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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 22, 2014



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Rail facility nearing reality

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer
 Construction of a petrochemical product loading and transporting facility in Big Spring is getting closer to reality, board members with the Economic Development Corporation learned Tuesday evening.

"If this reaches its full potential, there won't be any facility like it west of Fort Worth."
 —Terry Wegman, EDC executive director

Representatives from CBRE, the world's largest commercial real estate services firm, updated board members on plans for the "transloading"

facility, which would be located on EDC-owned land east of the Alon Refinery.

See RAIL, Page 3

CBRE's Energy/Infrastructure branch has teamed with Quigg Bros. Inc., Express Midstream and Wildcat Midstream to develop the facility, which would support the loading and transportation of crude oil, natural gas, NGLs



AirEvac and emergency crews responded to a multi-vehicle wreck on the South Service Road at mile marker 164, west Interstate Highway 20, Tuesday afternoon. No information regarding possible injuries could be obtained by the Herald as of presstime. Department of Public Safety troopers were not available.

HERALD photo/Andreia Medlin

Get a flu shot

Local health professionals warn influenza aggressive

By ANDREIA MEDLIN
 Staff Writer

Influenza is widespread in most of the country right now and high flu activity is likely to continue for several weeks.

According to officials, if you have not gotten your flu vaccine yet this season, you should get one now.



Patel

Southern states, including Texas, are experiencing extremely high activity levels of the flu and it is affecting a disproportionate number of young and middle-aged people, according to authorities. Statistically, the very young or very old are at the highest

risk of getting the flu. Not so this year.

According to officials, the hardest hit are young and otherwise healthy adults.

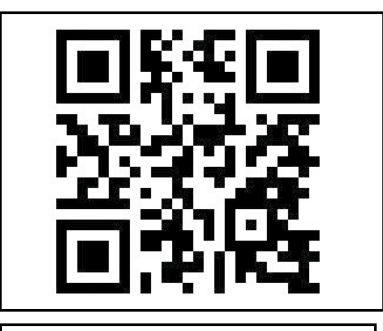
"It's hitting people who are in their 30s and 40s," said Dr. Nandlal M. Patel, M.D., local Big Spring physician.

And it's hitting them hard and fast, according to Patel.

"It's very aggressive," Patel said. "One day they are OK and then a day or two later they are on ventilators."

While Patel has opted not to test his patients for the flu, he has seen many patients who show symptoms. (Influenza-like illness is defined as fever (temperature of 100°F [37.8°C] or greater) and cough and/or

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Human factor key to most fires

By LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer

The cause of a fire which left a Big Spring couple homeless is a stark reminder of the importance of paying attention to fire safety within the home.



Condray

"People really do need to read the directions of their space heaters," said Fire Marshal Carl Condray. "Most instructions I read say to place the heater at least three feet from any combustibles and this was a whole lot less than that. It was right up by a bed. You don't want it right by a bed because there are times when some people kick their bedding off while sleeping, and it piles on the heater."

Most importantly, space heaters — along with any heat source such as stoves or candles — should not be left unattended, Condray added.

"Modern space heaters are designed with a safety trip in them," Condray said. "If they topple over, they shut off. If something gets piled on top of them like a towel or a blanket or newspapers, then it is going to overheat and set things on fire and there you go. In and of themselves, space heaters are safe — as safe as we make them — but it's the human error side that causes most of problems with everything."

In the coming days, Condray reminds the public space heaters are not the only cause of residential fires as residents try to keep the cold at bay.

"Other issues we have problems with during the heating season are those who try to heat the house with their cook stoves," he said. "Oftentimes, things are left unattended — you should never leave it unattended. If you have open flames and you have children in the house, they walk by the stove, and they can reach

Local fire victims are in need of assistance

By LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer

The Howard County Chaplain's Corp is sending out a plea to help a Big Spring couple who lost most of their valuables in a home fire Sunday morning.

Joel Miller, Senior Chaplain, said the couple are in need of clothes and monetary donations to help get them back on their feet after their home at 500 Father Delaney Ave. caught fire.

"The owner left the house that morning to meet his wife

See VICTIMS, Page 3

up and not realize there are burners going.

"People heat with their oven doors open and that is a big time taboo," he continued. "Your oven and your cookstove have a flue built in, and it is designed to flow the heat where it is suppose to be, in a safe place. If you open a door up, the heat will

not go t that flue. It goes out the front. A lot of times, people have dish towels or things like that on their doors and those are prone to catch fire. Using this as a heat source for the house is not what a cook stove is designed to do, and they are never designed

See HUMAN, Page 3

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 I Corinthians 13:13

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Obituaries

Delmer Lee Turner

Delmer Lee Turner, 82, of Big Spring, Texas, died Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2014 in a local nursing home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25, 2014, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday evening at the funeral home.

Delmer was born March 9, 1931, in Big Spring, and married Evelyn Sue Norris Nov. 18, 1966 in Big Spring. She preceded him in death Sept. 21, 1985.

He graduated from Big Spring High School in 1948 and was inducted into the BSHS Hall of Fame in two sports. He played football for the only team that Howard College ever fielded and also played basketball. He became a teacher and started at Gayhill School. Later, he moved to Sands High School and taught business classes. He retired in 1989.

He is survived by one son, Joe Turner and wife, Susan, of Luther, Texas; a grandson; two sisters, Geneva Kiser and husband, Bob of Fort Worth, Texas, and Edwina Stewart of Abilene, Texas; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Henry and Emma Gertrude (Smith) Turner; four sisters, Birdie Turner, Lucille Turner, Martha Burgner, and Clotee Reynolds; and two brothers, Paul Turner and Jim Turner.

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

Speck Bray

Speck Bray, 69 of Big Spring died Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2014, at University Medical Center in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

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

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

- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

- Circle of Hope, a Celebrate Recovery group, meets at 6:30-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship, located in the College Park Shopping Center. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery program dealing with life's hang-ups, hurts and habits, covering many areas. Circle of Hope group is a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship. For further information, contact Dale at 432-270-8462.

- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Baptist Temple Church Fellowship Hall, 400 E. 11th Place. Open meeting at 7 p.m.

Police blotter

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

- TRAVIS GARY-MICHAEL WILLIAMS, 24, of 708 E. 15th St. was arrested Tuesday on two warrants for burglary of a vehicle.
- ASHLEY NICOLE MIRAMONTES, 22, of 1110 Johnson, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency.
- TYRAL JAVON MENEFIELD, 19, of 402 N. Aylesford, was arrested Tuesday on charges of possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 1 gram but less than 4 grams, hindering officers discharging official duties and failure to control speed.
- RAUL PINA JR., 31, of 1507 E. 11th Pl., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid previous conviction.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY reported at Wal-Mart.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING reported at the 1000 block of E. 11th Pl.
- ASSAULT reported at the 3600 block of West Highway 80.
- THEFT reported at the 3600 block of West Highway 80.
- MAJOR ACCIDENT reported at mile marker 164.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE reported at the 3600 block of West Highway 80.
- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the intersection of 9th St. and Gregg.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 69 inmates at the time of this report.

- TYRAL JAVON MEEFIELD was booked by BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance greater than or equal to 1 gram but less than 4 grams, hindering officers discharging official duties and failure to control speed.
- RAUL PINA JR. was booked by BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with previous conviction.
- ANTHONY ANDREW RIVAS was booked by BSPD on a motion to revoke probation for possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces.

Take Note

- The Powwow Committee of Big Spring is under new leadership, and, leaders say, is taking a new path.

"We are seeking new members and volunteers to walk this path with us and share in our vision," said Randy McKinney, committee vice president. "Come and join us in this journey to a new future."

Powwow Big Spring will host its 10th intertribal powwow April 5-6 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. For more information on the organization or to join, contact McKinney at 432-267-4843 or President Richard Lesser at 432-935-0125.

- The community is invited to join Scenic Mountain Medical Center and Family Medical Center as we bid a fond farewell to Alan Abel, MD on Jan. 29 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. with a come and go reception. The celebration will take place in the Surgical Clinic at the Malone and Hogan building.

- Spring of Siloam Christian Women's Job Corps offers 12 weeks of job training for women seeking employment or better employment. We provide computer training, resume preparation, and interview skills in a Christian setting. We also have a free certified nurses aide training program. The next session starts Feb. 3. Applications are being accepted now. For more information or to get an application, call 432-517-4627. Leave a message and your phone number if there is no answer.

- Big Spring Second Chance Rescue (BSSCR) is in need of donations to help spay and neuter rescued dogs, so they can go to a home. The canine rescue organization has incurred a lot of expenses in obtaining its 501c3 status along with trying to obtain a Tax ID and subsequent Texas filling fees. Just to file the 501c3 cost the rescue more than \$500. Any amount is appreciated. Make checks payable to BSSCR, P.O. Box 2775, Big Spring, Texas, 79720; by credit card at 432-816-2555; or at Highland Animal Clinic, 3600 S. Hwy. 87, Big Spring, Texas 79720; or

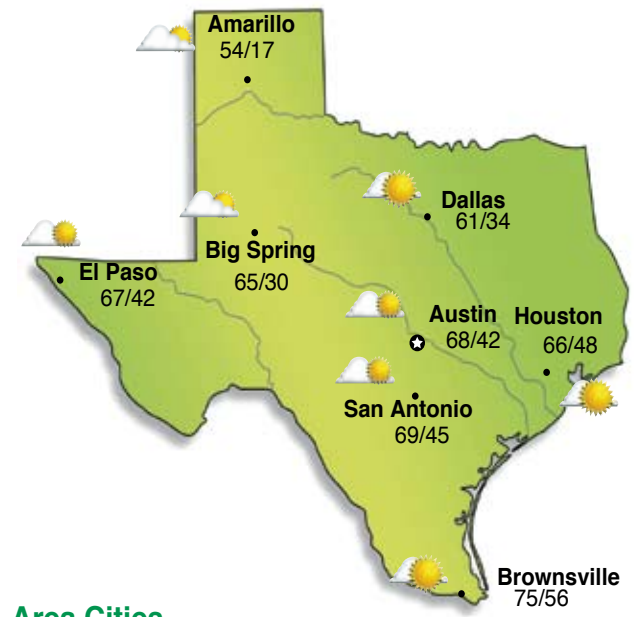
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

| Thu 1/23 | Fri 1/24 | Sat 1/25 | Sun 1/26 | Mon 1/27 |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | | | |
| 65/30 Mostly cloudy skies. High around 65F. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph. | 34/19 Some afternoon snow showers, windy. | 45/29 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 40s and lows in the upper 20s. | 65/32 Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 30s. | 71/34 Sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 30s. |
| Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 6:10 PM | Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 6:11 PM | Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 6:12 PM | Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 6:13 PM | Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 6:14 PM |



Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|----------------|----|----|-----------|-----------------|----|----|-----------|
| Abilene | 64 | 33 | cloudy | Kingsville | 74 | 54 | pt sunny |
| Amarillo | 54 | 17 | cloudy | Livingston | 65 | 40 | mst sunny |
| Austin | 68 | 42 | pt sunny | Longview | 60 | 35 | mst sunny |
| Beaumont | 56 | 44 | mst sunny | Lubbock | 58 | 21 | cloudy |
| Brownsville | 75 | 56 | mst sunny | Lufkin | 65 | 38 | mst sunny |
| Brownwood | 68 | 36 | pt sunny | Midland | 66 | 31 | cloudy |
| Corpus Christi | 70 | 55 | pt sunny | Raymondville | 73 | 53 | mst sunny |
| Corsicana | 61 | 34 | pt sunny | Rosenberg | 67 | 48 | pt sunny |
| Dallas | 61 | 34 | mst sunny | San Antonio | 69 | 45 | pt sunny |
| Del Rio | 72 | 47 | pt sunny | San Marcos | 69 | 43 | pt sunny |
| El Paso | 67 | 42 | pt sunny | Sulphur Springs | 58 | 34 | mst sunny |
| Fort Stockton | 69 | 39 | cloudy | Sweetwater | 64 | 33 | cloudy |
| Gainesville | 56 | 27 | pt sunny | Tyler | 61 | 35 | mst sunny |
| Greenville | 57 | 30 | mst sunny | Weatherford | 59 | 31 | cloudy |
| Houston | 66 | 48 | mst sunny | Wichita Falls | 58 | 27 | pt sunny |

National Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|-------------|----|----|-----------|----------------|----|-----|----------|
| Atlanta | 36 | 23 | sunny | Minneapolis | 3 | -16 | windy |
| Boston | 14 | 0 | snow | New York | 15 | 9 | windy |
| Chicago | 16 | 1 | sn shower | Phoenix | 76 | 45 | pt sunny |
| Dallas | 61 | 34 | mst sunny | San Francisco | 65 | 47 | sunny |
| Denver | 44 | 14 | pt sunny | Seattle | 43 | 37 | cloudy |
| Houston | 66 | 48 | mst sunny | St. Louis | 30 | 5 | windy |
| Los Angeles | 77 | 51 | pt sunny | Washington, DC | 17 | 9 | windy |
| Miami | 65 | 43 | sunny | | | | |

Moon Phases



Correction

The residential address given for Robert William Litke, who's name was recently published in the Big Spring Herald's police report, as 600 Driver Road No. 9, is not current. No one of that name has lived in that house for at least the past six months, according to the current resident.

www.youcaring.com/pet-expenses/bsscr/74800

- Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to violent crimes of assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process background check and attend training. We need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

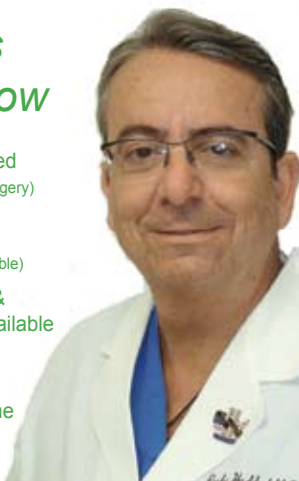
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State briefs

Mexican national's lawyers want execution halted

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Attorneys considered last-minute attempts Wednesday to keep a Mexican national from Texas' death chamber after the state opposed legal efforts and spurned diplomatic pressure to delay his punishment for killing a Houston police officer two decades ago.

Edgar Arias Tamayo, 46, was set for lethal injection Wednesday for the January 1994 slaying of Guy Gaddis, 24.

Gaddis, who had been on the force for two years, was driving Tamayo and another man from a robbery scene when evidence showed the officer was shot three times in the head and neck with a pistol Tamayo had concealed in his pants. The car crashed, and Tamayo fled on foot but was captured a few blocks away, still in handcuffs, carrying the robbery victim's watch and wearing the victim's necklace.

Tamayo's attorneys and the Mexican government contend Tamayo's case was tainted because he wasn't advised under an international agreement that he could get legal help from his home nation following his arrest.

Secretary of State John Kerry previously asked Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott to delay Tamayo's punishment, saying it "could impact the way American citizens are treated in other countries." The State Department repeated that stance Tuesday.

But Abbott's office and the Harris County district attorney opposed postponing what would be the first execution this year in the nation's most active capital punishment state, where 16 people were put to death in 2013. At least two other inmates in similar circumstances were executed in Texas in recent years.

The Mexican government said in a statement this week it "strongly opposed" the execution and said failure to review Tamayo's case and reconsider his sentence would be "a clear violation by the United States of its international obligations."

Ex-health care official in Texas accused of fraud

HOUSTON (AP) — An ex-treasurer of a Houston-based health care firm has been accused of embez-

zling nearly \$3 million for gambling and buying a home.

A detention hearing has been scheduled Wednesday for 41-year-old Joseph S. Antonucci of Houston.

An indictment unsealed Tuesday upon Antonucci's arrest charges him with 15 counts of wire fraud, five counts related to unlawful use of company money and one count of making a false statement to FBI agents.

Prosecutors say Antonucci was an executive vice president with Patriot Managed Health Care Systems Inc. The fraud allegedly began in 2007 and involved unauthorized withdrawals and transfers from Patriot bank accounts for gambling trips to Las Vegas, private jets and a down payment on his home.

Veteran expert testifying in school finance case

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Day Two of the second phase of Texas' school finance trial begins with the cross-examination of a veteran classroom funding expert.

Lynn Moak has testified in all six Texas school finance cases since 1984, including the one currently before state District Judge John Dietz.

Moak returns to the stand Wednesday to face questions from state attorneys. He opened the case's second chapter Tuesday, testifying that \$3 billion-plus in funding that the Legislature restored to public education in 2013 couldn't replace the \$5.4 billion lawmakers cut in 2011.

Dietz ruled in February 2013 that the way Texas funds its schools violates the state constitution. But in May, the Legislature approved the additional funding while easing graduation standards.

Dietz reopened the case to hear how those actions affect his original ruling.

Beaumont police say murder-suicide in 2 deaths

BEAUMONT, Texas (AP) — Authorities have ruled the deaths of a couple at their Southeast Texas home a murder-suicide.

Beaumont police late Tuesday identified the pair as 57-year-old Mark Pelligrin and his 55-year-old wife, Kathy Pelligrin. Investigators say the husband apparently shot his wife, then turned the gun on himself.

The bodies were discovered Monday.

RAIL

Continued from Page 1

(natural gas liquids) and associated industrial products.

The facility would be the largest of its kind in West Texas, EDC Executive Director Terry Wegman said.

"It's going to create a lot of tax base and a lot of jobs for this area," he said. "If this reaches its full potential, there won't be any facility like it west of Fort Worth ... It gives us a competitive advantage out there and it would put Big Spring on the map as a transportation and logistics hub in the Permian Basin."

The need for such a facility, representatives told the board, is tied directly to the current oil boom. Simply put, they said, production will soon overwhelm "takeaway" capacity in this area.

Currently, this region is capable of transporting more than 1 million barrels a day of petrochemical products, but even more capacity is needed via pipeline or rail. And with no significant increase in pipeline takeaway capacity expected before 2016, the need for the rail facility in Howard County becomes even more evident.

And potential customers have already responded to plans for the new facility — CBRE representatives said they have received a "soft" commitment for 15,000 barrels per day of NGLs, making the project commercially viable.

Although final approval for construction of the facility must come from Union Pacific, several preliminary steps have already been taken, representatives said.

The project has had substantial engineering and other work completed to date, which will reduce the time required for the facility to begin operations, they said.

Actual construction is not expected to begin for another six to 12 months, Wegman said.

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

FLU

Continued from Page 1

sore throat.)

While influenza vaccination is the best way to prevent influenza, a history of influenza vaccination does not rule out influenza virus infection in an ill patient with clinical signs and symptoms compatible with influenza.

"I have some patients who show symptoms, but I don't test because the Rapid or RIDT test isn't that reliable. It can give false negatives (meaning the patient has the flu virus)."

A summary of CDC

Recommendations for Influenza Antiviral Medications states, "Rapid influenza diagnostic tests (RIDTs) have limited sensitivities and predictive values; negative results of RIDTs do not exclude influenza virus infection in patients with signs and symptoms suggestive of influenza. Therefore, antiviral treatment should not be withheld from patients with suspected influenza, even if they test negative."

Also, there are 10 different tests with variable sensitivities and physicians in the U.S. are not required to test for the disease. The Cen-

ters for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) relies on reports from hospitals, clinics and physicians who do test.

Recently, the CDC website reported that this influenza season, it has received a number of reports of severe respiratory illness among young and middle-aged adults, many of whom were infected with influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 (pH1N1) virus. Multiple pH1N1-associated hospitalizations, including many requiring intensive care unit (ICU) admission, and some fatalities have been reported. For the 2013-14 season,

Between Oct. 1, 2013, and Jan. 11, 3,745 laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported. This is a rate of 13.8 per 100,000 population. The highest hospitalization rate is among adults aged 65 years or older, followed by those in age groups 0-4 years and 50-64 years. However, those aged 18-64 years still account for 61 percent of reported hospitalized cases.

There are many reasons for the high rate among the young and middle aged according to Patel, "The people in that age group tend to not get vaccinated and

it is very important that everyone gets vaccinated every year," he said.

Although, flu vaccines are tailored for predominate strains, getting the vaccine helps build antibodies to fight off the diseases. And although the H1N1 virus is predominate this season, it isn't the only strain of flu affecting the population. According to the CDC, among all hospitalizations, 3,583 (95.7 percent) were influenza A, 134 (3.6 percent) were influenza B, 12 (0.3 percent) were influenza A and B co-infection, and 16 (0.4 percent) had no virus type information.

"It is mainly the H1N1

virus," said Patel. "Viruses are smart. They mutate and adapt all the time which makes them harder and harder to treat."

Although the frontline defense to prevent getting the flu has always been handwashing, Patel said the most important thing to do now is to get vaccinated. "It's very important to get the flu shot," he said. "You might still get sick, but it may keep you out of the hospital."

To contact Andrea Medln call the Herald at 263-7331.

VICTIMS

Continued from Page 1

and go to church. He left his space heater close to the bed," said Big Spring Fire Marshall Carl Condray, who added there were no injuries reported. "The guy came back and found some smoke in the house and

started trying to get his pets out. He called 911. The house is repairable. Part of the roof is going to have to be rebuilt."

The Big Spring Fire Department was able to get the fire under control in about 15 minutes of arrival, Condray said. The couple have found temporary housing with family.

A fund has been set at State National Bank under the name Andy Lopez. All types of clothing are needed in men's size 5X and women's 20 to 22, Miller said. Clothing can be taken to the front lobby of the Law Enforcement Center on West Highway 80.

There is no need for furniture right now,

Miller added, and thanks to a quick response to the community, fencing material was donated to allow the couple to set up an enclosed area at their temporary house for their several puppies.

Contact Lyndel Moody at e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com or

by 263-7331, ext. 234.

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24th & Johnson 267-8288

Mary Paredes, 86, died Friday. Funeral mass will be 10 a.m. Wednesday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial following at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Gage Mims, 56, died Thursday. Memorial services will be at 4 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

HUMAN

Continued from Page 1

to be left unattended."

And once that flame ignites, the fire can rapidly get out of control.

"In kitchen situations where you have cabinets there are a number ready fuel sources — paper towels, dish rags, food containers, boxes and bags," he said. "It's always a danger when

people are cooking and leave it unattended. They leave all types of pots and pans where handles are aimed out and kids come by and pull them down, or they forget about them and the pot boils dry and melts. The next thing

you know, they have a tremendous fire there.

"There some activities that we as adults need to be mindful of and we get careless. It's the human factor we can not control. We try to educate and remind people but when it comes down

to it human factor is one of the things the industry can't regulate. We want people learn from this person's tragedy."

