monthly; \$97.20 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of E. 16th Street. One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of S.
- Gregg Street. One person was transported to • TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 174
- mile marker of I-20. Service refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 1900 block of Wasson. One person was transported to

Take Note

- American Legion Post 506 will hold a fish fry from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at the post home, 3203 W. Highway 80. Plates are \$10 each. Carry outs are available. Delivery is from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. by calling 263-2084.
- · A benefit fund for the April Martinez family, who recently lost everything in a fire, has been set up at Prosperity Bank. Donations can be made to account number 3013914734. Ms. Martinez has four children ages 5 to 12.
- Crossroads Hospice is in need of volunteers. Volunteers are the backbone of the hospice team, by bringing light and love into people's lives. For more information on joining, contact Eva Robison at 432-263-5300 or come by 421 S. Main.
- · Big Spring residents, past and present, are invited to a reunion picnic on the third weekend in April. On April 19, early arrivals will meet at 11:30 a.m. at the Comanche Trail Park Old Settler's Pavilion for a brown bag lunch and visiting. Around 6 p.m., participants will meet at the Wagon Wheel for burgers and more visitation. Saturday, the 20th, the reunion will move to the Eagles Lodge from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.. Entry fee to the Eagles Lodge event will be a single (more if you wish) non-perishable canned good. Proceeds to be donated to a local food bank and/or folks needing assistance. A silent auction will be going on at the lodge with donated items, proceeds to fund the group's events and assistance fund. There will be some snacks available at the lodge. However, those attending are responsible for their own meals. Bring it or come and go. It is after all a picnic.
- · Howard County Master Gardeners Club business meetings take place at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of every month at 1604 W. Fourth St., between Brown and Jones streets. The meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the county extension office at 432-264-2236.
- 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.
- · An account has been established at Citizens Credit Union to help pay medical expenses for Jodi Schlipf Baird, who is being treated for Stage 4 cancer. For more information, contact the credit credit union at 267-6373 or Donna Whetsel at 432-466-9744.
- Do you have a minute? An hour? How about making a difference in someone's life? Become a hospice volunteer. One hour a month can make a difference. Whether it's visiting a patient or working in the office or helping with a craft, you can make a difference. We can work around your schedule. If interested, please call Kara Daniels at Compass Hospice, 432-263-5999, or apply in person at 602 S. Main St.



& State Farm Adrian Calvio

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Our sincere thanks to the kind friends, neighbors and relatives for expressions of sympathy, beautiful flowers and other courtesies extended to us during our recent bereavement.

Family of

Joann Howell Mason

We love & miss you Mommy & Granny NEVER FORGOTTEN

Today's Weather Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu

20 to 30 mph

Sunrise:

7:13 AM

4/18 67/35 70/44 A mainly sunny sky. High 67F. Winds N at

Sunshine. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 40s

7:12 AM

Sunny and wind

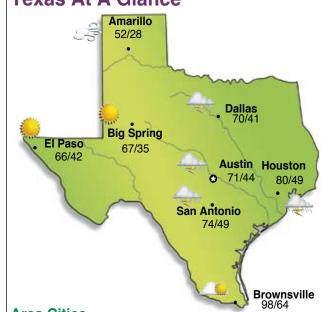
Highs in the low 80s

and lows in the low

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

Sunrise:



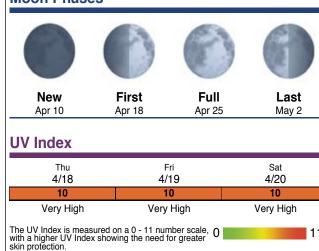


Area Cities							
City	y Hi Lo Cond.		City	Hi	Lo Cond.		
Abilene	61	37	windy	Kingsville	91	56	pt sunny
Amarillo	52	28	windy	Livingston	76	44	t-storm
Austin	71	44	t-storm	Longview	71	41	t-storm
Beaumont	80	48	t-storm	Lubbock	57	30	sunny
Brownsville	98	64	pt sunny	Lufkin	78	44	t-storm
Brownwood	67	39	t-storm	Midland	66	38	sunny
Corpus Christi	84	56	pt sunny	Raymondville	99	61	pt sunny
Corsicana	69	39	t-storm	Rosenberg	80	48	t-storm
Dallas	70	41	t-storm	San Antonio	74	49	t-storm
Del Rio	86	51	windy	San Marcos	72	45	t-storm
El Paso	66		sunny	Sulphur Springs	71	39	t-storm
Fort Stockton	68	38	windy	Sweetwater	64	36	windy
Gainesville	56	35	t-storm	Tyler	71	40	t-storm
Greenville	68	37	t-storm	Weatherford	59	36	t-storm
Houston	80	49	t-storm	Wichita Falls	57	33	windy
N - 1! 1 O		_					

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo Cond.	City	Hi	Lo Cond.
Atlanta	83	64 pt sunny	Minneapolis	38	32 mixed
Boston	60	51 pt sunny	New York	57	54 cloudy
Chicago	66	41 t-storm	Phoenix	72	49 sunny
Dallas	70	41 t-storm	San Francisco	71	53 sunny
Denver	37	22 pt sunny	Seattle	50	49 rain
Houston	80	49 t-storm	St. Louis	75	41 t-storm
Los Angeles	80	54 sunny	Washington, DC	77	64 pt sunny
Miami	85	76 pt sunny	_		
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Moon Phases



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bring in this ad!





