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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**MONDAY**

**JANUARY 6, 2014**



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## Taxman cometh

*Property tax bills due by end of month, officials say*

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer

One of the few constants in life — taxes — are much on the mind of Howard County property owners this month.

Homeowners have until Jan. 31 to pay their tax bills without penalties or interest, said Diane Carter, Howard County tax assessor/collector.

Payments can be made in person at the county tax office (315 Main St., Suite D), by mail (P.O. Box 1111) or by credit card over the phone (1-800-272-9829), Carter said.

Once the calendar flips over to February, taxpayers will begin accruing penalties and interest on their unpaid balance. That schedule is as follows:

- February — 6 percent penalty, 1 percent interest.
- March — 7 percent penalty, 2 percent interest.
- April — 8 percent penalty, 3 percent interest.
- May — 9 percent penalty, 4 percent interest.
- June — 10 percent penalty, 5 percent interest.
- July — 12 percent penalty, 6 percent interest.

In addition, attorney fees will be added to the tax bill. An installment plan is available for taxpayers 65 or older. Carter said those people can pay in four installments as long as they make their first payment by the Jan. 31 deadline. Subsequent payments will be due by March

See **TAXES**, Page 3



HERALD photos/Andrea Medlin  
 Sandhill cranes, a familiar sight during the winter, were in abundance at One Mile Lake (the Sandhill Crane Sanctuary and observation area) early Saturday. According to Wikipedia, Sandhill cranes are fairly social birds that are usually encountered in pairs or family groups through the year. During migration and winter, non-related cranes come together to form "survival groups" which forage and roost together. Such groups often result in thousands of cranes being found together.



## Like temperatures, gas prices drop

Special to the Herald

Average retail gasoline prices in Texas have fallen 0.3 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.12 a gallon Sunday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 gas outlets in Texas.

This compares with the national average of \$3.30 a gallon, according to gasoline price website GasBuddy.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Texas during the past week, prices Sunday were 4.4 cents per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 3.0 cents per gallon higher than a month ago.

The national average has increased 5.7 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 3.3 cents per gallon higher than this day one year ago.

"While the cold weather is about the lock the country into a deep freeze, we're also seeing a bit of a freeze in the national average," said Gas-



Buddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan.

"For much of the week ahead, we may see the freeze at the pump continue, as oil prices have recently shed some of their gains from late

December. January and February see some of weakest demand for gasoline in the year, so it wouldn't be surprising to see the average move slightly downward in the next couple weeks," DeHaan added.

GasBuddy operates TexasGasPrices.com and more than 250 similar websites that track gasoline prices at more than 140,000 gasoline stations in the United States and Canada.

### INDEX

Comics	8
Classified	5-7
Police	2
Obituaries	2
Sports	4,9

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## Obituaries

### Robin Edwin Wheelhouse

Robin Edwin Wheelhouse, 50, of Midland, Texas, passed from this world on Jan. 3, 2014, after a losing a courageous battle with colon cancer. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home, 301 E.



24th St., in Big Spring, Texas. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Midway Baptist Church, 6200 S. Service Rd, Interstate 20, east of Big Spring. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Serenity Memorial Gardens Cemetery, 6800 S. HWY 349, south of Midland.

Robin was born in the Sioux City, Iowa on Sept. 25, 1963 to Wayne Roger Wheelhouse and Beverly Jean Hotchkiss Wheelhouse. Shortly thereafter, his family moved to his beloved black hills of South Dakota to the small community of Hill City. Robin's childhood was filled with days of hiking, hunting, and exploring the hills, often providing dinner for his family through his adventures. Robin graduated from Hill City High School in 1981.

In 1984 Robin graduated from Western Nebraska Technical College where he received an associate's degree in applied arts. Soon after school, he moved to the deserts of West Texas to pursue a career as a diesel mechanic. Robin married Patricia (Patty) Joe Wood on Sept. 21, 1988 in Big Lake, Texas. Together Robin and Patty had two children, one daughter Heather Joe Medley, and one son Zachary Dillon Wheelhouse. After stents in Big Lake, and Ballinger, Texas, Robin eventually settled with his family in Midland where he became a partner in a local oil transport company.

It would take 25 years before Robin was able to make the first of two returns to the Black Hills. On both trips he hiked the summit of Harney Peak elevation 7242 feet, the highest summit in the United States east of the Rockies. His final hike took seven hours to complete with his son, daughter and son-in-law.

Robin believed in hard work and doing a job right. His favorite actor was John Wayne and he collected John Wayne memorabilia. His favorite quote from Mr. Wayne was, "A man's gotta do what a man's gotta do." That's exactly what Robin did to support his family.

Robin was preceded in by his father Wayne Roger Wheelhouse.

Robin is survived by his wife of 25 years Patty Wheelhouse, one daughter, Heather Joe Medley and her husband James Medley, of Midland, one son, Zachary Dillon Wheelhouse and his future wife Courtney Fish of Midland, and one granddaughter, Kyleigh Joe Medley, of Midland; and one brother, Delbert "Pete" Klein and his wife Janice of Midland.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

*Paid obituary*

### Jean Huckaby

Jean Huckaby, 81, of Big Spring, Texas, died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2014 in a local nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2014 at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6, 2014 at the funeral home.

She was born Sept. 9, 1932 in Rotan, Texas and married Jim Huckaby Nov. 24, 1951 in Rotan, Texas.

She was a housewife and mother before becoming an Avon Sales representative from 1971 to 2005.