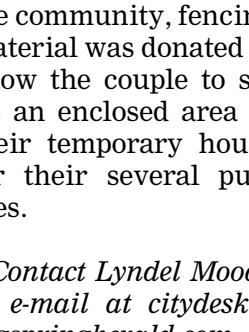
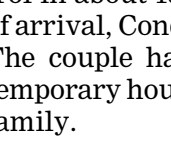
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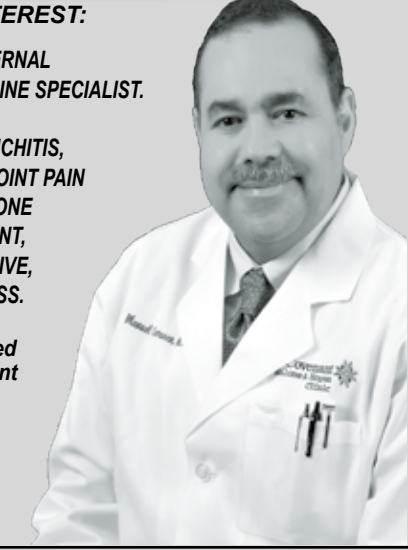
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Opinion

The president's unbelievable stance

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

ADDRESSES

| | |
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Unbelievable. That's the only editorially acceptable word that comes to mind when I read what the president said in an interview published in a major publication this past weekend. No matter your opinion of Mr. Obama, he made some statements on the legalization of marijuana that anyone with any common sense should be concerned about.

Everybody knows that President Obama has some pretty liberal views on the decriminalization of marijuana, as well as several other moral and spiritual matters, but when he voiced his support for Colorado and Washington's legalization of the drug in a long and wide-ranging interview in the New Yorker published Sunday, he showed a truly astounding lack of sensible reasoning. Since we are all allowed an opinion about such matters, it isn't his personal beliefs about drug use that rattled my senses, but rather the incredible reasons he gave for wanting legalization to be more extensive.

On the two states that have legalized pot, Obama said that "it's important for it to go forward because it's important for society not to have a situation in which a large portion of people have at one time or another broken the law and only a select few get punished."

His reasoning: "Middle-class kids don't get locked up for smoking pot, and poor kids do ... And African-American kids and Latino kids are more likely to be poor and less likely to have the resources and the support to avoid unduly harsh penalties." He continued by saying, "But, we should not be locking up kids or individual users for long stretches of jail time when some of the folks who are writing those laws have probably done the same thing."

This has nothing to do with right-wing politics, radical conservatism, the Fox News Network or Rush Limbaugh. I

don't unequivocally support any of those entities, and it gets tiresome for us truly patriotic Americans who have good minds and can think for ourselves to be constantly ridiculed as ignoramus for having opinions that don't completely support Mr. Obama. What it does have to do with is the mindset of our nation's top executive, who has repeatedly shown a remarkable ability to push his beliefs and opinions past constitutional and legal barriers to promote an agenda that is unquestionably liberal beyond reason.

Sensible Americans need to lay aside their refusal to acknowledge anything questionable or perceived as negative about him long enough to actually hear what he says and honestly digest it.

In this instance, he is saying he wants pot legalized across the nation so that a select group of people he feels is being unfairly targeted will no longer have to bear the burden of being law-breakers. In other words, just do away with certain laws so people, especially those who we perceive to be persecuted, won't be punished for being outlaws. Incredible reasoning, wouldn't you agree?

I willingly, and sadly, admit that prejudice and profiling in our world does exist and I am adamantly opposed to it in any form or fashion. It shouldn't, but it does rear its ugly head far too often and no decent person should practice or support it in any way. I love and accept people of all races and, to the best of my knowledge, have never judged anyone by the color of their skin, education, socio-economic standing, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or anything else. I assure you this isn't a personal attack on our President based on any political or religious persuasion I embrace. I simply believe this influential and powerful leader's reasoning for legalizing pot is, in my opinion, the kind of thinking that will lead us farther down the path of moral and social decline.

The interview in the New Yorker was long and, after reading it all, I will credit him with trying to appease people like me

who were going to realize how flawed his reasoning was. After making the aforementioned comments, President Obama told the interviewer, David Remnick, "Having said all that, those who argue that legalizing marijuana is a panacea and it solves all these social problems I think are probably overstating the case. There is a lot of hair on that policy. And the experiment that's going to be taking place in Colorado and Washington is going to be, I think, a challenge."

He noted the slippery-slope arguments that might arise. "I also think that, when it comes to harder drugs, the harm done to the user is profound and the social costs are profound. And you do start getting into some difficult line-drawing issues. If marijuana is fully legalized and at some point folks say, Well, we can come up with a negotiated dose of cocaine that we can show is not any more harmful than vodka, are we open to that? If somebody says, We've got a finely calibrated dose of meth, it isn't going to kill you or rot your teeth, are we OK with that?"

I have read objective articles on this subject and I am not ignorant of the purported tax advantages of legalization, the supposed age control for consumption and the positive medical applications for marijuana. I have also made a relatively in-depth study of the failures of Prohibition from 1920-1933 to accomplish its goal of controlling alcohol abuse.

I certainly am not a political or religious nutcase on a soapbox, but I am a concerned citizen who believes there should be more sensible reasons for promoting things that will affect the children, youth and adults of our nation for generations to come than what this interview revealed about Mr. Obama's thoughts on this particular issue.

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.com.

A different kind of blacklist

The Hollywood blacklist, according to Wikipedia, is the term for "the mid-20th-century practice of denying employment to screenwriters, actors, directors, musicians, and other U.S. entertainment professionals because of their suspected political beliefs or associations." The blacklist spirit is alive and living in San Francisco, but here and now the enemies of free thought have a new question: Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Republican Party?

Last week, actress Maria Conchita Alonso resigned her role in a Mission District Spanish-language production of "The Vagina Monologues," after pro-illegal immigration activists threatened a boycott.

They protested because Alonso, best-known for her debut film, "Moscow on the Hudson," had appeared in a video supporting the gubernatorial candidacy of GOP Assemblyman Tim Donnelly — aka, to La Opinión, "an ultra conservador republicano." Donnelly is a former member of the Minutemen, a group that is pro-border enforcement, and he opposes California's DREAM Act, which, to Telemundo, makes him anti-immigrant.

"We really cannot have her in the show, unfortunately," producer Eliana Lopez told KPIX-TV. And: "Of course she has the right to say whatever she wants. But we're in the middle of the Mission. Doing what she is do-

But in a tolerant society that values open debate, critics don't go after someone's acting career because they want to muzzle her point of view.

ing is against what we believe."

Allow me to state the obvious. Just as Alonso has a First Amendment right to her opinions, critics had a right to call for a boycott.

Producers of the play would have had the right to fire her if they so chose.

Would-be patrons have a right not to buy tickets.

But in a tolerant society that values open debate, critics don't go after someone's acting career because they want to muzzle her point of view.

It is, after all, fair play for partisans to vote against Donnelly because they disagree with him. It's fair play to give money to his opponents.

It is fair play not to pay to hear Alonso or Donnelly lecture on politics.

These boycott threats, however, had nothing to do with honest debate.

They were an attempt to marginalize an actress because of her conservative political views and impede her ability to make a living outside politics. Just like the blacklist.

It's also guilt by association. Alonso, a Cuban-born, Venezuelan-raised naturalized U.S. citizen, says she supports Donnelly because of his small-government views on the economy

and energy.

She told La Opinion that she supports deporting illegal immigrants with criminal records but supports a path to legalization for some immigrants who have been in the country illegally but have no criminal records.

Thus, pro-illegal immigration groups are going after Alonso, a legal immigrant who is sympathetic with some of their goals, because she supports a white guy who is a gung-ho opponent of illegal immigration.

Make no mistake about it; activists who are pro-illegal immigration and Spanish-language media are particularly committed to marginalizing Alonso precisely because she is a Latina. They have a stake in portraying the Latino vote as monolithic. Nuance is not welcome in this controversy, as the war against Alonso signals that good Latinos must not distinguish between legal and illegal immigration.

The strategy works. A 2010 Pew poll found that 31 percent of Latinos viewed illegal immigration as a negative; by 2013, that viewpoint had shrunk to 21 percent.

Perhaps if Alonso renounces Donnelly, activists will welcome the actress to the San Francisco stage, where she can engage in oh-so-tolerant progressives' favorite form of political discourse — the monologue, of course.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsanders@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.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

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 clarity.
- 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 considered.
- 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

Thank you, dear Lord, for the warm days we have had of late.

Amen



EDDY PRINCE



DEBRA SAUNDERS



BSHS STEER CHEER MINI CAMP 2014!

The BSHS Varsity Cheerleaders will be offering a mini-cheer camp for girls Kinder through 5th grade. No preschoolers. Cost is \$60.00 per child. They will receive a BSHS cheer camp t-shirt as well as other "goodies" throughout the camp. Campers will perform at the half time game of the Big Spring Steers Boys Varsity game. The girls will learn a cheer, a chant, and a dance.

The camp will be held at Steer Gym on:
Sunday, February 2nd from 2:00pm to 4:00pm
Monday, February 3rd from 6:00pm to 7:00pm.

The performance will be on Tuesday, February 4th during the boy's half time game. The game will start at 7:30pm, cheerleaders will perform around 8:15pm.

Girls will need a black pair of shorts or workout pants for performance.
This will not be provided.

Signups for the camp will be January 15th through January 29th, 2014. All forms must be completed and turned in to Ashley Phinney at Big Spring High School's front office. **Payment is due at sign-up.**

If you have any questions please feel free to email Ashley Phinney at aphinney@bsisd.esc18.net. You may also call the front office of the high school and leave a message.

Space is limited so please sign up early.

We accept cash, checks or money orders.
Checks are to be made out to BSHS Cheerleaders.

Thanks!

Ashley Phinney and Meredith Skaggs, BSHS Cheer Sponsors

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Cost \$60.00 per child

Form must be turned in NO later than January 29th to Ashley Phinney at Big Spring High School's front office.



Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

School she attends: _____

Parent Name: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Parent email address: _____

Does your child have any allergies or health problems that we need to be aware of? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain _____

Shirt size (circle):

Y- Small Y-Medium Y- Large A-Small A-Medium A Large

*Parents, if your child is not willing to participate or behave during the camp we will call you to come pick them up immediately. Due to the cost of conducting the camp, no refunds will be given for any reason. Payment is due at the time you turn in your application. Please make sure your child arrives on time and is picked up on time. Your signature at the bottom of this application certifies that you fully understand.

Parent Signature: _____

News in brief

Syrian opposition says Assad must not stay in power, setting up clash at outset of peace talks

MONTREUX, Switzerland (AP) — The head of Syria's Western-backed opposition says any discussion of President Bashar Assad staying in power will effectively end peace talks before they have begun.

Ahmad al-Jarba, head of the Syrian National Coalition, said the purpose of the peace conference beginning Wednesday in Switzerland was to set up a transitional government.

He said "this is the only topic for us," speaking minutes after Assad's foreign minister.

The peace talks in the Swiss city of Montreux marked the first time the opposition and the Syrian government will sit down face to face since their dispute began in March 2011.

Snowstorm leaves bitter footprint as it swirls up coast to New England; 13.5 inches in Philly

BOSTON (AP) — Snow blowers whirred and shovels scraped across sidewalks as the Northeast tried to keep up with a winter storm that swirled up the coast, creating blizzard conditions on Cape Cod, disrupting government work in Washington and leaving behind it bitter Canadian cold that sapped fuel supplies.

The huge storm stretched from Kentucky to New England but hit hardest along the heavily populated Interstate 95 corridor between Philadelphia and Boston. Snow began falling midmorning Tuesday in Philadelphia and had dumped as much as 13.5 inches by midnight, with New York seeing almost as much. Manalapan, N.J., had the highest snowfall reading with 16 inches.

The storm, which dropped nearly a foot of snow in parts of Massachusetts, promised to create headaches for motorists in Boston on Wednesday morning. Commuters in Philadelphia and New York had packed early trains or spent hours inching along roads in swirling darkness to get home the night before.

The New Yorkers and Bostonians who normally swarm Cape Cod in fishing hats or bikinis in July and August wouldn't recognize it this week. A blizzard warning through Wednesday afternoon kept business brisk at Aubuchon Hardware in Sandwich, where salt and snow shovels were popular.