Dr. Robert Hayes spoke at the Healthy Woman luncheon "Let's Talk Feet." The luncheon followed

the health fair Saturday and those attending received information on orthopedic surgery, health tips regarding the foot and watched a short video.

Support Groups

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.
- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.
- Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship. For further information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.
- Overcomer's: Recovery & Restoration (R&R), a Christ-centered recovery program is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the "Green Room" of the East Wing. For more convenient access to the meeting room, park in the back of the church and enter through the metal door across from the fellowship hall. If you need more information, call 432-264-0015.

FORUM

Continued from Page 1

and answer forum."

However, she added that

voters will be able to meet County, including a threeone-on-one with candidates after the forum and ask questions at that time.

There are a number of contested elections in Howard

way race for both mayor and city councilman in Big Spring.

Early voting will begin April 29.

Hall Center for the Arts is on the campus of Howard College, located at 1001 Birdwell Lane.

The forum is being sponsored by the Big Spring Area

Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Herald, Howard College, KBST Radio Group and KBYG/KXCS Radio.

There is no charge to attend Thursday's forum.

AWARDS

Continued from Page 1

and friendly personality and is always there for you if you need her," said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, who presented the award. "She also has a part-time job and manages to balance it all with a smile on her

Sparks also presented awards to Patrick Flores and Kasie Skinner, who were named to the All-USA Academic Team. Flores, from Big Spring, is a member of the dean's list and Who's Who Among American

Junior College Students and Phi Theta Kappa. He plans to transfer to the University of Texas-Permian Basin in Odessa, where he will pursue a degree in accounting.

Skinner, from San Angelo, will graduate magna cum laude from Howard and is a member of the dean's list, Phi Thea Kappa and Who's Who Among american Junior College Students. After graduation, she plans to pursue a job in the dental hygiene field.

Other top award winners at Tuesday's convocation were:

Outstanding Work-

force Education Student Stacy Ware.

 Outstanding Educator — Daniel Wooley.

 American Legion Citizenship Awards — Max McGilvary and Micah Tatum.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Manuel Rojo Gonzales. Sr., 54, died Saturday. Funeral services were at 10 a.m. today at Holy Trinity Catholic Parish. Burial followed at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Betty Lloyd Mitchel, 82, of San Angelo, formerly of Big Spring died Tuesday. The family will receive friends Thursday from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Cushing Cemetery in Cushing, Texas.

ABUSE

Continued from Page 1

now through the end of the summer," she said. "Television ads in English and Spanish are running on stations in all Texas media markets during Child Abuse Prevention Month. The TV spots are also showing on the DFPS You Tube Channel, the campaign website and as online ads. The online ad campaign runs from mid-March through the end of August. This advertising specifically targets young parents and especially young mothers.

"The Help and Hope campaign also has its own Facebook page called 4MyKid that shares fun and helpful ideas and resources for families. And, DFPS distributed more than 500,000 copies of the 2013

Child Abuse Prevention Calendar that parents can still download from HelpandHope.org."

According to DFPS officials, the ultimate goal of the Help and Hope campaign is to help Texas parents find the help and information they need in their communities to head off child abuse before it happens.

"I heard hundreds of child abuse cases when I was a district judge in San Antonio," DFPS Commissioner John Specia said. "Many of the parents who came through my courtroom were young, poor and stressed. If we can get parents the support they need up-front, fewer will end up in court needing the help of Child Protective Services."

According to DFPS statistics, Texas was home to more than 7 million

children in 2012, with CPS completing 166,211 investigations during the year. Of those, 16,972 children were removed from their home due to abuse or neglect and 212 children died due to abuse or neglect.

"While prevention is best, always report child abuse or neglect," Meisner said. "Don't count on someone else to do something.'

Report suspicions of neglect or abuse to the Texas Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 800-252-

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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."

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

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Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

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How to contact us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' In order that we might better serve your needs,

we offer several ways in which you may contact

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

Daily Prayer

Lord let us be optimistic and see the good in record, but he released a stateothers and other things.

Amen

Countless instances of greed

here is a calamitous contagion that is wrecking our world and undermining one of the most important foundational stones of decency and integrity that our nation has been established upon,

and I am seriously exasperated about it being allowed to run rampant in our society. Its name is greed and it has many faces, and all of them are detestable. It is rampaging through the halls of Congress and on virtually every



PRINCE

street in America and will eventually be the cause of a national shipwreck of unprecedented magnitude if something doesn't change the course of our sails. One of the most sobering

things you will ever read was spoken by Jesus when addressing the cost of discipleship in Matthew 16. He asked the deeply introspective questions, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" We would do well to ponder His words in light of the greed that is so blatantly eroding our nation and maybe even our own city.

I understand the economic system of private ownership called capitalism and its vast superiority to the collective ownership and government controlled commerce called socialism. In fact, there is no comparison, as we will tragically soon discover if things continue as they are in America. In the capitalistic system business owners, vendors and merchants have great freedom to make a profit and that is a principle that must be preserved if we are to remain a free nation. Anything less and we will become slaves to the socialists who hate America and our freedom to be successful in whatever business endeavor we undertake.