Survivors include two daughters, Beverly Knous and husband, Richard of Big Spring and Jackie Mullen and partner, Jerri Dixon of Louisville, Ky.; four grandchildren, Melanie Harris and husband, Dwayne, Heather Morris and husband, Doug, Tom Mullen and Marianne Mullen; two great-grandchildren, Krysta Whitehead and Aubrie Harris; and one sister, Billie Brown of Rotan.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Jim; her parents, Arlon and Verona Cross; and a grandchild, James Mullen.

The family suggests memorials to First Baptist Church Youth Fund, 705 W. FM 700, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or to Compass Hospice, 602 S. Main St., Big Spring, Texas 79720.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences may be made at: [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com)

*Paid obituary*

### James Goll

James Goll, 98, died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### James David Yater

James David Yater, 74, of Irving, Texas, formerly of Big Spring, Texas, died Saturday in an Irving hospital. Funeral services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

### Juan Molina Garcia

Juan Molina Garcia, 58, of Big Spring, Texas died Thursday, Jan. 2, 2014, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m.

Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born July 8, 1955, to Petra and Eugene Garcia. He lived in Lamesa for 35 years, moving to Big Spring four years ago. He was an appliance repairman until retiring due to ill health. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by one son, Juan Toma Garcia of Victoria, Texas; seven daughters, Isabel Garcia of Victoria, Yolanda De Guevara of Lubbock, Texas, Gracie Romero of Lamesa, Texas, Crystol Garcia, Amanda Garcia, Vanessa Garcia, and Monico Garcia, all of Memphis, Tenn.; four brothers, Pete Garcia, Eugene Garcia, Marcello Garcia, and Manuel Garcia, all of Lamesa; three sisters, Maria Barron, Simona Moreno, and Lupe Perales, all of Lamesa; and several grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by twins, Cindy Garcia and Juan Garcia, Jr.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com)

## Police blotter

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

- **BRIAN MICHAEL GARZA**, 31, of 1704 S. Benton St., was arrested on a charge of failure to identify giving false/fictitious information and on two charges of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.
- **JOHNNY JAMES RANGEL**, 19, of 1305 Lincoln Avenue was arrested on two charges of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.
- **JASON WYANE ENGLISH**, 35, of 1502 Runnels, was arrested on two charges of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.
- **ROY PIAZ GARCIA**, 53, of 1212 16<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid previous conviction.
- **ESTEBAN JUAREZ III**, 34, of 509 S. Johnson, was arrested on a charge of assault, family violence threat or offensive touch.
- **ANTHONY SANCHEZ ROBERT JR.** 27, of 2813 Coronado Avenue, was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **RICHARD H MARTINEZ JR.**, 29, of 805 E. 16<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested on a charge of assault, family violence causing bodily injury.
- **PEDRO HERNANDEZ JR.**, 39, of 1700 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested on a charge of silent or abusive calls to 911 service.
- **ADAM GARCIA**, 42, of 105 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **ROBERT BATTS**, 47, of 3737 E. Bellevue St. Apt. 233, Tucson, Arizona, was arrested on a charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 500 block of Johnson St. and the 1900 block of Wasson Road.
- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 2600 block of Langley Drive.
- **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 1000 block of Runnels St.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 4200 block of Hamilton St.

## Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 61 inmates at the time of this report.
- **MAGAN BOYD**, 29, was booked by BSPD on a charge of hindering officers discharging of duties.
- **QUINTON ALAN JETTON**, 25, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest detention and on an Atascoca County warrant for revocation

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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## Today's Weather

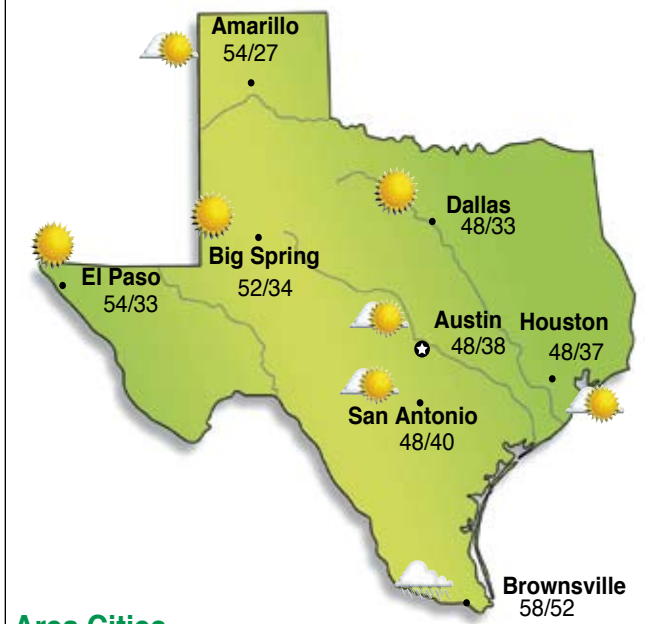
### Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 1/7	Wed 1/8	Thu 1/9	Fri 1/10	Sat 1/11
<b>52/34</b> Sunny skies. High 52F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.	<b>63/30</b> Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 30s.	<b>58/42</b> Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 40s.	<b>66/37</b> Clouds giving way to sun. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	<b>61/35</b> Occasional showers possible. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:57 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:58 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 5:59 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:00 PM	<b>Sunrise:</b> 7:48 AM <b>Sunset:</b> 6:00 PM

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## Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	51	38	sunny	Kingsville	56	49	cloudy
Amarillo	54	27	mst sunny	Livingston	46	30	mst sunny
Austin	48	38	mst sunny	Longview	45	29	sunny
Beaumont	45	31	mst sunny	Lubbock	51	29	mst sunny
Brownsville	58	52	rain	Lufkin	46	30	mst sunny
Brownwood	53	38	sunny	Midland	52	34	sunny

of probation-possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine.