"The flow of customers is pretty steady, but everyone waits until the worst of the storm to start worrying," manager Jeff Butland said.

Ukraine: Police chase protesters away from site of clashes, after 3 die

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Police in Kiev have torn down barricades and chased protesters away from the site of violent clashes in the center of the Ukrainian capital, hours after three protesters died, two of whom were shot.

Helmeted riot police moved in on hundreds of protesters Wednesday afternoon, beating and firing shots at some and sending people running. The violence is likely to drastically escalate Ukraine's two month-long political crisis.

The nearby main protest camp, however, remains intact.

AP Exclusive: 2 armed officers went on breaks minutes before November LA airport shooting

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Minutes before a gunman opened fire in a Los Angeles International Airport terminal last fall, killing a security screener and wounding three other people, the two armed officers assigned to the area left for breaks without informing a dispatcher as required.

The Los Angeles Airport Police Department officers were outside Terminal 3 when authorities say Paul Ciancia opened fire with an assault rifle in an attack targeting Transportation Security Administration officers, two law enforcement officials told The Associated Press. The officials requested anonymity, saying they were briefed on the shooting but were not authorized to speak publicly about the ongoing investigation.

As terrified travelers dived for cover, TSA officers — who are unarmed — fled the screening area without hitting a panic button or using a landline to call for help. It took a call from an airline contractor to a police dispatcher, who then alerted officers over the radio — a lag of nearly a minute and a half, the officials said.

Before officers could get to the scene, Ciancia fatally wounded TSA Officer Gerardo Hernandez and then headed to the screening area where he shot two more agents and a traveler, authorities said. Ciancia was subdued after being wounded by officers in the gate area of the terminal.

When the shooting started, the two officials say one of the armed officers assigned to the terminal was at or just outside an adjacent terminal. One of the officials said the officer was on a bathroom break and the other foot-beat officer was in a vehicle on the tarmac outside Terminal 3, headed for a meal break.

Experts monitoring increased bird flu cases in China ahead of mass Lunar New Year exodus

(AP) — A spate of bird flu cases since the beginning of the year in China has experts watching closely as millions of people and poultry are on the move ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday, the world's largest annual human migration.

China has reported more than 50 H7N9 infections in 2014 after the strain jumped from birds to people for the first time last year. The virus remains hard to catch and most cases have been linked to contact with poultry, but scientists worry that could change if it mutates into a form that allows it to spread easily among people.

For those who track influenza, the holiday, which begins Jan. 31, is always worrying because it comes during the winter months when flu typically rages. Add that to hundreds of millions of people — and often birds — crammed together on buses and other forms of transportation going home, and it's always a bit of a gamble. China estimates 3.6 billion trips will be taken over the holiday season.

"This is the first winter we've seen H7N9. We are in uncharted territory," said Gregory Hartl, World Health Organization spokesman in Geneva. "We have seen an upstart in cases, which we are attributing basically to the fact that it's winter. That combined with a lot of movement of people in crowded trains with chickens could give rise to a lot more infections, but we've also seen in past years where it hasn't."

The first H7N9 cases were reported in late March near Shanghai, and more than 200 others have since been identified, including some 50 deaths. A 31-year-old doctor became one of the latest fatalities, raising fears he may have been infected at the hospital where he worked, but none of his patients or other close contacts have reported flu symptoms, according to the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Health and Family Planning.

Former Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife indicted on federal corruption charges

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Bob McDonnell had just been elected governor of Virginia when a wealthy businessman who had donated the use of his private jet during the Republican's campaign requested a meeting at the Four Seasons Hotel in New York.

The governor-elect obliged and brought along his wife, Maureen, who during the meeting told Jonnie Williams she needed a dress for the inauguration the following month, according to a federal indictment of the McDonnells.

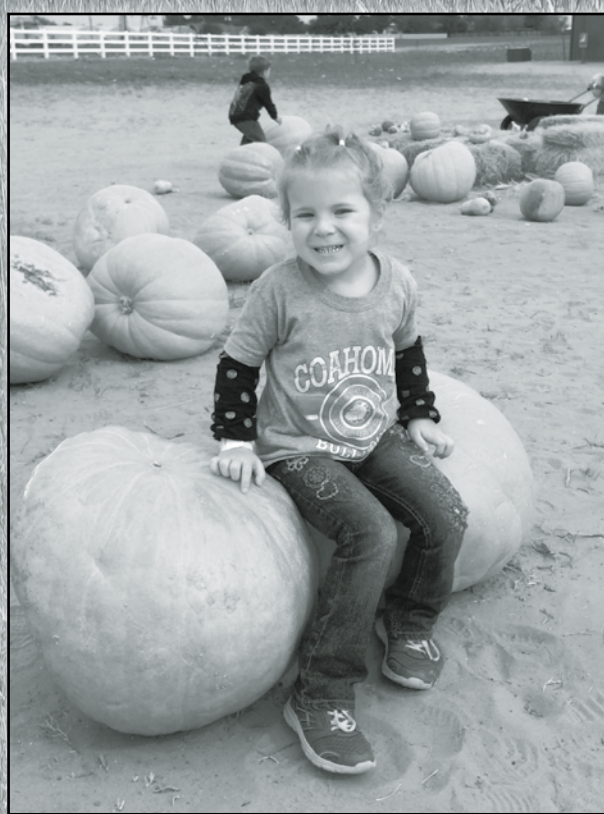
Williams agreed to buy her an Oscar de la Renta gown, but a Bob McDonnell aide said it would be inappropriate and nixed the idea, according to the indictment returned by a grand jury Tuesday.

Peeved, the former Washington Redskins cheerleader and future first lady fired off an email to the staffer.

"I need to talk to you about Inaugural clothing budget," the email said. "I need answers and Bob is screaming about the thousands I'm charging up in credit card debt. We are broke and have an unconscionable amount in credit card debt already and this Inaugural is killing us!!"

A visit to the farm

Coahoma ISD Pre-K students spend the day at Fiddle Sticks Farm



Courtesy photo

Coahoma Pre-K recently visited Fiddlesticks Farms in Midland. The students had the opportunity to see baby farm animals and watch a cow milking demonstration. After a trip through the corn maze and pumpkin patch, the students played and had a picnic lunch. Pictured clockwise from top, left, several students pose on an old truck. Braelie Burgans finds fun in the pumpkin patch; Kohen Granthom takes a "horse" ride; and Thalia Yanez visits the swine pen.

Big Spring ISD Pride Corner

Big Spring ISD is proud to recognize our school board during the month of January. They humbly give their time to ensure that policy and procedures are in place to support the staff of BSISD to empower our students with knowledge.

Many of our campuses have begun tutorials to prepare for STAAR testing this spring. Please check with your child's teacher if you are unsure if your child needs to be in attendance!

Big Spring ISD has been busy with science fair competitions at all elementary campuses and the junior high over the past few weeks. Here is a list of participants and winners.

Washington Elementary

Physics - 5th grade, 1st Rebecca Moore; 2nd Catherine Monks, 3rd Ransom Colette.

3rd and 4th grade, 1st Kalell Smith-Wennik, 2nd (tie) Cameron Culver and Kenan Kimberly, 3rd Daliana Guzman

Chemistry - 5th grade, 1. Mikayla Paredez; 2. Mattox Evans.

3rd and 4th grade, 1. Dru Martinez; 2. Audrie Brito, 3. Angelica Barraza

Life - 5th grade, 3. Sadie Garcia

3rd and 4th grade, 3. (tie) Noel Rosa and Walter Norman

Earth/Space - 5th grade, 2nd Maddie Miller Behavior and Social Sciences - 5th grade, 1. Hunter Cox

3rd and 4th grade, 1. Kortney Moore; 2. Kylee Mata; 3. Kennedy Osborne

Overall winner: Mikayla Paredez

Marcy Elementary School

Physics - 1. Marco Tan; 2. Place Calleigh Ayala; 3. Place Moises Balcazar

Environmental - 1. Alex Munoz; 2. Hannah Joo; 3. Hannah Peckenpaugh; and 4. Gavin Ashmore

Chemistry - 1. (tie) Adolfo Salinas and Olivia Bancroft; 2. Jocelyn Chairez; 3. (tie) Naomi Reyes and Madeline Slack

Life - 1. (tie) Teresa Rios and Erynn Lasater; 2. Leane DeLaTorre

Earth/Space - 1. Jordan Mitchell; 2. Michael Stoaks; 3. Gissele Holguin

Behavior - 1. Anastasia Maronn; 2. Stella Richardson

Overall Winner - Teresa Rios

Science Fair Coordinator - Shelley Burrow

Goliad Elementary

Overall Winner - Manuel Castillo, a fifth grader

Big Spring Junior High School

Animal Science - 1. - Trinady Joslin (8th)

Behavioral/Social Science - 1. Callie Leicht (6th Grade); 2. Kloe Mata (7th Grade)

Chemistry - 1. Jarek Martinez (6th Grade); 2. Jordan Wommack (6th Grade); 3. Dylan Claude (8th Grade)

Electrical & Mechanical Science - 3. Luke Sol-dan (8th Grade)

Energy & Transportation - 1. Chloe Bustamante (7th Grade)

Math - 3. Rowan Collette (8th Grade)

Medicine and Health - 3. Britney Tan (8th Grade)

Team - 1. Nathan Letz & Manuel Marquez (7th Grade); 2. Brooklyn Durham & Trinity Galloway (6th Grade); 3. (tie) Arianna Tijerina & Keana Pena (8th Grade), Ranen Wilson & Ivan Delgado (8th Grade)

Overall Outstanding Project
8th Grade - Triniday Joslin
7th Grade - Chloe Bustamante

Melissa Miller is a educational diagnostician at Big Spring High School.



MELISSA MILLER

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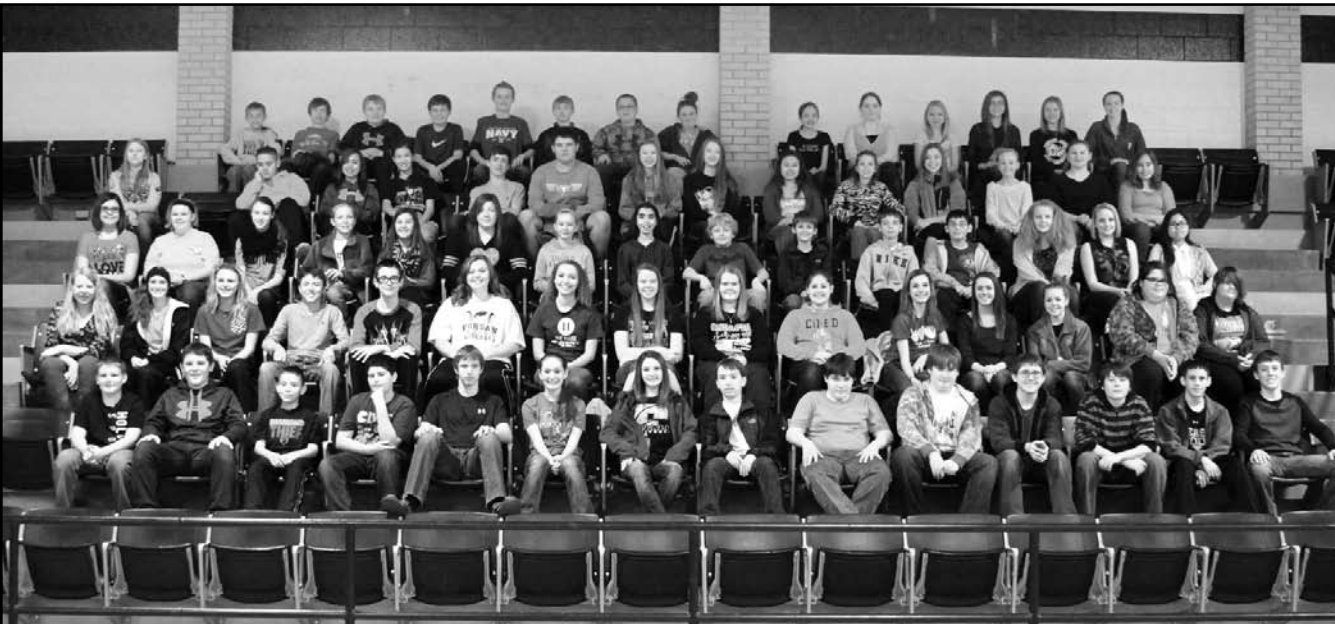
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Forsan JH UIL academic team places second



Courtesy photo

The Forsan Junior High School academic UIL team placed second at the district competition held in Seagraves. There were more than 70 students from Forsan JH that competed in the competition. Six out of the last seven years, Forsan JH has placed first or second in its district competition.