When businesses adjust the price of their services or products because the demand increases it is acceptable within the perimeters of reason. But when the increase is extreme and monumental burden is imposed upon innocent people it is unacceptable and should

not be tolerated. Price gouging is legally controlled to some degree, at least in theory, but it's happening right here in our own city because of unethical greed and I will not support anyone who does it. If a modest increase is called for, I see no problem. But the fact that our area is experiencing a financial boom should not allow the ruthless fleecing of our citizens by people who see an opportunity to line their pockets while abusing an innocent public just because they can. It's no wonder unfair and

unethical business practices are being imposed upon us when the paradigm for greed is being exhibited by our own government. Much of what is happening in Washington today is a calculated purposeful overwhelming of the U.S. economy to create systemic failure, economic crisis and social chaos, thereby destroying capitalism and our country from within and its driving force is

It would be beneficial at this point to acknowledge that money isn't always at the heart of the matter. Remember Obamacare? This so-called health care bill had very little to do with health care. It had everything to do with unionizing millions of hospital and health care workers, as well as adding 15,000 to 20,000 new IRS agents who will join government employee unions. The Obama Administration doesn't care that giving free health care to 30 million Americans will add trillions to the national debt. What they do care about is that it cements the dependence of those 30 million voters to Democrats and big government.

How about those government bailouts and the supposed economic stimulus we heard so much about? Where did all that money go? It went to contributors, organizations like ACORN, and unions — including billions of dollars to save or create jobs of government employees across the country. It went to save GM and Chrysler so that their employees could keep paying union dues. It went to AIG so that Goldman Sachs could be bailed out after giving Obama almost \$1 million in contributions. \$125 billion went to teachers thereby protecting their union dues. All those public employees will vote loyally Democrat to protect their

bloated salaries and pensions that are bankrupting America. The country goes broke, future generations face a bleak future, but certain facets and parties in our government, the administration and the unions grow more powerful. The ends justify the means. That's looks to me like political greed in the truest sense of the word.

I realize that greed isn't monopolized by any certain party or people groups. It is a sickness that has been perpetuated for generations by politicians of all parties and business owners all over the world but that doesn't make it right and it doesn't justify it being allowed to continue unchecked.

I am certainly not throwing all Democrats, business owners, and CEOs under the bus. There are countless instances of greed motivating people, regardless of party affiliation, to hurt the innocent and abuse the capitalistic system. For example, the tax loss from one scheming businessman could have paid the salaries of 30,000 nurses. The lack of regulation in the financial industry allowed hedge fund manager John Paulson to conspire with Goldman Sachs in a plan to create packages of risky subprime mortgages and then short-sell (bet against) the sure-to-fail financial instruments. The ploy paid him \$3.7 billion. Deregulation in the tax code allowed him to call his income "carried interest," which is taxed at a 15% rate. More deregulation allowed him to defer his profits indefinitely. That's greed on display at its ugly best and that's just one real-life story out of thousands.

When anyone is unethical or unfair in fighting against businesses or individuals who might be perceived as a threat to their personal golden goose they are being motivated by greed. When people are willing to spend other people's money without conscience, it is greed. It's time to show some respect for our fellow man and refuse to abuse them simply because the opportunity to do so exists.

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

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

Free speech, hidden cameras don't mix

SC lecturer Darry Sragow dismissed California Republicans as "really stupid," "racist" and "angry old white people" before his political science class last fall. Those remarks wouldn't

be news — except that student Tyler Talgo secretly videotaped Sragow, and the biaswatchdog group Campus Reform posted 15 minutes of excerpts from the 2 1/2-hour class, which the Drudge Report picked up. That turned Sragow into a chew toy for cable news



SAUNDERS

As a Republican, I found his remarks offensive and inaccurate. Angry, old and white — those words apply to Sragow, too. I've known him for years as a Democratic operative, an attorney and a friend, when he's not teaching this one course, designed to give students real-world perspective. No doubt Sragow would tell his clients that anything they say can be taped and used against them. So it's ironic that he is caught up in the same trap that ensnared Mitt Romney when the candidate made his infamous 47 percent gaffe.

Sragow won't talk on the ment, in which he said he stands by his remarks but regrets his

"choice of words."

As offended as I am by those words, I also am offended that Talgo secretly videotaped the class. Yes, Sragow was speaking in a public classroom, but he was not addressing the world. Secret tapings can only have a chilling effect on the classroom. As USC provost Elizabeth Garrett noted in a statement, "one of the most important principles of an academic community has been that academic inquiry and discussion be free from censorship or undue outside control."

Most of my best professors were highly opinionated — two favorites were unapologetic socialists — and I would hate to see the fear of ridicule by cable news gag lively academics.

Alas, ever since James O'Keefe aired his infamous faux-pimp videos to ridicule ACORN by tricking low-level staffers into saying stupid things, some young conservatives have fallen for the romance of the self-styled journalist who, festering with grievances, strikes back by exposing liberal stupidity with the help of hidden recording devices and edited videotape.

Talgo eschewed O'Keefe's bluster when we spoke over the phone Monday.