- **EANNIE MARIE RUSHING**, 38, booked by the BSPD on a warrant for assault-family violence.
- **JARRETT THEODRICE EVANS**, 28, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **JASON WAYNE ENGLISH**, 35, was booked by the BSPD on two charges of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.
- **BRIAN MICHAEL GARZA**, 31, was booked by the BSPD on charges of failure to identify giving false/fictitious information and two charges of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.
- **JOHNNY JAMES RANGEL**, 19, was booked by the BSPD on two charges of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.
- **ADAM GARCIA**, 42, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for driving while licenses invalid and for unlawfully taking a vehicle or motor vehicle, fourth felony.
- **ROY PAIZ GARCIA**, 50, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid, previous conviction, suspension.
- **ESTEBAN JUAREZ**, 34, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of assault-family violence.
- **ANTHONY ROBERT SANCHEZ JR.**, 27, was booked by the BSPD on a Midland County warrant for theft of service, violation of probation bond forfeiture.
- **ROBERT BATTS III**, 47, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of unauthorized use of a vehicle.
- **RICHARD HILARIO MARTINEZ**, 29, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of assault causing bodily injury to a family member.
- **PEDRO HERNANDEZ JR.** 39, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of silent abusive call.
- **BRENDA VERA**, 39, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of theft.
- **JOSEPH MELIVIN FRASER**, 38, was booked by the BSPD on warrants for harassment.

## MANUEL R. CARRASCO, MD

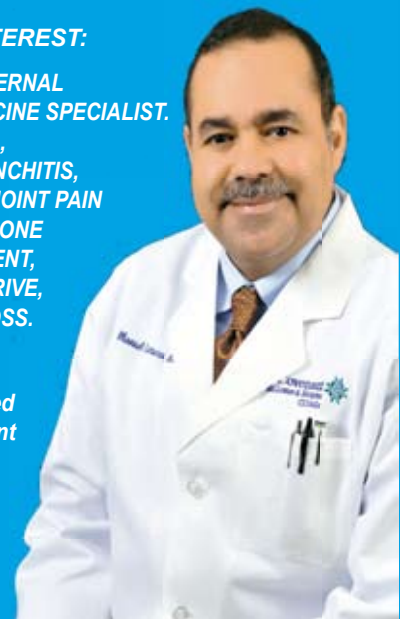
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# News in brief

## Dangerously cold subzero temperatures push into Midwest, Northeast as part of 'polar vortex'

CHICAGO (AP) — A whirlpool of frigid, dense air known as a "polar vortex" descended Monday into much of the U.S., pummeling parts of the country with a dangerous cold that could break decades-old records with wind chill warnings stretching from Montana to Alabama.

For a big chunk of the Midwest, the subzero temperatures were moving in behind another winter wallop: more than a foot of snow and high winds that made traveling treacherous. Officials closed schools in cities including Chicago, St. Louis and Milwaukee and warned residents to stay indoors and avoid the frigid cold altogether.

The forecast is extreme: 32 below zero in Fargo, N.D.; minus 21 in Madison, Wis.; and 15 below zero in Minneapolis, Indianapolis and Chicago. Wind chills — what it feels like outside when high winds are factored into the temperature — could drop into the minus 50s and 60s.

"It's just a dangerous cold," said National Weather Service meteorologist Butch Dye in Missouri.

It hasn't been this cold for almost two decades in many parts of the country. Frostbite and hypothermia can set in quickly at 15 to 30 below zero.

## Congress returns to work with leftover business, politically driven legislation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Back to work on Monday, Congress faces a hefty list of unfinished business and a politically driven agenda in an election year that will determine control of the House and Senate.

President Barack Obama's nomination of Janet Yellen to head the Federal Reserve and a three-month extension of benefits for the long-term unemployed are first up in Senate, with votes scheduled Monday night. The rare burst of bipartisanship last month produced a budget agreement, but lawmakers were unable to agree on extending federal benefits for an estimated 1.3 million Americans.

The payments stopped on Dec. 28 and Democrats, led by Obama, are pushing hard to revive them. The issue is vital to the party's core voters who are crucial in low-turnout, midterm elections, and Democrats left no doubt that they will use any Republican opposition as a political cudgel.

"Dealing with declining middle-class incomes and not enough job growth will be the No. 1 issue," said Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y. "And if on the first day of the new session, the Republican Party says they won't even support unemployment ben-

efit extension, the original round was started by George Bush when unemployment was 5.6 percent, they're going to show themselves so far out of the mainstream, it's going to hurt them in the election."

Republicans hinted they might go along with extending benefits if Democrats come up with cuts elsewhere or make other concessions.

## As demand for senior services grows, caregiving workforce fills ranks with other seniors

NOBLESVILLE, Ind. (AP) — Paul Gregoline lies in bed, awaiting the helper who will get him up, bathed and groomed. He is 92 years old, has Alzheimer's disease and needs a hand with nearly every task the day brings. When the aide arrives, though, he doesn't look so different from the client himself — bald and bespectacled.

"Just a couple of old geezers," jokes Warren Manchess, the 74-year-old caregiver.

As demand for senior services provided by nurses' aides, home health aides and other such workers grows with the aging of baby boomers, so are those professions' employment of other seniors. The new face of America's network of caregivers is increasingly wrinkled.

Among the overall population of direct-care workers, 29 percent are projected to be 55 or older by 2018, up from 22 percent a decade earlier, according to an analysis by the Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute, or PHI, a New York-based nonprofit advocating for workers caring for the country's elderly and disabled. In some segments of the workforce, including personal and home care aides, those 55 and older are the largest single age demographic.

"I think people are surprised that this workforce is as old as it is," said Abby Marquand, a researcher at PHI. "There's often people who have chronic disease themselves who have to muster up the energy to perform these really physically taxing caregiving needs."