BSISD honors its trustees



HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody

Trustees with the Big Spring Independent School District were honored for their service to the district Thursday, Jan. 16, by students from Washington Elementary School. January is school board recognition month. Pictured above, Ransom Colette with board member Jeff Brorman who has served since 2007; below, Maddie Miller, left, and Kiley Crisp, stand with board secretary Tony Kennedy, member since 2003; and at bottom, Sadie Garcia stands with Washington Principal Charlie Crisp holding a basket for board member Patricia DeAnda, a member since 2012, who was absent for the meeting.

See **BOARD PHOTOS**, Page 7

BSISD elementary school science fair winners



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Paredez, Washington Elementary School fifth-grader; Manuel Castillo, Goliad Elementary School fifth-grader; and Teresa Rios, Marcy Elementary School third-grader. Also pictured on the back row from left are: Amy Leggett, teacher and Rosie Lain, principal, both of Moss Elementary; Gina Kimberly, teacher, and Charlie Crisp, principal, both of Washington Elementary; Michelle Schreiner, principal, and Tim Merki, both of Goliad Elementary; and Shelley Burrow, teacher and Rita Faulkner, principal, both of Marcy Elementary School.

Pictured are the overall campus Big Spring elementary school science fair winners.

Front row from left are: Emily Kocak, Moss Elementary School fourth-grader; Mikayla

Rita Faulkner, principal, both of Marcy Elementary School.

43 Big Spring JH band students earn spot at All-Region band

Rocky Harris, Big Spring Independent School District band director, and crew must be all smiles lately. More than half of the junior

high students who tried out for the Association of Texas Small School Bands middle school all region competition earned a spot.

The district brought more than 83 band students to the tryout. Forty-three made the cut.

"If you know of any of these students or their families, please congratulate them on their accomplishments," Harris said.



HARRIS

Those students are: Yuliza Cervantes, Rowan Colette; Odalys Vela; Gabriella Medina; Hayley Allen; Hope Arguello; Abbey Bryan, HS all region; Brian Carroll; Madison Compean and Ivy Martinez.

Krystelle Mikels; Karleigh Moore; Trinity Newton; Britney Payte; Rainey Delozier; Britany Tan; and Valerie Arvieu.

Katherine Johnson, first chair; Joseph Doll; Emily Hendricks; Armando Martinez, first chair; Aden Moya.

See **JR HIGH BAND**, page 8



You deserve a factual look at . . .

Israel: A Light unto the Nations

Those who demonize Israel are either misinformed or malevolent

If that proverbial man from Mars came to visit and read the world's newspapers, especially those in the Arab and Muslim world, he would be convinced that Israel was the most evil nation in the world and the source of all of the world's strife.

What are the facts?

A nation to be emulated. The reality, of course, is that Israel is a nation, a society, that should be admired and emulated by many countries in the world. The very fact of how the State of Israel came into being is one of the most inspiring in history. Born out of the ashes of the Holocaust, it has emerged as one of the most advanced, productive and prosperous countries in the world.

The demonization of Israel, assiduously cultivated by the Muslim world, reached a crescendo following Israel's defensive actions in Gaza. Instead of being grateful to the hated Jews for having totally withdrawn, the Palestinian Gazans showed their "gratitude" by almost daily pounding of Israeli towns with thousands of rockets and bombs. After countless warnings, Israel ultimately decided to put an end to this travesty.

When Israel finally did invade Gaza it took the most elaborate precautions not to hurt civilians. As a first in the history of warfare, Israel dropped tens of thousands of leaflets, warning the population and urging it to abandon areas in which military action would take place. The Israeli military made thousands of phone calls urging people to leave areas that would come under attack. But fighting in a densely populated environment is difficult and loss of civilian life is hard to avoid. Hamas fighters wear no uniforms. It is impossible to tell them from civilians. Is a person who allows a rocket launcher in his backyard a civilian or a fighter? And how about using schools, hospitals and mosques as munitions depots and staff centers? The hue and cry of Israel's demonizers of using "disproportionate force" is totally absurd. The ultimate insult, comparing Israel to the Nazis, is freely bandied about by Israel's detractors.

Israel is not an "apartheid state." Another familiar tack of Israel's vilifiers is to call it an "apartheid state," on the model of former South Africa. But that is so ridiculous, so

preposterous, it is hard to believe that serious people can countenance it. The exact opposite is the case. Israel is the only country in its benighted neighborhood in which people of all colors and religions prosper and have equal rights. Israel, expending substantial effort, rescued tens of thousands of black Jews from Ethiopia. And it has given assistance and absorbed countless Christian expatriates from

Sudan, who escaped from being slaughtered by their Muslim countrymen. Israel's over one million Arab citizens enjoy the same rights and privileges as their Jewish fellows. They are

represented in the Knesset, Israel's parliament, and are members of its bureaucracy, of its judiciary, and of its diplomatic service.

All over the world, Leftists, including in the United States and, sad to say, even in Israel itself, tirelessly condemn and vilify Israel. Why would they do that? First, of course, there is good old-fashioned anti-Semitism. Second, many of those who hate the United States vent their poison on Israel, which they consider being America's puppet in that area of the world. But Israel should certainly get top grades in all areas important to the Left. In contrast to all its enemies, Israel has the same democratic institutions as the United States. All religions thrive freely in Israel. Also, in contrast to all of its enemies, women have the same rights as men. Until quite recently the Chief Justice of Israel's Supreme Court was a woman. One-sixth of the Knesset are women. Compare that to Saudi Arabia, a medieval theocracy, where women are not even allowed to drive cars, where they cannot leave the country without permission of a male relative, and where they can be and often are condemned to up to 60 lashes if the "modesty police" deems them not to be properly dressed in public. Gays and lesbians are totally unmolested in Israel; in the surrounding Muslim countries they would be subjected to the death penalty.

As the prophet Isaiah presaged: "Israel is indeed a Light unto the Nations."

In spite of demonization and vilification by so much of the world, Israel is indeed a Light unto the Nations. The State of Israel is the foremost creation of the Jewish enterprise and Jewish intellect that has benefited every country in which Jews dwell, certainly our own country, the United States of America. Second only to the United States itself, Israel is the world's most important factor in science and technology, way out of proportion to the small size of its population. Israeli Jews are at the forefront of the arts, the sciences, law and medicine. They have brought all these sterling qualities to bear in building their own country: Israel. By necessity, they have also become outstanding in agriculture and, most surprisingly, in the military. What a shame that the Arabs opted not to participate in this progress and in this prosperity and chose instead the path of revenge, of Jihad and of martyrdom. As the prophet Isaiah presaged: Israel is indeed a Light unto the Nations.

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Facts and Logic About the Middle East
P.O. Box 590359 ■ San Francisco, CA 94159
Gerardo Joffe, President

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Gadgets, great outdoors can co-exist



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

(Family Features) Advancements in technology over the last decade have children spending more time with gadgets and gizmos, and less time enjoying the great outdoors. In fact, kids are now indoors up to 10 hours a day, according to the Joan Ganz Cooney Center. But kids' increasing use of technology and opportunities to appreciate Mother Nature do not have to be mutually exclusive.

The Importance of outside play

A new National Wildlife Federation (NWF) report shows that kids' media habits can both positively and negatively impact health, and provides real-world advice to help parents serve as positive role models and teach children to use technology in moderation.

"Kids need to be outside all year long, especially in the winter when days are short and we're all a

little more cooped up than usual," said Maureen Smith, chief marketing officer for National Wildlife Federation. "In addition to developing a deeper appreciation for the outdoors and the wildlife around them no matter where they live, it helps them burn off energy, stay fit, and be mentally focused for school, homework and all activities in their busy day."

Screen Time Plus Green Time

Technology can be a valuable tool to help families balance the lure of screen time with the importance of green time for kids. Today's connected world enables children to experience nature in ways never before imagined.

NWF's report offers families these ideas for combining technology with the outdoors:

1. Rely on technology to plan or inspire outdoor adventures. This can

include anything — from finding great nearby hiking trails to interactive, outdoor treasure hunts.

2. Keep a record of outdoor experiences with the help of electronic photos, videos or an electronic journal. They'll love the ability to share their experiences with family and friends.

3. When safe and practical, take hand-held devices outdoors to combine the best of both worlds (just remember to plan for some fully unplugged time outside, too).

4. Use tools such as Ubooly, an app-based learning toy that can turn a walk in the park into an interactive experience with activities such as scavenger hunts, nature hikes, mindfulness games and plenty of exercise.

For other helpful resources and to learn more about NWF's goal to get 10 million more kids spending regular time in the great outdoors visit www.BeOutThere.org.



HERALD photos/Lyndel Moody

Pictured clockwise from top, left, Chris Wigington, BSISD superintendent presents Ken McIntosh with a certificate of appreciation. McIntosh has served on the board since 2011. Gage Davidson stands with board president Irene Rodriguez, who has served on the board since 1994. Jayden Tubbs stands with Washington Elementary Principal Charlie Crisp. The basket was for former trustee Phil Furqueron who was not at the Thursday's meeting. Furqueron just recently left the board after serving since 2001. Maddie Miller stands with board vice president Chad Wash, who was elected in 2010.



JR High Band

Continued from 7

Dylan Claude; Carlos Correa, first chair; Francisco Zermeno; Anisa Cervantes; Kylie Palmer; Saige Stallings; Mateo Rodriguez; Samantha Solis; Trusten Edmondson; Marcos Haro; and Casey Shubert.

Robert Sotelo; Trea Brackeen; Alexis Delafuente; Nick Loveless; Jordan Dunn; Jeremy Gonzales; Kendrick Kennemur; Luke Wood; Shania Cansino; Mason Kirby, and Adam Gonzales, first chair.



Sudoku Answer on Page 16

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Main Objective

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A J 7 2
♥ 10 9 7 5
♦ K J 6
♣ 6 4

WEST
♠ 10 8 5 4 3
♥ 6 2
♦ 10 8 3
♣ K Q 10

SOUTH
♠ K Q 6
♥ K Q J 8 3
♦ A Q
♣ J 9 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
4♥
Opening lead — king of clubs.

The one thing you can't afford to do in bridge is to play your cards automatically, which is what many players do all too often. The primary goal of every deal — to make or defeat the contract — does not allow room for mechanical play.

Today's hand provides an example of the type of error that can result from too casual an approach to the play. West led the king of clubs, East

signaling for a club continuation by playing the eight. West continued with the queen and shifted to a spade. Declarer won, forced out the ace of trumps and shortly thereafter finished with 10 tricks.

However, the contract would have gone down one against a more inspired defense. East should have recognized that in addition to the three obvious tricks for his side — two clubs and the trump ace — a spade ruff might well be needed to defeat the contract, and he should have adapted his defense accordingly.