I trust that when he is older, he will understand that it is wrong to take injudicious comments made for limited consumption and spread them across the Internet. Talgo told me he thought that if he had told Sragow he was taping the class, Sragow would

have changed his tune, so he hid

his camera. Why didn't Talgo confront Sragow instead? The sophomore told me he worked hard to get into USC. The tuition isn't cheap. He said he felt slandered being called a stupid racist and

"deserved better." Talgo also said he was afraid that if he confronted Sragow, Sragow might retaliate by giving him a real-world poor grade. As it is, he aced the class.

Fellow conservative and Sragow course alumna Emily Schrader did not appreciate Sragow's GOP-bashing and agrees that academia is hostile to conservatives. Liberal professors have been known to grade conservatives unfairly, she told me, but she stood up to Sragow and found that he welcomed debate.

"Why didn't (Talgo) say anything?" asked Schrader. "This was his opportunity to be a conservative activist." As she wrote to the Daily Trojan, "we don't need to silence the opinions of Liberal professors, we need to debate and engage."

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

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Check this out. At the county library

ere are some biographies that I didn't have room for last week: "The Secretary: A Journey with

Hollis

McCright

Hillary Clinton From Beirut to the Heart of American Power" (B CLI H) by Kim Ghat-

tas. Ghattas is the BBC reporter

who followed Secretary Clinton around the world for the past four years with unparalleled access. Ghattas is a half-Dutch and half-Lebabanes citizen who grew up in the crossfire of the Lebanese civil war. This is also the author's journey as she looks to answer her own questions of her girlhood. How powerful is America really? And if America is in a decline, who or what will replace it, and what will it mean for

American and the rest of the world? I cannot do justice in this short column on both Ghattas and Clinton; you must either read the book or check the online reviews — I used Amazon.com and looked there — it is easily accessible. "My Beloved World" (B SOT S) by Sonia So-

tomayor, the first Hispanic Supreme Court judge and third woman on the court; the biography of the widow of Wyatt Earp, Josephine Marcus Earp, "Lady at the OK Corral: The True Story of Josephine Wyatt Earp" (B WYA J) by Ann Kirschner; and finally, a biography of a survivor of the Khmer Rouge confronts his past in "The Elimination" (B PAH R) by Rithy Panh, who will meet the commandant of the Killing Fields in

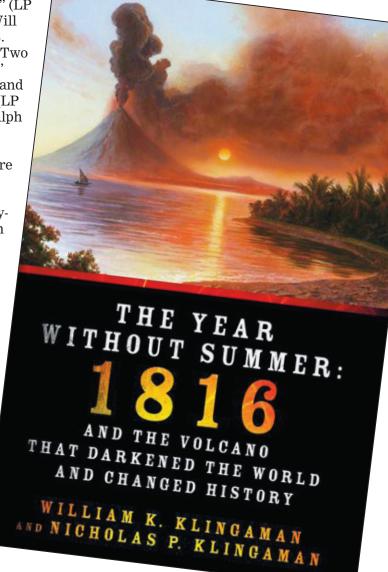
Thailand. A few westerns: Lauran Paine has a trio of stories in "The Plains of Laramie" (LP W PAI L); "Fort Starke" (LP W COO W) by Will Cook; Richard S. Wheeler's "The Two Medicine River' (LP W WHE R); and "Lookout Hill" (LP W COT R) by Ralph Cotton, a perennial favorite in the western genre writing field.

Ted Claypoole and Theresa Payton have written a very timely book on internet security. If you listen to Mike Huckaby, then you are familiar with the idea of identity theft. "Protecting Your Internet Identity: Are You Naked Online" (302.231 CLA T) helps readers understand the implications of

their online

presence and helps them take steps to protect themselves. They offer simple, specific steps readers can take to analyze their online footprints, determine who they want to be online and turn their online reputation around. By following their advice, you will ensure that you are projecting the persona you want

others to see. Last month, I wrote about yellow fever in Memphis; this month, it is cholera in London. "The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic" (614.514 JOH S) by Steven Johnson was a national bestseller and a New York Times Notable Book. It is the summer of 1854 and London is seized by a violent outbreak of cholera that no one knows how to stop. As the epidemic spreads, a maverick physician and a local curate (minister) are spurred to action, working to solve the most pressing medical riddle of their time. Johnson provides



enthralling story of the most intense outbreak of cholera in modern times and how it has shaped the world we live in.

breaks

of typhus in recorded

of a wealth of primary

source materials, "The

Year Without Summer:

1816" (521.210 KLI W) by

William K. Klingaman

able history of weather

is an eminently read-

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see parallels between

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Harry Turtledove

sudoku

ANSWERS

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history. Making use

In 1815, the island of Java, in Indonesia, was shattered when the volcano Krakatoa erupted and shot an immense plume of smoke, ash and debris into the atmosphere. As a result, 1816 became the year without a summer. Weather patterns were disrupted worldwide for months, producing excessive rain, frost and snowfall across much of the northeastern United States, Canada and Europe. In the US, there were extensive food shortages, religious revivals and extensive migrations from New England to the Midwest (Indiana Illinois, states east of the Mississippi). In Europe, the cold and wet summer led to famine. food riots and the transformation of stable communities into bands of wandering beggars and the one of the worst out-

has written a trilogy

of books on the

subject of Yellowstone's super volcano also blowing up. The title is "Supervolcano: Eruption" Vol. 1 (SF TUR H); Vol. 2 is "Supervolcano: All Fall Down" (RN TUR H). They are both very interesting books. Vol. 3 has yet to be written, or is currently in the process.