## Bulgarians celebrate Epiphany by diving after wooden crucifixes in icy water

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — Thousands of young men are plunging into icy rivers and lakes across Bulgaria to retrieve crucifixes cast by priests in an old ritual marking the feast of Epiphany.

By tradition, a crucifix is cast into the waters of a lake or river, and it is believed that the person who retrieves it will be freed from evil spirits and will be healthy through the year.

The celebration of Epiphany, or the Apparition of Christ, as Bulgarians call it, began on Monday in Sofia with a water blessing ceremony.

The head of Bulgaria's Orthodox Church, Patriarch Neofit, said a prayer for the prosperity of the people and blessed the colors of representative army units — a tradition abandoned in 1946 and re-established in 1992.

## Girl declared brain dead moved from Calif. hospital; destination not disclosed

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Acting with a court order, the family of a 13-year-old California girl declared brain dead after a tonsillectomy has had her taken from a California hospital to be cared for elsewhere, the family's attorney says.

Jahi McMath was moved by a critical care team while attached to a ventilator but without a feeding tube, Christopher Dolan told The Associated Press.

She left from Children's Hospital of Oakland in a private ambulance shortly before 8 p.m. Sunday, Dolan said. Her destination was not immediately disclosed.

"It was a very tense situation," said Dolan. "Everybody played by the rules."

David Durand, the hospital's Chief of Pediatrics, said the girl was released to the coroner. The coroner then released her into the custody of her mother, Nailah Winkfield, as per court order, Durand said in an email.

## N.J. works to curb sex trafficking before Super Bowl; lawmaker calls problem in state 'huge'

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — New Jersey law enforcement agents are intensifying efforts to combat sex trafficking ahead of the Super Bowl.

Officials are training legions of law enforcement personnel, hospitality workers, high school students and airport employees to watch for signs of it before the Feb. 2 football game, when hundreds of thousands of people are expected to descend on New Jersey.

Authorities believe New Jersey's sprawling highway system and diverse population make it an attractive base of operations for traffickers.

They say victims of sex trafficking may feel they have little control, look frightened and exhibit signs of physical abuse.

## Tomorrow's Horoscope

### Past and Future Moon

As the moon shifts from Pisces into Aries, we will try to reconcile the past and the future. Dreams may seem too futuristic to vividly picture. Maybe your idea won't come to fruition until driverless cars rule the road, but you should start it now anyway. You can bet that the driverless car scientists are moving full speed ahead on their project!



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You may not be aware of all the people who are on your side, but you have more supporters than you think. Know that you are not alone and that your decisions affect many people.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You can never tell where your influence will stop. People will remember the little things you did, the way you made them feel and how their experience was better because of you.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You're in an uncharacteristically reserved mood. Maybe you didn't

say what you wanted to say, but it's better this way. Your actions will bring results where your words would not.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). People seem to expect you to entertain them. Today you're wondering when it's your turn to be entertained. This afternoon you'll see evidence that others think like you — you've found your tribe.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Circumstances this afternoon enhance the opinions you already have, and that makes you feel validated, correct and really smart. It's true that you've learned well, and you'll keep learning, too.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be most effective when you can tell your story as dispassionately as you tell a story about a fictional character. Your lack of emotion will be an invitation for others to fill in the emotional blanks.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're attractive now, and someone may start forming an image of you as the perfect fit for a role they've been trying to fill. Don't let them! Nip this in the bud. Being perfect is a responsibility you don't want.

**SCORPIO** (Oct.

24-Nov. 21). Water doesn't stop for trees and rocks in its path; it finds its way around. As you obey your water-sign gift of intuition, you will flow with liquid ease to the best possible outcome.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your heart is good. You respect other people's choices and their separate existence from you. That's why you can legitimately wish someone well and yet not want to see that person again.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're learning the rules and culture of a new group. Just because you feel like a beginner doesn't mean you should keep quiet. Jump in and let the others know more about you.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you express yourself, you're vulnerable, but not as vulnerable as you are when you take action. That's why the movers and shakers deserve the respect they command. You're about to become one of them.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Something you're doing seems much harder than it should be, but you'll persevere anyway. The

most satisfying and character-forming battles are the ones you have to fight over and over.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Jan. 6). There's magic in your personal life over the next three weeks. Preserve its sacred nature by refusing to overanalyze or even talk too much about what's happened. Family grows in February. That's also a time to make a list of possible career paths and then investigate methodically. You'll strike gold in March and September. Leo and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 39, 32, 27 and

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**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Happy birthday to British national treasure Rowan Atkinson, whose iconic characters, including Mr. Bean and Johnny English, are beloved worldwide. Atkinson was born when the sun and Mercury were in Capricorn, the sign of ambition, social standing and business savvy. His natal moon, Jupiter and Uranus all in Capricorn promises that Atkinson's comedic instincts come from a soulful sensitivity.

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

Alfredo Hinojos, 79, died Wednesday. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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James Goll, 98, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## TAXES

Continued from Page 1

31, May 31 and July 31. "For other people, we will take partial payments, but they will acquire penalties and interest for the portion of

their tax bills not paid before Jan. 31," Carter said.

For more information, contact the tax office at 264-2232.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235.

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ANSWERS

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

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### Sports Calendar

#### TODAY

Women's basketball — Howard College at South Plains, 5:45 p.m.  
Men's basketball — Howard College at South Plains, 7:45 p.m.