All East had to do was overtake West's king of clubs with the ace at trick one and return the nine of spades. This sequence of plays — clearly marking East with a singleton spade — would have left declarer with no recourse.

The best South can do is to take the spade return with dummy's jack and lead the ten of trumps, making it appear as if he was planning to take a finesse. But East, having none of this, would alertly rise with the ace and lead a club to his partner's queen. West would then return a spade to put the contract down one in what would amount to just another workmanlike job by the defense.

Tomorrow: A crucial decision.

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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Fido Football

Playful pooches take to the turf for Puppy Bowl, Animal Planet's cute and cuddly TV counterpart to Super Bowl Sunday's other gridiron game.

AmericanProfile

BS playoff dreams stay alive

Sealey, Steers rally past Sweetwater

By **TOMMY WELLS**
Sports Editor

After starting the District 4-3A race with an 0-2 start, Big Spring High School head coach Ian Ritchey told his players if they wanted to make a run at the Class 3A state playoffs, they needed to find a way to win. And quickly.

The Steers have answered Ritchey's call in a big way.

Big Spring withstood and early barrage on Tuesday night and them muscled its way to a thrilling 55-45 come-from-behind win over rival Sweetwater in front of a large crowd in the Steer Gym.

"This was a huge game for us," said Ritchey. "We started district play at 0-2, so we knew we needed this game to get even. We came out and played hard and got a tough win."

With the victory, Big Spring evened its District 4-3A record at 2-2 heading into Friday's matchup with Snyder. Sweetwater slipped to 1-3.

Sweetwater, now 12-3 on the season, controlled the tempo early in the game. The Mustangs opened the game with a three-pointer from the corner and then, moments later, tacked on a layup to streak to a quick 5-2 cushion.

Things only got worse for Big Spring from there. Sweetwater went on a 9-5 run over the next five minutes and seemed poised to break the game open at 14-7.

The Steers had other ideas. Big Spring closed See **STEERS**, Page 15



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring junior Tyler Bryan goes up for a shot in the first half of the Steers' game against Sweetwater on Tuesday in the Steer Gym. Bryan, who sank three three-pointers in the contest, tallied 16 points in the game and helped Big Spring claim a 55-45 victory. The win evened the team's record in District 4-3A action to 2-2.

BSHS 'D' sparks big victory for Lady Steers

By **TOMMY WELLS**
Sports Editor

The Big Spring Lady Steers weren't trying to pull the wool over anyone's eyes about the importance of Tuesday's showdown with the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs. They needed a win badly to improve their playoff odds.

Well, their chances are looking up.

The Lady Steers used a stingy defensive effort in the first 16 minutes of their District 4-3A showdown in the Steer Gym and used that to roll to a convincing 54-21 victory.

"This was a big one for us because of what happened over to us over there. We didn't want to wind up in that 2-3 pack again," said BSHS head coach Mike Warren. "We really needed this win."

Big Spring dominated the game on the defensive end throughout the first quarter.

The Lady Steers, sparked by a tenacious full-court press that forced Sweetwater into eight first-quarter turnovers, limited the Lady Mustangs to just one basket in the opening stanza.

Diamonique Mayes gave Sweetwater fits early in the contest. The Big Spring forward pumped in two shots from the inside and added a free throw to ignite a game-opening 5-0 run.

The Lady Steers didn't slow down from there. Julianna Rodriguez and Alexis Cansino added to the Lady Mustangs' woes moments later. Rodriguez drained a trey from See **GIRLS**, Page 16

Brownfield deals Coahoma 95-39 loss

The Brownfield Cubs scored at least 25 points in each of the first three quarters of play on Tuesday and streak to a 95-39 victory over the Coahoma Bulldogs in District 4-2A action.

"I saw into a buzz saw," said Coahoma head coach Kim Nichols. "Our team played hard, but Brownfield had to much quickness and athleticism tonight."

With the loss, the Bulldogs slipped to 0-4 in district play.

Brownfield's offense came out hitting on all cylinders in the first quarter. The Cubs knocked down numerous shots in the first eight minutes and rolled

to a 25-12 lead..

The Cubs blew the game open in the second. They posted a 28-10 run in the period, and ballooned their lead to 53-22 at the half.

Brownfieldsalted away the win in the third with a staggering 29-2 spree.

Coahoma trailed by a 82-24 margin heading into the fourth.

Despite the loss, Braxton Iden and Shannen Warneke both turned in solid outings for the Bulldogs. Iden finished with a team-high 16 points. Warneke added 14.

Coahoma will return to play on Friday when they host the Lamesa Golden Tornadoes.

Smyer slips by FHS girls

The Forsan Lady Buffaloes suffered a tough 48-32 loss to the Smyer Lady Bobcats on Tuesday in a key District 16-A, Division I, game in Smyer.

Smyer, despite a solid outing from Brittney Hergert, used a 31-20 run in the second half to nail

down the victory. Hergert finish the game as the Lady Buffaloes' top scorer, netting 12 points.

With the loss, Forsan slipped to 13-8 overall, and to 3-3 in district.

The FHS girls will travel to Sundown on Friday.



Herald photo/Tommy Wells

The Howard College men's and women's basketball teams will travel to Hobbs on Thursday to face New Mexico Junior College.

NMJC next on HC schedule

The road beckons for the Howard College men's and women's basketball teams on Thursday. And, even though its a short trip to Hobbs, it doesn't figure to be an easy road.

The Howard College men's team is scheduled to face off against a scrappy New Mexico Junior College squad in a key Western Junior College Athletic Conference matchup. NMJC enters the game with a 3-3 record in WJCAC play,

including a win over nationally-ranked Odessa on Jan. 13.

The Hawks, ranked No. 21 in the latest NJCAA poll, are 17-3.

The Lady Hawks will face a tough NMJC women's team that owns a 4-1 mark in WJCAC play. The defeated Midland College on Monday, 73-60.

The Howard College women are 10-10 overall. The team has lost four of its last five games, and is 1-4 in WJCAC play.

Lady Steers' alumni game set for Sat.

Softball action will return to Big Spring in grand fashion this Saturday when the Big Spring Lady Steers unofficially kick off the new year with an exhibition game against some of the stars of the past.

Big Spring, which is scheduled to face Colorado City on Jan. 28 in its preseason opener, is scheduled to face an alumni squad as part of a fund-raiser for the BSHS team. The exhibition matchup is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. at the Lady Steers' Softball Complex.

Prior to playing the exhibition game, the Lady Steers will participate in the "Swinging for the Fences" fund-raiser. As part of the event, each player will be given 100 swings to collect as many hits as possible. Each hit will earn funds for the BSHS softball program.

The "Swinging for the Fence" gala will get underway at approximately 10 a.m. at the BSHS softball field.

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Unusual Libra Moon

Compromise, diplomacy and tact are the lunar gifts of the Libra moon, and yet due to odd circumstances and tensions, the morning isn't as harmonious as the Libra moon wants it to be. Everything eases up in the early evening, when the moon angles Mercury kindly, inviting people to let off some steam and talk about the day.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People will want to help you, but don't let them today. Self-reliance is a source of pride for you, and you will push the limits of your physical and mental abilities in the name of independent effort.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You are someone's biggest influence today, and with that power comes the responsibility to behave in the way you'd like to see this person — and maybe the world in general — behave.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The term "just deserts" has its origins in what's deserved or merited and is not at all about the sweet treat at the end of a meal with which it is often confused. However, sometimes what's deserved is a sweet treat. That will be the case today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You could participate in a gabfest and should be very careful about what you say in this scenario. Much could get

lost in translation. The best strategy will be an exit strategy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). "Friend zone" or "relationship zone" — it's your choice. By navigating the categories, you'll make your life easier. You are happy when you are emotionally organized.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Before you point out the flaws around you, have a solution or two ready. This will distinguish you as a leader and the kind of person who takes care of business.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Be an investigator. It's in your nature now, and besides, it will be lucky for you to know the origin of things. Until you understand how they started, you won't know the trajectory they are on.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Reading will be important to your development and may even change the way you approach your days. At the very least, what you read will make you feel accomplished.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The thing you do as an escape will wind up being the exact opposite of escape. It will connect you to the moment and to the people who share it with you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). No matter where you go, you won't have to pretend to be anyone to fit in there today. Take a deep breath, and be yourself. Remember that confident people don't mind admitting fear and doubt.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Life dreams are similar to the dreams you have at night in that they have a way of fading,

changing and transitioning into different scenes. You'll be letting go of an old dream and embarking on a new one.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). In a multimedia-driven world, mixed messages are the norm. Which should you believe: the down-home version or the high-gloss mass media equivalent? Only you can decide.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 22). You believe that all things are connected, and you experience many lucky "coincidences" this year. A stellar decision you make in February will lead to riches. March's friendship will help you grow your talents. The love flowing through your life increases in April. Family thrives because they pull together in July. Aries and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 6, 30, 11 and 45.

GEMINI SECRET SUPERPOWER BREAKDOWN:

The Obvious: Gemini's mouth has an intelligence all its own, and the twins can be witty and sharp without the least bit of effort. Gemini quite naturally keeps the right words packed and ready to fire off at the perfect moment.

The Uncanny: Gemini gets away with telling the truth that no one else can get away with saying. Usually, it's because the lightness and quick timing Gemini employs don't give people the chance to put up their social defenses. Gemini can get people laughing about things that they were trying to hide or deny just moments before.

The Weird: The sign of the twins can perform a complete and instant personality change without changing a single thing about their clothing or appearance and be unrecognizable as though wearing a disguise. Gemini Marilyn Monroe used to do this. She could change her demeanor and either go unnoticed or attract a crowd.

The Extremely Useful: Gemini's endless supply of icebreakers makes this sign a party starter. The Quietly Helpful: Logic is a strength of Gemini, and often this sign is good at math, no calculator necessary.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: The life story of NFL running back Ray Rice would make an inspiring movie, as he rose above the tragedy and loss of his early years with heart, hard work and an indomitable will. Despite being one of the shortest players in a generation, this Super Bowl ring holder brings the heat. He was born when the sun and Mercury were in fleet-footed Aquarius and the moon was in Libra, the sign of balance and teamwork.

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

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: A couple of years ago, you published my letter signed "No-Win Situation in Wisconsin." My wife and I had been sharing a vacation with another couple, and I witnessed the husband kiss my wife on the lips as they left. You said if I trust my wife, not to worry about it.

After you printed my letter, I wrote this couple a half-sincere "take the high road" letter, admitting I could have been wrong about interpreting that kiss and invited them to come for dinner and stay over. They never replied. But a month later, they drove into town and met my wife for lunch while I was at work. The husband asked my wife whether I felt "neglected." How smug is that?

A couple of weeks later, my wife and I celebrated our 25th anniversary at a lovely vacation spot, and a week later, she stayed overnight at this couple's home while visiting a mutual friend who was ill.

I am getting the distinct message that I am the one with the problem, and therefore, I can be completely bypassed when she makes decisions involving this couple. While I do not feel it would be right to ask my wife to close the door on this friendship, that last visit had me losing sleep. I wrote my wife a letter about my feelings, and even though I realize their relationship could be nothing, it still upsets me.

Now that this husband has retired, I fear the pace will quicken in his efforts to put our friendship back where it was, but whatever my insecurities and shortcomings, I get angry just thinking about it. Am I making sense or just going bananas? — *More Maine Madness*

Dear Maine: We doubt anything untoward is going on, but your wife is deliberately disregarding your feelings. She thinks you are being foolish, and so she ignores you. This

makes you feel marginalized and angry. Please stop writing letters and simply talk to your wife. Tell her gently that seeing this couple behind your back only makes you distrust her, and that eats away at the core of your marriage. Tell her you will back off if she will be more respectful of your feelings.