In a life that spanned nearly a century and witnessed some of the most momentous events in American history, Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley was born a slave. She earned her freedom by the skill of her needle and the friendship of First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln

with her devotion. In her sweeping historical novel, "Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker" (F CHI J) Jennifer Chiaverini, illuminates the extraor dinary relationship the women shared, beginning in the halls of the White House during the trials of the Civil War and almost to the end of Mrs. Lincoln's days.

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Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

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SPRING HERALD

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> Page 6 Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Seeley hits grand slam in Hawks' win over WTC

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

More often than not, when you give up 10 runs in a baseball game it's bad news, but that wasn't the case for Howard College on Tuesday. The Hawks were smacking the ball around and won 16-10, with sophomore Reed Seeley belting a grand slam to help key the win.

Howard also got a little — OK, a lot — of help from mistakes on the part of the Westerners, who recorded six errors in the highscoring affair.

"I thought both teams played really bad," HC Head Coach Britt Smith bluntly said. "Both teams' pitching staffs were awful. I think the difference was they made six errors and we didn't make any. We were fortunate to win."

Seelev's four-run dinger came in the bottom of the sixth. Holding a one-run lead, Nick Bullington picked up a RBI single making it a 8-6 game. With runners at second and third, Jose Favela reached on an error to load the bases. Dane Steinhagen took a base on balls then Cameron Neal was hit by a pitch to add another run. That set Seeley up to empty the bases with one swing.

The Hawks weren't done. Batting behind Seeley, sophomore Levi Scott cleared the fences to put HC

The bases were still loaded when the inning came to an end, but the Hawks had put nine runs on the board.

The Westerners

See **SLAM**, Page 11



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton/visit www.claxtonphotography.com

would tack Howard College sophomore Reed Seeley hits a grand slam home run during Tuesday's 16-10 win over Western Texas College at Jack Barber Field.



HERALD file photo

Big Spring's Ayanna Gomez fields a hit in left field during a game against Snyder last week. The Lady Steers lost 2-1 on the road against Greenwood Tuesday.

Buffs edge TLC, 'Dawgs down Denver City

By BRIAN MCCORMACK Sports Editor

Baseball

FORSAN — The Buffaloes were already in the playoff, but with Tuesday's 15-5 run-rule over Texas Leadership Charter Academy, Forsan has locked up at least the No. 2 seed in District 6-1A. The Buffs have a legitimate shot of capturing the district championship, but to do so, they have to beat the division bully Miles on the road.

Blaise Coffman — who is returning to the mound after missing time with an injury — started the game for FHS and pitched two innings. Coffman recorded a strikeout and walked two and gave up four hits.

"He threw well," Forsan Head Coach Jason Phillips said. "We didn't play well behind him. Our defense was sluggish, but he threw strikes. We wanted to get him a couple innings of work and get him back in the rotation."

Clayton Galloway fanned seven batters in three innings and walked zero in relief of Coffman.

Galloway also picked up two RBI three hits. Trevor Burchett recorded three hits and three RBI. Matthew Mims picked up two hits and had three RBI, Dillon Bagnall had a RBI single, Copeland Riddell and Tyler Evans each contributed two RBI and Martcus Cervantes had a RBI.

"The defense picked up and the offense came through," Phillips said. "We hit the ball well. If we can beat Miles and Winters, we are district champs, but it's going to be tough. We'll be in Miles Friday and they have probably the best pitcher we've seen and will probably see him again. We have to make them play defense. If we can put the ball in play, I think we have a good shot."

COAHOMA — The Bulldogs secured a playoff spot Tuesday with a 7-2 win over district foe Denver City, earning at least the No. 3 seed and staying in the hunt for either a

title or a No. 2 seed.

What makes Coahoma's playoff berth special, is the fact that the squad didn't win a single game last year. The Bulldogs — who are 4-2 in their division and 11-11 overall are a classic example of how winloss statistics can be meaningless. CHS had plenty of talent which was being developed during the frustrating year, then a new head coach in Bryan Jacobs put all the pieces together.

"We knew what we were dealing with," Jacobs said of the outing against Denevr City. "We expected it to be a fairly high-scoring game since we used different pitchers, but it didn't turn out that way."

Jamen Sanchez pitched 2 and 1/3 inning and was relieved by Ryan Campbell.

The Bulldogs plated two runs in the bottom of the second, two in the bottom of the fourth on a tworun homer by Hayden Adamson, two in the bottom of the fifth after bases loaded single courtesy

See ROUNDUP, Page 11

Big Spring squads

foiled by Greenwood

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

GREENWOOD — It was a game with playoff implications for Big Spring as they took on the Rangerettes on Tuesday and in an unusually low-scoring game, Greenwood

edged the Lady Steers 2-1. Offensive struggles have plagued Big

Spring for the past two weeks. In the top of the fifth inning, Ayanna Gomez scored on a double by Mercedes Ruiz to put the only run on the board for the Lady

Steers. Loagn Yarbar kept Greenwood's offense in check, striking out the side in the bottom of the second, but it was three costly errors committed by BSHS tipped the scales for the

The Lady Steers are down, but not totally out of the playoff picture. From here on out, however, their destiny will largely be

determined by how the district pans out. If BSHS can top Monahans on Saturday, they are still very much alive.