#### TUESDAY

Girls' basketball — Snyder at Big Spring, 7:30 p.m.  
Girls' basketball — Coahoma at Lamesa, 6:30 p.m.  
Girls' basketball — Sundown at Forsan, 6 p.m.  
Boys' basketball — Reagan County at Forsan, 7:30 p.m.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 235, or e-mail reporter@bigspringherald.com

## Strong says he's excited to be at UT

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas — Charlie Strong left a Louisville program that needed to punch its way into the national spotlight for the Texas Longhorns, who live smack in the middle with their enormous wealth, swagger, political intrigue and championship expectations.

And that's just the off-the-field stuff. On the field, he inherits a team mired in mediocrity with a 30-21 record over the last four years, but still talented enough to come within 30 minutes of winning a share of the 2013 Big 12 title.

Strong will be introduced as the Texas football coach Monday. In a statement released by the school Sunday, Strong said he was excited to be taking over one of the "premier programs" in the country.

"Texas is one of those places that is always on your radar and a program anyone would dream of being a part of because you have a chance to compete on a national level every year," Strong said. "It's special because it has such great history, pride, tradition and passion for football."

In the 53-year-old Strong — the first black head coach of a men's program at Texas — new athletic director Steve Patterson landed a coach whose teams went 23-3 the last two years, including a BCS bowl win over Florida and a blowout of Miami to end the 2013 season in the Russell Athletic Bowl.

Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher, who has the No. 1 Seminoles in Monday night's national title game, praised the hire. Fisher was previously considered a possible target for Texas and would have faced Strong in the ACC when Louisville moves to that league next season.

"I think he's done a tremendous job at Louisville, turning those guys around," Fisher said Sunday. "I think Charlie's an excellent coach."

Strong succeeded at a school that had to fight its way onto the national radar even in the good years. At Texas, the bad years draw just as much attention as the good ones, and college football will be watching to see how well he can unite a powerhouse program with a discontented fan base aching to return to the national elite.

And how quickly he can win a lot of games.

Strong's predecessor did that. Over 16 years, Mack Brown had 158 victories, and in 2005 he won Texas' first undisputed national title in 36 years. From 2000-09, Texas averaged more than 10 wins a season and played in four BCS bowls, winning three.

That success helped spur unprecedented financial growth. Texas ranks as the wealthiest athletic program in the country. A partnership with ESPN created the Longhorn Network, a 20-year deal worth at least \$300 million to the university.

But for all its wealth, Texas has struggled to deliver a championship legacy that lives up its sense of grandeur.

Brown won just two Big 12 titles, while his archrival across his northern border, Bob Stoops at Oklahoma, won eight. Texas' lone national championship in 44 years pales in comparison to Alabama's three from 2009-12.

See **STRONG**, Page 9



Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) looks for a receiver during his team's NFC playoff game against San Francisco Sunday. AP photo

### NFL playoffs:

## Rematches galore in next round

By BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

The road was kind in the wild-card round. The next challenge might be more daunting for the Saints, 49ers and Chargers.

Not to mention the Colts, the only team to win at home this weekend.

Not that any of the first-round playoff winners are shying away from the next test. Rather, their attitude is "Bring it on."

"They got us the first time," 49ers All-Pro linebacker NaVorro Bowman said of the Carolina Panthers, who won at San Francisco two months ago. "What's on our minds is to get them now. It's the playoffs, win or go home."

Going ahead were the 49ers after a 23-20 victory at frigid Green Bay; New

Orleans, which finally got a postseason win away from the Big Easy by beating Philadelphia 26-24; San Diego, a 27-10 winner at Cincinnati, which had not lost at home all season; and Indianapolis, a 45-44 victor against Kansas City thanks to a stunning comeback from a 28-point deficit.

Next Saturday, it's New Orleans (12-5) at Seattle (13-3) on Saturday, followed by Indianapolis (12-5) at New England (12-4). Sunday's matchups are San Francisco (13-4) at Carolina (12-4), then San Diego (10-7) at Denver (13-3).

All but Colts-Patriots are rematches of a regular-season meeting. In addition to the Panthers' 10-9 win on Nov. 10 at Candlestick Park, the Seahawks routed the Saints 34-7 in Seattle, and

the Chargers won 27-20 at Denver last month.

"We're loose, we're confident, we're peaking at the right time," said safety Eric Weddle, who spearheaded a stingy Chargers defense against the Bengals. "We are a team to be dealt with. We're a confident bunch, especially in the second half, in the fourth quarter. We feel we're ready for those situations. The pressure is not going to get to us."

What's ahead in the playoffs:

#### Saints at Seahawks

New Orleans played its worst game of the season on Dec. 2 at Seattle, which seemed invincible at home back then. But the Seahawks showed some vulnerability at noisy CenturyLink Field by losing their next home game to Arizona.

That should encourage the Saints, but only if they can replicate the pressure the Cardinals' defense put on quarterback Russell Wilson. The Saints shut down the league's top rushing team in Philadelphia, and Seahawk running back Marshawn Lynch has not been very dynamic the last six weeks.

But there's also the theory that the Seahawks were helped by sustaining their first home loss with second-year QB Wilson at the helm, and they won't be slipping up again.

#### Colts at Patriots

Here's a juicy one: Andrew Luck, the new comeback king among quarterbacks, against three-time Super Bowl winner Tom Brady.

See **NFL**, Page 9

## Domination, Destiny meet in final BCS title matchup

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — Team Destiny vs. Team Domination.

Before the Bowl Championship Series is replaced next year by a playoff, No. 1 Florida State and No. 2 Auburn will meet in its last title game Monday night at the Rose Bowl.

The Seminoles (13-0) ripped through their schedule on the way to Pasadena, winning each game by at least 14 points behind Heisman Trophy winner Jameis Winston.

"I still think our best game is out there," Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher said Sunday. "I'm looking forward to playing it on Monday night, and our kids are looking forward to the challenge."