Dear Annie: My wonderful husband delivers oil to people's homes and works hard keeping homes toasty and warm throughout the winter. It is a demanding job, but for the most part, he enjoys it.

The problem is, some customers don't plow or shovel paths to their tanks. Their driveways are cleared and the paths to their bird feeders, but my husband has to pull a heavy hose through knee-deep snow to reach the tanks.

By the time he gets home, he is soaked up to his thighs, cold and exhausted. This is enough to make anyone cranky. He sure would appreciate it if people could make his job easier by shoveling a path to their tank. — *Please Be Kind*

Dear Please: Thank you for reminding our readers that any service people who need to have access to outside areas of their homes should not get lost in a snowdrift because the path isn't plowed. This is not only for the person who delivers oil. It's also the postal carrier, the meter reader and the cable repairman. If you know someone is coming, please see that they can get there.

Dear Annie: I totally agree with "I Need Nice Clothes, Too." The bigger sizes are tucked into the furthest corner of the store, the selection is small, the styles are horrendous, the sleeves are too tight and the tops are too short.

My other complaint is that the large-size models don't look like me. They are tall with flat stomachs. I am 5 feet 4 and the grandmother of four. There are a lot of older, mature women with money to spend, so I hope the manufacturers start listening. — *Inverness, Fla.*

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, or 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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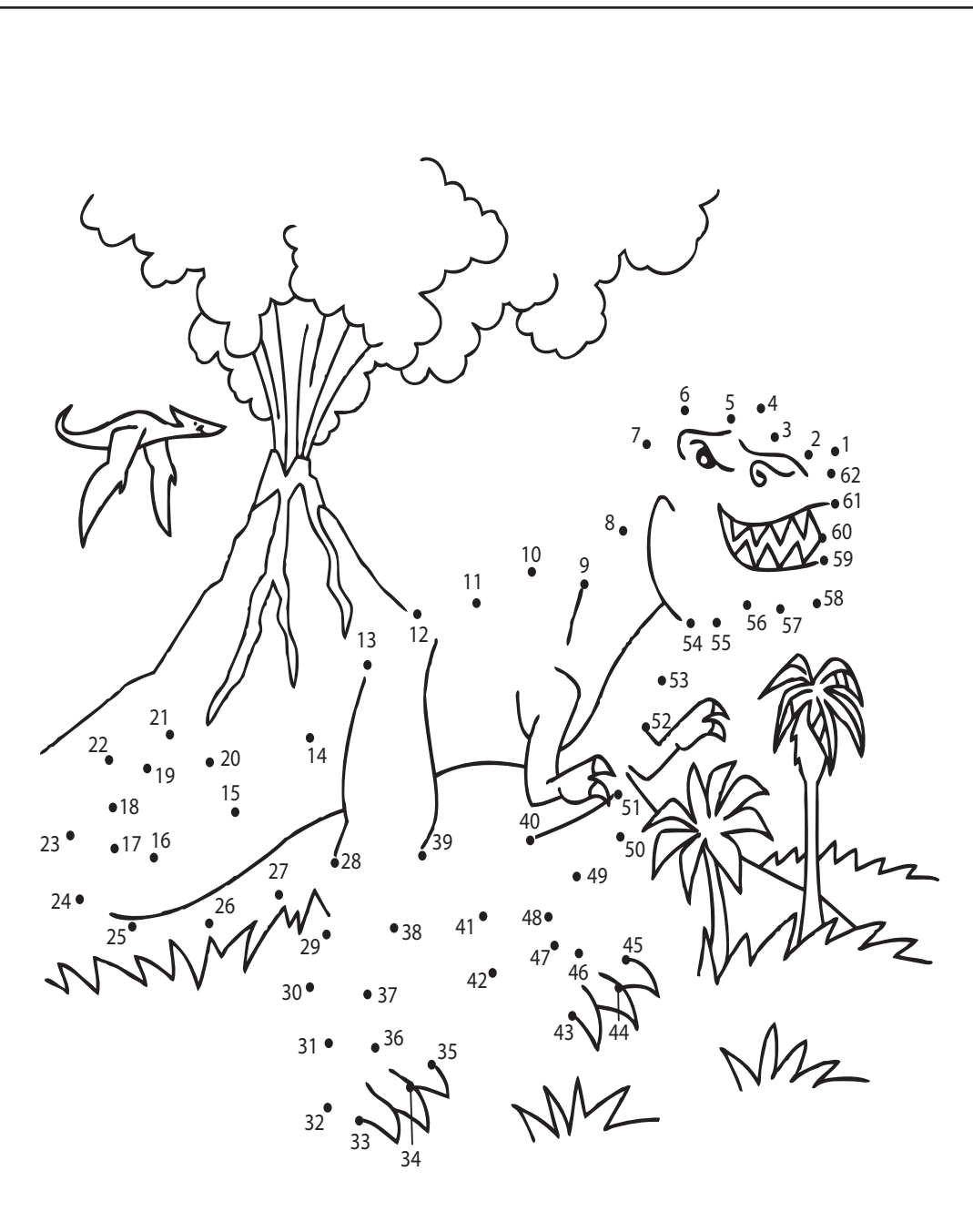


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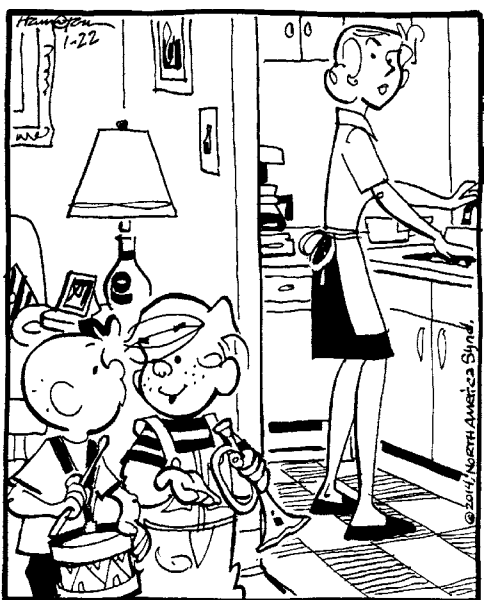


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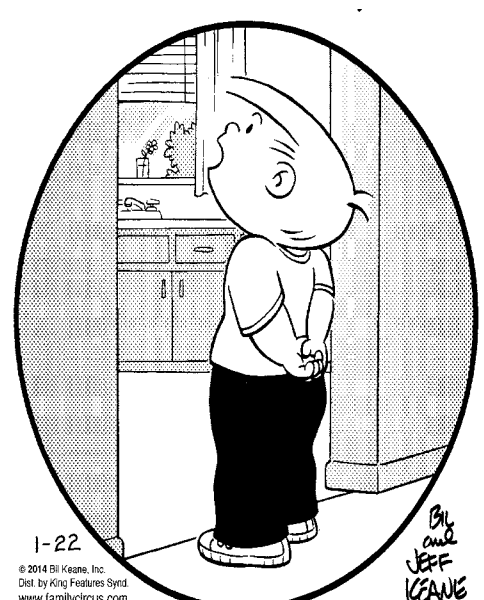
| | KMID (3) | UNI (4) | KPEJ (5) | KOSA (7) | KTLE (8) | KWES (9) | WTBS (11) | KMLM (12) | KPBT (13) | KWTT (14) | DISC (20) | AMC (21) | SPIKE (22) | TNT (23) | BET (26) | DISN (27) | ESPN2 (28) | ESPN (29) |
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| | Midland | Spanish | Odessa | Odessa | Telemundo | Midland | Atlanta | Odessa | Odessa | Odessa | Discovery | Classics | Spike TV | Atlanta | Black Ent. | Disney | Sports | Sports |
| 5:AM | Morning Good Morning West Texas | Tu Desayuno Alegre | Shepherd's Chapel | News CBS 7 Morning News | Historias de | Newsweek 9 | Rules Earl Rik | 1st Fruits (Off Air) | Petticoat Hillbillies | Paid | Paid | Paid | Paid | Smallville | BET Inspiration | Henry | Australian Open | SportsCenter |
| 6:AM | Good Morning America | ¡Despierta América! (SS) | Feldick Life | CBS This Morning | Un Nuevo Día (SS) | Newsweek 9 Sunrise Today | Married With Children | Yohanan Upd | Clifford | Donna Rd | Paid | Paid | Paid | Charmed | Chugging | Mike & Mike | SportsCenter | SportsCenter |
| 7:AM | Good Morning America | | Copeland Wom | | | | There Browns | Light of the Southwest | Martha Curious | Lucy Beaver | Robison | Paid | Paid | Charmed | Matters | Mickey | | |
| 8:AM | | | Paid | | | | Payne Prince | | Cat in the Hat | Leave | J. Meyer | Paid | Paid | Supernatural | Matters | Mickey | | |
| 9:AM | The 700 Club | | Judge Mathis | Live With Kelly | De'siones | | Prince | BAS | Sesame Street | Perry Mason | Disappeared | Movie: The Secret of My Success | Tattoo | Supernatural | Matters | Mickey | First Take | SportsCenter |
| 10:AM | The View | Como Dice el Dicho | The People's Court | The Price Is Right | Pablo Escobar: El Patrón | | Full H'se | HaYesod | Tiger | Ironside | Wicked Attraction | Tattoo | Supernatural | Movie: Joy Road, Roger Guenveur Smith | Matters | Mickey | | |
| 11:AM | Paid | Hoy (SS) | Divorce Court | Young & Restless | Avenida Brasil (SS) | Ellen DeGeneres | Wipeout | House | Super | Hawaii Five-0 | Sins & Secrets | Tattoo | Bones | Movie: Behind Enemy Lines, Gabriel Macht | Pirates | Doc | Numbers Never Lie | SportsCenter |
| 12:PM | The Chew | | Judge | News | | Days of our Lives | American Idol | Upd | Tiger | Gunsmoke | Gold Rush | Tattoo | Bones | Movie: Behind Enemy Lines, Gabriel Macht | Jessie | First Take | SportsCenter | SportsCenter |
| 1:PM | General Hospital | Rosa de Guadalupe | Judge Mathis | The Talk | Suelta la Sopa (SS) | The Dr. Oz Show | American Cougar | Israel | Painting | Bonanza | Gold Rush | Tattoo | Bones | My Wife Matters | Good | Jessie | | SportsCenter |

DENNIS THE MENACE



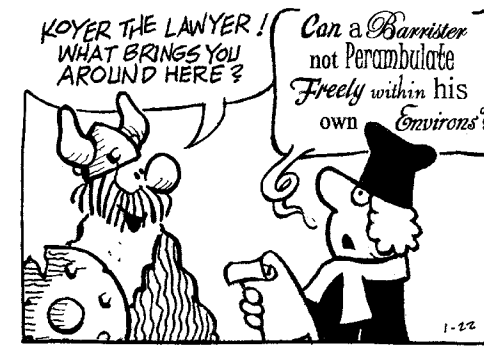
"IF WE RUN THROUGH THE KITCHEN A FEW MORE TIMES, SHE'LL LET US GO OUT AND PLAY IN THE SNOW."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"PJ's awake from his nap, Mommy. Can I play my drums again?"

HAGAR



Can a Barrister not Perambulate Freely within his own Environs?

BLONDIE



I'M AFRAID I CAN'T ANSWER THAT...

BC



THIS YEAR'S CALENDAR HAS 16 MONTHS.

WIZARD OF ID



7 habits of highly effective wizards

AGNES



THE WEATHER IS CHANGING.