"We just didn't hit the ball," BSHS Head Coach John Sparks said of Tuesday's outing. "As far as I'm concerned, they're capable of making the plays, but the errors killed us. We gave up two unearned runs that won the ballgame. That's not supposed to happen."

With only two games remaining, Sparks plans to finish the season on a high note and hope things fall in his favor regarding a postseason berth.

"If we can beat Monahans on Saturday, we should be in. If Monahans should beat Greenwood, we could have a three-way tie. I talked to the girls, all I can do is encourage them. They know what kind of game we have coming up and they know they are going to have to be focused. This year, we have said we have to believe. Believe in our ability and believe in each other."

GREENWOOD — Big Spring baseball was also on the receiving end of a loss on the road Tuesday, as the Rangers held on for a 5-2 win over the Steers, throwing a monkeywrench in Head Coach Bert Otto's plan to nab

See FOILED, Page 11

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Tag#BM7S114 Any questions, please contact the Glasscock County Sheriff's Office. The successful bidder upon payment of the money to The Glasscock County Sheriff's Office. is entitled to take possession of the vehicle and apply for a title free and clear of all liens and claims to ownership. All vehicles are sold as is, without warranty or guarantee of

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Mothering **Cancer Moon**

With the solar shift around the bend, we're reminded that change takes energy, and energy must be periodically recharged. The bubble of comfort and safety that Cancer moon provides is just the ticket. This moon is like a nurturing mother, welcoming us in after the efforts of the day, fixing a healthy snack and inviting decompress.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You would be wise to extend your personal network, as there are opportunities on the horizon for you that will require you

HOLIDAY **M**ATHIS

greater resources and a wider reach.

have

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You easily sense when people are in need, but it will take more concentration and talent to accurately pinpoint the need and know precisely how you might help. Or, you could just ask!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your strong values are extremely attractive, especially to those around you who could use more structure in their lives. You communicate most powerfully by living your values, not talking about

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you notice that someone needs assistance, you spring into action. In fact, you can't understand people who don't notice. But it takes all types in the world, and you'll observe many of those types in action today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Success in one area of life won't necessarily translate to success in another, but the basic principles still apply: You have to be willing to go through all the steps and learn what it takes to be masterful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Taking the point of view that you should know something already will only stop you from learning. Better to admit what you don't know and gather experience than to unnecessarily around in the dark.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your direct and assured action will be necessary. Hesitate, and you'll lose power. Wait, and it will only get harder and harder to influence the situation. Act now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you really think about it — and you will today — miracles abound. You believe this because you've seen the evidence, and continue to produce more evidence because you believe it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). How would your life change if you made happiness your No. 1 priority? The answer to that question may inspire you to change your schedule slightly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You do trust the wisdom of the ages, but even more beneficial is the timely value you find in what specific people tell you. You'll take to heart the stories and advice of friends and family.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The line between respect and attraction is easily blurred these days. You'll avoid murky relationships and messy situations when you stay clear about your feelings.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). To someone who doesn't know you very well, it seems like you are all smiles and acceptance. But woe to the one who crosses your lines. After all, what good is a boundary that is not enforced?

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 17). You make a hobby of shocking and impressing people this year. Your ideas are bold. The execution of those sometimes ideas is brilliant; other times, a brilliant fail and a good story. May brings strange chance to glue broken please relationships together. July features social and professional growth. Aquarius and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 33, 2 and 15. **ASTROLOGICAL**

QUESTIONS: I think my life is being ruined by my shortage of confidence. I want to start my own business, but I can't

stumble make myself take the financial risk, so I stay working a demanding job at an advertising agency that doesn't allow me extra time to work on much else. I want to be more social and fun, but I can't seem to put myself out there. My love life is nonexistent. How can I become more confident and do the things I want to do? — *Under-confident* **Pisces**

Good news, Pisces.

Confidence is a quality that is both misunderstood and overrated. So the fact that you don't have much may be one of your best assets. Many extremely successful people have low confidence levels. The unsure feeling they have about their next move inspires them to set reasonable goals, work harder and take all of the necessary steps to ensure the greatest probability of success. So be confident about your low confidence, and forward with small goals that you are likely to hit. Suggestions: Invite a few friends to join you for drinks after work. Talk to friendly-looking stranger. Save a certain amount of each paycheck for that business you will start one day, when you're ready.

CELEBRITY

PROFILES: Aries actress Jennifer Garner will play doctor to her co-star Matthew McConaughey in "Dallas Buyers Club," a film based on the reallife struggles of AIDS patient Ron Woodroof. Garner's natal sun and Mercury in Aries indicates high levels of physical energy, and the of location several Gemini planets in her brings equally chart strong intellectual and social sides of her personality.