The turnaround Tigers (12-1) are the most unlikely group ever to reach the BCS championship game. Auburn went from 3-9 to Southeastern Conference champions in their first season under coach Gus Malzahn. It was a wild ride. The Prayer at Jordan Hare beat Georgia. The Kick-Six beat Alabama.

Destiny? Fate? Luck? The

Tigers don't see it that way.

"Hey, I know we're a team of hard work, I know that," said tailback Tre Mason, a Heisman finalist who has run for 1,621 yards and 22 touchdowns for the No. 1 rushing offense in the country. "These guys put a lot of hard work in with me every day, blood, sweat and tears all year long."

Auburn is the first team to reach the BCS championship game after having a losing season the previous season, and would become the first national champion to start the season unranked since BYU in 1984.

After 16 years of the BCS, the routine is familiar the day before the big game.

The coaches hold their final early morning news conferences, and then take a few minutes to shake hands with each other, exchange pleasantries and pose for pictures with the crystal football trophy that goes to the winner.

On Sunday it was Fisher, the fast-talking West Virginian and Nick Saban

See **BCS**, Page 9

## Tournament of Champions: Spieth, Webb, Johnson share lead after 3 rounds

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

KAPALUA, Hawaii — One tournament into the new year and Jordan Spieth already is facing a new adventure in his young and wonderful world of golf.

What he thought might be a tap-in birdie turned into a maddening struggle for par on the final hole Sunday in the Tournament of Champions, but that 8-foot par putt gave him a 4-under 69 and a share of the 54-hole lead with defending champion Dustin Johnson and Webb Simpson.

"This is a new position for me," Spieth said. "I've never slept on a 54-hole lead. I'm excited about it and it's going to be a fun time tomorrow."

Spieth was five shots behind going into the last round when he rallied to catch, and then beat, Zach Johnson in a playoff at the John Deere Classic that put him on the fast track. He was one shot back at Greensboro, where he lost in a playoff. He has played in the Tour Championship, played in the Presidents Cup, two majors, one World Golf Championship.

So no, he doesn't blink in the presence of a powerful figure like Dustin Johnson, or a former U.S. Open champion like Webb Simpson.

That doesn't make Monday any easier. Spieth headed off to the practice green before the sun started dropping over the west end of Maui. He wants some confidence back on the tough putting surfaces at Kapalua, and then he'll devise a game plan going into the last day. Spieth said he'll lean on his experience in college, which was just more than a year ago.

"The biggest key when I was in this position ... was not to try and win by one. It was to try to get out there, get way ahead and you almost have

See **SPIETH**, Page 9



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TV schedule grid with columns for station (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and rows for time slots (5:30 PM, 6:30 PM, 7:30 PM, 8:30 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:30 PM, 11:30 PM, 12:30 AM, 1:30 AM).

DENNIS THE MENACE comic strip. Panel 1: Margaret says, 'MARGARET SAYS I LIVE IN MY OWN WORLD, BECAUSE SHE'S FROM ANOTHER PLANET.'

THE FAMILY CIRCUS comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'Are you sure we can't keep it up one more day? Maybe it just needs a little more water.'

HAGAR comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'LET ME BACK IN, HELGA!!' and another says, 'I FORGOT MY SWORD, MY SHIELD AND MY SPEAR!!!' A third says, 'SAY "PRETTY PLEASE WITH SUGAR ON IT"'

BC comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'I'D LIKE TO RETURN THIS HUMPTY DUMPTY TOY.' Another says, 'WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?' A third says, 'IT CAME APART AND I CAN'T PUT THE DUMB THING BACK TOGETHER!'

WIZARD OF ID comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO HONOR A HEROIC SOLDIER.' Another says, 'FOR EXTRAORDINARY COURAGE IN BATTLE, I PRESENT YOU...' A third says, '...ONE HAPPY STAR!'

BLONDIE comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'HANG ON, MR. B... MY BUDDY ROBBY IS TEXTING ME.' Another says, 'IT'S NOTHING...HE JUST WANTS TO SEE WHAT I'M DOING.' A third says, 'SORRY, WHERE WERE WE, MR. B.?' A fourth says, 'I WAS DESCRIBING WHAT A ROTARY PHONE WAS, ELMO.'

AGNES comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'I HAVE A BIG MATH QUIZ TODAY.' Another says, 'DID YOU STUDY?' A third says, 'HEAVENS, NO... I PREFER THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE.' A fourth says, 'THERE ARE NO SURPRISES IN MATH.' A fifth says, 'MAYBE I WAS THINKING OF MY BIG SPELLING QUIZ.' A sixth says, 'SEE YOU IN DETENTION.'

HI AND LOIS comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'I DON'T GET GIRLS, DAD.' A woman says, 'YOU MUST HAVE HAD SOME EXPERIENCE BEFORE YOU MET MOM.' A man says, 'I COULD SURE TELL YOU SOME STORIES.' A woman says, 'BUT YOU WON'T.'

THE OTHER COAST comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'OK. THE RULES ARE SIMPLE. ONE SNIFF, TWO TAIL WAGS AND MOVE TO THE NEXT TABLE.' A woman says, 'UNLESS HE REALLY LIKES YORE APPLES!!' A man says, 'HOWDY, SNUFFY, CAN I GIT A REFILL?'

SNUFFY SMITH comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'THE ACCELERATOR ON YOUR JEEP WAS STUCK. THE GARAGE GOT IT LOOSE.' A woman says, 'GOOD. WERE THERE ANY OTHER PROBLEMS?' A man says, 'YES, THE JEEP IS IN YOUR BEDROOM.'