HI AND LOIS



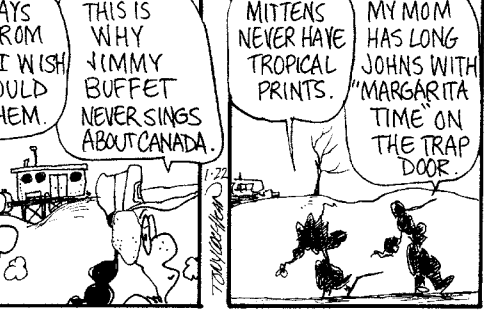
IF I DON'T WAVE TO MAILMAN JOHN EVERY DAY, HE MISSES ME.

THE OTHER COAST



WHAT'S THIS THING IN MY WATER BOWL?

SNUFFY SMITH



HELLO? YOU MIGHT WANT TO WATER THE HOUSEPLANTS A LITTLE MORE OFTEN.

BEETLE BAILEY



IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD GET A PONY TO TOWN

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Explosion sounds
- 6 Fundamentals
- 10 Thirsty tot's request
- 14 Carnation spot
- 15 Big party
- 16 Palette display
- 17 Volkswagen in a Disney film
- 19 Significant periods
- 20 Closest star
- 21 Guiding principle
- 22 Scoundrel
- 23 "At once!" in the OR
- 24 Group of three
- 26 Urge onward
- 29 Swiss miss of kid lit
- 30 Spoke wildly
- 31 Sort of shortening
- 32 Country-club sport
- 36 Like dental exams
- 37 Keeps a low profile
- 38 Urge onward
- 39 Took a nosedive
- 40 Enthusiastic
- 41 Old enough
- 42 Dot in the ocean
- 44 Young hen
- 45 14-line poems
- 48 Moral obligation
- 49 Public persona
- 50 Storefront posting
- 52 Soccer fan's cheer

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 22, the 22nd day of 2014. There are 343 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 22, 1984, the Los Angeles Raiders defeated the Washington Redskins 38-9 to win Super Bowl XVIII (18), played at Tampa Stadium in Florida; the CBS-TV broadcast featured Apple Computer's famous "1984" commercial introducing the Macintosh computer.

On this date:

In 1498, during his third voyage to the Western Hemisphere, Christopher Columbus arrived at the present-day Caribbean island of St. Vincent.

In 1901, Britain's Queen Victoria died at age 81.

In 1917, President Woodrow Wilson pleaded

for an end to war in Europe, calling for "peace without victory." (By April, however, America also was at war.)

In 1922, Pope Benedict XV died; he was succeeded by Pius XI.

In 1938, Thornton Wilder's play "Our Town" was performed publicly for the first time in Princeton, N.J.

In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces began landing at Anzio, Italy.

In 1953, the Arthur Miller drama "The Crucible" opened on Broadway.

In 1968, the fast-paced sketch comedy series "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In" premiered on NBC-TV.

In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court, in its Roe v. Wade decision, legalized abortions using a trimester approach.

Former President Lyndon B. Johnson died at his Texas ranch at age 64.

In 1987, Pennsylvania treasurer R. Budd Dwyer, convicted of defrauding the state, proclaimed his inno-

cence at a news conference before pulling out a gun and shooting himself to death in front of horrified spectators.

In 1994, actor Telly Savalas died in Universal City, Calif., a day after turning 72.

In 1998, Theodore Kaczynski (kah-ZIHN'-skay) pleaded guilty in Sacramento, Calif., to being the Unabomber in return for a sentence of life in prison without parole.

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SIX-FOOTERS by Fred Piscop

Edited by Stanley Newman
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

| | | |
|-------|-----------|-------|
| ACTS | SAIL | AJAR |
| COAT | ACRE | SPACE |
| DADA | CMON | CACHE |
| CLARK | KENT | HIKED |
| WIS | YOLK | |
| ATBAT | CAMEO | NO |
| DOOR | SHRILL | IDO |
| MOOS | QUILL | AVIS |
| INK | PURSES | LESS |
| TSK | LANES | WASTE |
| EDIT | SOS | |
| OPERA | BLACKKEYS | |
| RIPEN | LIME | ARIA |
| ATEAT | OMEN | NIPS |
| LARD | BONE | SEES |

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| 61 | | | | | | | | 62 | | | | | 63 | |

STEERS

Continued from Page 7
out the first quarter with a flurry of its own, scoring a 6-0 run in the final 52 seconds that pulled them to within one, at 14-13, at the end of the opening stanza.

Sealy led off the BSHS run by sinking the front end of a two-shot free throw opportunity. Tyler Bryan rebounded Sealy's miss on the second attempt and pushed it home while also drawing a foul. He sank the ensuing free throw to complete the three-point play.

Just 42 seconds later, Tate Kennedy closed out the Steers' run by driving the lane for a layup.

The Steers' stretched their offensive run to 11 unanswered points in the early moments of the second. After Sealy had layed in a shot to start the quarter, Bryan gave Big Spring an 18-14 lead by pulling up on the left wing and draining a three-point shot.

The Mustangs, who

DISTRICT 4-3A BOYS

| Team | District | Overall |
|-----------------|----------|---------|
| Wylie..... | 4-0 | 19-3 |
| Monahans..... | 4-0 | 22-3 |
| Big Spring..... | 2-2 | 9-10 |
| Sweetwater..... | 1-3 | 12-3 |
| Greenwood..... | 1-3 | 4-17 |
| Snyder..... | 0-4 | 3-13 |

have lost their last two district outings, fought their way back. Sweetwater posted a trey of its own midway through the frame and cut Big Spring's lead to one, at 20-19, with 5:08 to play in the half.

The Steers picked up points from Sealy, Anthony Slate and Tyler Wigington in the final five minutes and weathered the Mustangs' run. They outscored Sweetwater by a 6-4 clip over that span and went into the half holding a 26-23 lead.

"We knew they were tough, and that they would come back," said Ritchey.

Sweetwater managed to stay close early in the third. The Mustangs

scored five points in the first 2:30 of the second half and trailed 29-28 before Bryan and Charles Green gave the Steers some breathing room. The two knocked down back-to-back three-pointers midway through the third and handed Big Spring a 7-point lead, at 35-28, with 4:44 left in the period.

Wigington added a pair of free throws seconds later and pushed the BSHS lead to nine at the 3:45 mark of the period.

Sweetwater, thanks to a late trey, rallied back to within 41-37 heading into the fourth quarter.

The Mustangs made one final run early in the final quarter. Sweetwater opened the fourth with a 5-2 run and moved to within 43-42 with less than 6:30 to play.

Sealy and Bryan slammed the door from there. The two sparked an 8-0 run by the Steers that pushed Big Spring's lead to nine, at 51-42, with 1:11 left to play.

Sealy, who collected six rebounds in the first quarter, finished as the Steers' top scorer with 18 points.

Bryan and Wigington also hit double figures offensively, finishing with 16 and 11 points, respectively.



Herald photo/Tommy Wells
Big Spring's Israel O'Guinn drives past a defender during the Steers' game with Sweetwater Tuesday in the Steer Gym.

JV Steers rally for win over Mustangs

Keshawn Brouard pushed his way down the middle of the lane for a basket with just 25 seconds left to play Tuesday and helped the Big Spring Steers junior varsity claim a 45-44 come-from-behind win over the Sweetwater Mustangs.

After trailing for much of the fourth quarter, the Steers caught fire late. They used a 5-0 run to knot

the game at 39-39.

Sweetwater responded with a 5-2 run of its own that gave it a 44-41 lead with 1:42 to play.

Israel O'Guinn ignited BSHS' late run from there with a shot from the baseline that cut the Mustangs' lead to one, and set up Brouard's game-winner.

Smyer races past Buffs

The state-ranked Smyer Bobcats reeled off a lopsided run in the first quarter on Tuesday and rolled to a 70-48 win over the Forsan Buffaloes in District 6-A, Division 1, basketball action.

Ranked No. 13 in the latest Texas Association of Basketball Coaches' poll, the Bobcats put Forsan in a hole early by grinding out a 16-4 spree in the first quarter.

The Buffaloes held their own from there. Forsan pushed in 15 points in the second and trailed 36-19 at the half.

Smyer closed out the game with a 34-29 run in the second half.

Kade Fannin paced the Buffaloes, finishing with 16 points and seven rebounds. Tyler Evans also hit double-digits with 12 points, and tacked in six boards.

With the setback, Forsan slipped to 12-6 for the season and to 2-2 in district play.

Grady boys rip Klondike

The Grady Wildcats buried 11 three-pointers on Tuesday and streaked to a 79-46 win over the Klondike Cougars in

District 6-A action.

With the win, the Wildcats improved to 14-4 for the year, and to 8-0 in district play.

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Grady moves to 10-0 in 6-A

The Grady High School Lady Wildcats moved one step closer to nailing down the District 6-A, Division II, championship on Tuesday by pounding out a dominating 54-25 victory over the Klondike Lady Cougars at home.

With the win, the Lady Wildcats remained unbeaten in district play, improving to 10-0. Klondike slipped to 2-8.

Grady, 15-6 overall, got off to a quick start against Klondike. The Lady Wildcats posted an 18-6 run in the first quarter and never looked back.

The GHS girls stretched their lead to 45-23 at the end of the third quarter by staging a 27-17 spree in the second and third periods.

Faith Hunt led Grady offensively in the game. She finished with a game-high 11 points.

Carli Richards and Lupita Jimenez also hit double figures for Grady, netting 10 apiece.

With the loss, Klondike fell to 4-13.



File photo
Julianna Rodriguez throws up a three-point shot during the first half of Big Spring's District 4-3A win over Sweetwater.

GIRLS

Continued from Page 7
the baseline, and Cansino pushed in a shot off the glass to push Big Spring's lead to 10-0. Martha Lewis closed out a 12-0 run seconds later by turning a steal at midcourt into an easy layup.

Lewis' steal staked Big Spring to a 12-0 lead with 1:22 left in the first period.

Sweetwater avoided the Lady Steers' shutout bid in the closing seconds of the frame, hitting a desperation shot off the glass with 3 seconds left in the quarter.

The BSHS defense continued to dominate Sweetwater in the second. The Lady Steers allowed the Lady Mustangs to score just five points in the second and enabled BS to streak to a 20-point halftime lead, at 27-7.

DISTRICT 4-3A GIRLS

| Team | District | Overall |
|-----------------|----------|---------|
| Wylie..... | 6-0 | 21-5 |
| Greenwood.... | 5-1 | 9-12 |
| Big Spring..... | 3-3 | 16-7 |
| Sweetwater.... | 2-4 | 7-12 |
| Snyder..... | 2-4 | 11-10 |
| Monahans..... | 0-6 | 3-14 |

"That's probably the best we have played for all four quarters," said Autumn Minter. "We worked hard in practice to improve our defense the last few days, and it helped."

Rodriguez ignited Big Spring's 15-5 second-quarter run just 16 seconds into the frame when she pulled up from the top of the key and nailed her second trey of the half.

After Sweetwater had hit a pair of free throws, the Lady Steers blew the game wide open. Big Spring reeled off seven unanswered points - while holding Sweetwa-

ter scoreless for more than 5 minutes - and built its lead to 22-4.

The Lady Steers, who had suffered a slim loss to the Lady Mustangs in their previous meeting, all but put the final nail in Sweetwater's coffin in the third. Big Spring posted a 16-8 run in the initial eight minutes of the second half and pushed its lead to 43-15.

After Mayes had opened the frame with a pair of free throws, Rodriguez sparked a 7-0 run by pushing in her third three-point shot of the contest. She was followed moments later by baskets from Mayes and Dyrshae Vanderbilt that upped the BSHS lead to 37-8 with 3:43 left in the frame.

Big Spring, now 16-7, closed out the contest with an 11-6 spree in the fourth quarter.

Big Spring will return to action on Friday in Snyder.

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