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

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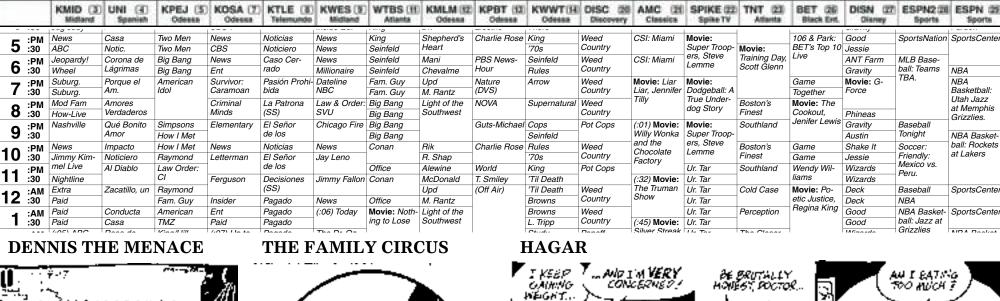
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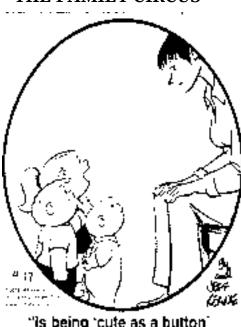
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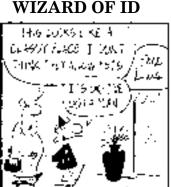
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launched the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in an attempt to topple Fidel Castro, whose forces crushed the incursion by the third day.

On this date:

In 1492, a contract was signed by Christopher Columbus and a representative of Spain's King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, giving Columbus a commission to seek a westward ocean passage to Asia. In 1521, Martin Luther went

before the Diet of Worms (vohrms) to face charges stemming from his religious writings. (He was later declared an outlaw by Holy Roman Emperor Charles V.)

In 1861, the Virginia State Convention voted to secede from the Union

In 1895, the Treaty of Shimonoseki ended the first Sino-Japanese War. In 1937, the animated cartoon

character Daffy Duck made his debut in the Warner Bros. cartoon "Porky's Duck Hunt," directed by Tex Avery. In 1941, Yugoslavia surren-

dered to Germany during

World War II. In 1969, a jury in Los Angeles convicted Sirhan Sirhan of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. The First Secretary of Czechoslovakia's Communist

Party, Alexander Dubcek

(DOOB'-chek), was deposed. In 1970, Apollo 13 astronauts James A. Lovell, Fred W. Haise and Jack Swigert splashed down safely in the Pacific, four days after a ruptured oxygen tank crippled their spacecraft while en route to the moon.

In 1973, Federal Express (later FedEx) began operations as 14 planes carrying 186 packages took off from Memphis International Airport, bound for 25 U.S. cities.

In 1986, at London's Heathrow Airport, a bomb was discovered in the bag of a pregnant Irishwoman about to board an El Al jetliner to Israel; she'd been tricked into carrying the

bomb by her Jordanian fiance. In 1993, a federal jury in Los Angeles convicted two former police officers of violating the

civil rights of beaten motorist

Rodney King; two other officers

were acquitted. Turkish

President Turgut Ozal died at age 66. In 1997, former Israeli president Chaim Herzog (KHY'-ehm HEHRT'-zahg) died in Tel Aviv

at age 78. Today's Birthdays: Composer-musician Jan Hammer (yahn HAH'-mur) is 65. Actress Olivia Hussey is 62. Actor Clarke Peters is 61. Rock singer-musician Pete Shelley (Buzzcocks) is 58. Actor Sean Bean is 54. Actor Joel Murray is 51. Rock singer Maynard

James Keenan is 49. © 2013 The Associated Press.





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CREATORS SYNDICATE D 2013 STANLEY NEWMAN, STANKWORDS 6 AQUICON.

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 6

of Eddie Hagins and one in the final inning on a safety squeeze by Zach Crabtree.

Disaster was averted when Tanner Ruiz made a great — albeit controversial — catch in the outfield in a bases loaded situation in the top of third.

"It was an unbelievable catch to get the third out," Jacobs said. "He was even surprised it was in his glove." The Denver City staff argued that Ruiz trapped it instead of cathing it cleanly, but the call on the field stood and the inning came to a close.

The Bulldogs will face Brownfield on the road Friday, but a huge game — a rematch against Lamesa — will be held in Coahoma on Monday

The Golden Tornadoes defeated the Bulldogs 5-1 in their first meeting, but CHS has one more

Other area results: Softball

- Midland Christian defeated Forsan, 8-7.
- Coahoma defeated Denver City, 15-5.

SLAM

Continued from Page 6

on two runs in the top of the seventh and two more in the final inning, but couldn't recover from the one-two punch of committing critical errors while the Hawk offense heated up.

Though Howard College (15-9) has struggled this year — relatively speaking — It is still in the running for a Western junior College Athletic Conference title. The Hawks are knotted up with Odessa College and Frank Phillips College — all vying for a third place finish. Midland College and New Mexico Junior College lead the WJCAC with records of 18-6.

Next up for HC will be a four-game series with conference newcomer Luna College. Luna is 7-13 in WJCAC action, but Smith said his squad needs to end the regular season with a bang if they hope to punch a ticket to the Region V tournament.

"We need to take care of business in these last eight games," Smith added. "We pitched well the last three games of the El Paso series. We need to pitch well and take competetive atbats. When we do that, the defense is always there. We have to worry about ourselves. Our issue is our uniform, it has nothing to do with with our opponents."

Sudoku Answers on Page 5

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

5	4	8		7	3				
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FOILED

Continued from page 6

the No. 2 seed out of District 4-3A, which is more desirable than a No. 3 spot due to the strength of potential opponents.