BEEBLE BAILEY comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'THE ACCELERATOR ON YOUR JEEP WAS STUCK. THE GARAGE GOT IT LOOSE.' A woman says, 'GOOD. WERE THERE ANY OTHER PROBLEMS?' A man says, 'YES, THE JEEP IS IN YOUR BEDROOM.'

DOG SPEED DATING comic strip. Panel 1: A man says, 'OK. THE RULES ARE SIMPLE. ONE SNIFF, TWO TAIL WAGS AND MOVE TO THE NEXT TABLE.' A woman says, 'UNLESS HE REALLY LIKES YORE APPLES!!' A man says, 'HOWDY, SNUFFY, CAN I GIT A REFILL?'

This Date In History. Text: In 1759, George Washington and Martha Dandridge Custis were married in New Kent County, Va. In 1838, Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail gave the first successful public demonstration of their telegraph, in Morristown, N.J. In 1912, New Mexico became the 47th state. In 1919, the 26th president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, died in Oyster Bay, N.Y., at age 60. In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, outlined a goal of "Four Freedoms": Freedom of speech and expression; the freedom of people to worship God in their own way; freedom from want; freedom from fear. In 1945, George Herbert Walker Bush married Barbara Pierce in Rye, N.Y. In 1950, Britain recognized the Communist government of China. In 1963, "Oliver!", Lionel Bart's musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens novel "Oliver Twist," opened on Broadway. "Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom" premiered on NBC-TV. In 1974, year-round daylight saving time began in the United States on a trial basis as a fuel-saving measure in response to the OPEC oil embargo. In 1987, the U.S. Senate voted 88-4 to establish an eleven-member panel to hold public hearings on the Iran-Contra affair. © 2014, The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Newsday Crossword. HONESTLY by Gail Grabowski. Edited by Stanley Newman. www.stanxwords.com. Includes crossword grid and list of clues (ACROSS and DOWN).

Answer to previous puzzle grid. A crossword grid with words filled in: MASCARA, SMARTS, HASHOVER, CICERO, ISTHMIAN, ANTLER, RTE, PARE, REVISE, EERIE, TED, ABS, ERNSTMACH, NIP, LEOTARDS, CEO, SILENTTREATMENT, AHA, TEABERRY, ROT, COSTARRED, APE, HAH, GABLE, TESTED, FOGG, INF, ONHOLD, OSOLEMIO, GOOGLE, BLUETANG, ATWOOD, SOPRANO.



**SPIETH**

Continued from Page 4

the mindset that you want to go out there and try to win by five shots," he said. "That's the only way that I think you can break open and really make some birdies."

No matter who was in contention in the first PGA Tour event of the year — more than just the co-leaders — one thing was clear. It was key to take advantage of the par 5s and short par 4s — as many as six of them, all with tricky approach shots — and post something low.

And that's why Dustin Johnson was running hot.

He played the two par 5s in 3-under on the front, including a second shot to tap-in range for eagle on the par-5 ninth hole, but from prime position in the fairway, he had to settle for pars on the back nine for a 68.

"I think it's going to take 6- or 7-under. That would be my guess," he said. "You can shoot that in any weather out here if you get it going."

Simpson had four birdies in a five-hole stretch on the back nine for a 68 and was part of the tie at 14-under 205. If not for being on an island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, he might not have been here for the last two rounds.

Simpson is borrowing the caddie of Bubba Watson (Ted Scott), because his regular caddie stayed in Florida for the birth of his son. Paul Tesori's son, Isaiah, had a seizure moments after birth and is in intensive care. Simpson has been getting as many details as he can, but he played Sunday with a heavy heart.

"Paul sent me a text this morning, just told me he loved me and wanted to go out and fight as hard as I would any other day," Simpson said. "And that's what Teddy and I did. I felt like we were out there playing for Isaiah. Paul needs something to watch there in the hospital. It's been a long few days, so hopefully, we gave him something good to see on TV."

**BCS**

Continued from Page 4

disciple, and Malzahn, who has gone from high school coach in Arkansas to the national championship game in eight years, running the drill.

Malzahn, who was the Tigers' offensive coordinator when they won the 2010 national title, said Sunday he told his players before the season one of their goals was to make the biggest turnaround in college football. Done. Auburn has already matched the 2000 Hawaii team for most improved record in FBS history.

"Well, Auburn is a great program and used to winning championships, so I

knew that we were going to get it turned around," he said. "I didn't know how quick. There was a lot of questions when we first got there. We did a lot of Dr. Phil-ing early, and our guys came together and they believed."

Malzahn's up-tempo, spread offense is a combination of deception and power that seemingly gets better every game. Against Missouri in the SEC championship game, Auburn ran for 545 yards.

"Well, you have to have eye discipline," Fisher said. "Any time you have moving parts, any time you bring something in front of you, just like when you're driving, if somebody flashes a hand in front of you while

you're driving down the road it makes you blink, it makes your eyes distracted and you get off of what you're looking at and then at the same time they become very physical with how they play, and you get yourself out of position, they knock you out of the way, and there's a four, five, eight, 10 or they break a run right up the middle."

Fisher has put together the most talented two-deep depth chart in the country, a collection of five-star recruits and NFL prospects reminiscent of coach Bobby Bowden's best Florida State teams. The Seminoles won two national titles under Fisher's Hall of Fame predecessor and played in

the first three BCS title games. The Seminoles haven't been back since 2000.

A prodigy led them. Winston turns 20 Monday. The redshirt freshman became the youngest player to win the Heisman Trophy, setting FBS freshman records for most yards passing (3,820) and touchdown passes (38). His only problems came off the field. In November, a year-old sexual assault complaint against him was investigated by Florida prosecutors. After three weeks, the state attorney announced he did not have enough evidence to charge Winston. A week and a half later, Winston won the Heisman in a landslide vote.