In the top of the first inning, Karsten Knudson and Haegan Rodriguez led off the game with back-to-back singles, then Knudson scored a run on a sacrifice fly by Gunnar Kennedy to put the Steers up 1-0.

The Rangers tied it at 1-1 in the bottom of the second inning.

A RBI triple, two walks and a wild pitch led to a 3-1 Greenwood lead in the bottom of the third, but the Steers answered in the top of the fourth.

pitched 5 1/3 innings, striking out three and walking four — led off with a single and was advanced to third base on a single by Max Pappajohn. Jarred DoPorto reached on a fielder's choice, Pappajohn was thrown out at second and Kennedy scored, making it a 3-2 game.

Adam Franco relieved Kennedy on the mound, but he entered the game with bases loaded and two more runs — both $unearned-would\ score$ as a result of an error before Franco retired the next two batters. pitcher Greenwood

Zach Long struck out the side during Big Spring's final at-bat.

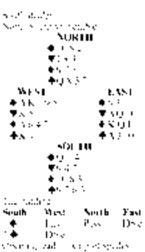
The Steers are still in the hunt. Wylie was upset by Snyder — who

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



By Steve Becker

Impossible, but True



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Kennedy — who also Big Spring swept — Tuesday. The Steers still have a rematch with Wylie as well as a meeting with Monahans, a team which BSHS Head Coach Bert Otto said is "playing better" as district draws to a close.

"We have to make routine plays," Otto said. "We have to eliminate the mistakes and we could be smarter on our pitch selection. They are pretty selective about what they swing at in practice, I don't know what happens when they get in a game. Maybe they are trying too hard."

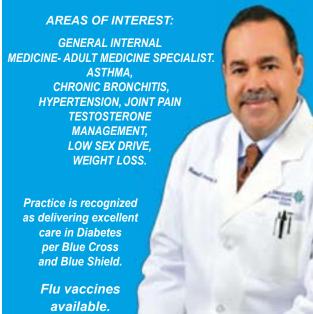
Otto's focus will be on the basics as they prepare for their last two regular season games.

"We will try get that key hit," Otto said. "We've struggled with that lately. We have hit the ball at timnes, but it seems like our bloopers go to their gloves and their bloopers find the gaps."

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



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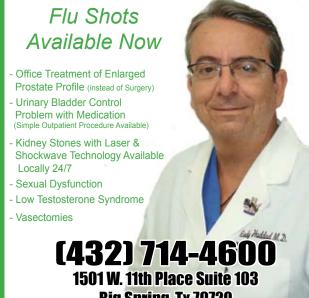
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Dear Annie: We are the future. It may sound cheesy, but that's the motto I live by. and it's one of the reasons I believe so strongly in the need to prevent and reduce tobacco use among teens and

My passion for tobacco-use prevention started when I saw the harm that tobacco use caused my older sister. She started smoking at age 13 and ended up with an addiction that spiraled out of control, in many ways taking her childhood with it.

Every year, tobacco kills more than 400,000 Americans, and the vast majority started smoking as children. Kids are overwhelmed with pressure to smoke, from tobacco industry marketing, their peers, movies and other

sources. But we have the power within ourselves to win the fight against tobacco. and I am proud to advocate for policies proven to reduce tobacco use and save lives.

To learn more about tobacco-use prevention and to see how you can be a part of the efforts of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, please tell your readers to visit www. tobaccofreekids.org. -- Gabe Glissmever, age 19. Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Gabe: Thank you for writing and giving us the opportunity to tell our readers about the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. The cigarette companies do an excellent job of recruiting new smokers. It's time for the rest of us to do our part to keep

that in check.

Dear Annie: I have a speech problem that makes my voice sound hoarse and gravelly. and although people can understand me, some ask, "Where are you from?" (They think I sound like Henry Kissinger.) I usually answer with the name of a local working-class neighborhood where people sound a bit rougher, and sometimes that shuts them up. But more often, they persist in commenting on my "accent." I find this incredibly rude.

Isn't it wrong to question people like this? It's none of their business why I sound this way. My city has a diverse population, and it's not unusual to hear foreign-

I wouldn't dream of asking them about their place of origin.

The questions are starting to get to me. I was talking on my cellphone on the street, and some guy stopped and asked where I was from. I said "none of your business" and walked away. This guy was horrified by my rudeness. Maybe this is the best thing to say. Any other ideas? - Native New Yorker

Dear New Yorker: You could make up an unlikely response ("I'm Canada"), but although the question is rude, we don't think it's intentionally so. You are sensitive about your voice, but people are curious, and you sound interesting to them. They mistakenly

believe they are being friendly. You are not obligated to provide personal information. You can simply respond, "Why do you need to know?" or "I'm sorry, but I don't like to talk about it," and keep moving.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www. creators.com.

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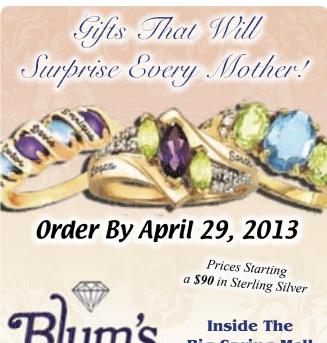
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