**Arkansas State takes GoDaddy Bowl title**

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — Arkansas State was down to an interim coach, a backup quarterback and less than a minute remaining in the game.

None of it fazed the Red Wolves, who are used to a little bit of postseason adversity.

Allen Muse caught a 13-yard touchdown pass from Fredi Knighten with 32 seconds remaining to lift Arkansas State past Ball State 23-20 at the GoDaddy Bowl on Sunday night.

Ball State had a chance

to tie at the end of regulation, but Scott Secor's 38-yard field-goal attempt was blocked by Ryan Carrethers as time expired.

For a second straight season, Arkansas State shrugged off a coaching change to win the GoDaddy Bowl.

Arkansas State lost coach Bryan Harsin to Boise State in December. He's the latest in a string of three ASU coaches, including Hugh Freeze (Mississippi) and Gus Malzahn (Auburn), who have left the program for

a more high-profile job.

John Thompson was the team's interim coach for a second straight season, and the veteran defensive coordinator led a staff that managed to cobble together a workable offense with Knighten, who replaced injured starter Adam Kennedy in the second quarter.

Thompson was not retained by new coach Blake Anderson — the former North Carolina offensive coordinator who is Arkansas State's fifth head coach in five seasons —

but is confident he left the program in good hands.

Despite all the coaching changes, Arkansas State has won 28 games over the past three seasons, turning into one of the Sun Belt Conference's best programs.

Ball State (10-3) went ahead 20-16 with 1:33 remaining on a 1-yard touchdown run by Jahwan Edwards, but couldn't hold the lead. Edwards finished with a game-high 146 yards rushing, but had to watch as Arkansas State rallied for the win.

**NFL**

Continued from Page 4

"There's no question he's a complete football player and one of the top quarterbacks in this league already," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said Sunday. He meant Luck.

For that matchup to matter, though, the Colts must avoid the slow starts that plagued them

this season. Does anyone believe they can fall behind by four touchdowns or so against the Patriots and then win?

New England's once sieve-like defense has improved recently, and witnessing what the Chiefs did to Indy's defense even without Jamaal Charles should make Colts fans shudder.

**49ers at Panthers**

San Francisco's ver-

satility and experience showed at Green Bay. Teams that win in the worst of conditions while not playing close to their best are particularly dangerous.

The Niners won't need to worry about wind chills at Carolina. They will need to find a way to move the ball against a Panthers defense that shut them down two months ago.

This has the look of a low-scoring contest, but

with San Francisco's Colin Kaepernick and Carolina's Cam Newton bringing so much creativity and energy at quarterback, the scoreboard might get lit up.

"Colin Kaepernick, I think we can all agree, is a clutch performer," coach Jim Harbaugh said.

**Chargers at Broncos**

These two original AFL franchises have met 108 times, but never in the postseason.

Denver won at San Diego in November by eight points, then lost at home a month later to the Chargers by seven. San Diego has won five in a row, barely sneaking into the playoffs, but then handling the Bengals relatively easily Sunday.

For the Chargers to stay close to the Broncos' record-setting offense led by Peyton Manning, they will need their own quarterback, Philip Riv-

ers, to make lots of big plays. Plus, Denver is not going to forget how it posted the AFC's best record a year ago, then flopped against Baltimore in its first postseason chance.

"We will be confident," said Rivers, who was 12 of 16 for 128 yards with a touchdown and no interceptions on a rainy, 40-degree afternoon in Cincinnati. "We've got to be careful we're not overconfident."

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♦ 10 9 8  
♣ Q 9 8  
EAST  
♠ J 10 4 2  
♥ K Q 7  
♦ Q 6 2  
♣ 7 3 2  
SOUTH  
♠ —  
♥ A 10 9 8 3  
♦ A J 7 4 3  
♣ A J 5  
The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1♥ 2♣ 2NT  
Pass 3♣ Pass 3♥  
Pass 3♠ Pass 3NT  
Pass 4♣ Pass 4♦  
Pass 6♥  
Opening lead — ten of diamonds.  
The United States won its third-straight world women's team championship for the Venice Cup at Yokohama, Japan, in 1991, defeating Austria in the 128-deal final.  
Today's deal helped the Americans get off to a fast start in the match, which they won by 102 IMPs. The bidding shown occurred when an Austrian pair sat North-South.  
North's two-notrump response was forcing and was followed by a series of exploratory bids that ended  
Tomorrow: Defense is a thoughtful process.  
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**STRONG**

Continued from Page 4

And the recent drop-off that started with a 5-7 record in 2010 got ugly by the end. When Texas started last season 1-2, some Texas fans even booed a public service announcement from Brown encouraging donations to charities.

The turmoil also exposed on a national level the political fighting that embroiled the university and attempts by some school officials and prominent supporters to push Brown out a year ago.

For more than two years, university regents have been fighting over whether to fire school President Bill

Powers, who had been a key ally of Brown. Some of the same regents also were involved in talks with Alabama coach Nick Saban's agent in January 2013 in efforts to coax Saban into coming to Austin.

That Strong will be the first African-American head coach of a men's program at Texas is significant at a school that resisted integration in the 1950s and '60s and had college football's last all-white national champion in 1969.

"This is a historic day for The University

of Texas and a historic hire for our football team," Powers said.

Until 2010, Texas had a residence hall named after former law school professor William Stewart Simkins, a Confederate colonel who also was an early organizer of the Ku Klux Klan in Florida after the Civil War.

Texas is still fighting legal battles over race. Only now the school wants to keep an affirmative action admissions policy that allows the school to consider race for some applicants.

**Sudoku Answer on Page 3**

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

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Team Name (Be Creative) \_\_\_\_\_  
 email: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain 1: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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