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FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 14, 2014



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Wigington officially seated as superintendent

Reconstitution plans in place for low-performing schools, officials say

By **LYNDEL MOODY**

Staff Writer
 It wasn't all chocolates and roses for Big Spring school superintendent Chris Wigington at the board of trustees meeting Thursday night. Wigington received an official nod from Big Spring Independent School District trustees to take over as su-

perintendent of schools, receiving a two-and-a-half-year contract beginning Feb. 13 and running through June 2016 at a salary of \$140,000 per year. He was named as the lone finalist for the



Wigington

position in January and has served in the district for four years, three of those years as the secondary curriculum director and since August as the interim superintendent. He takes over a low-performing district that is under the watchful eye of the Texas Education Agency.

"The thing I've told all our

people is if we are all pulling in the same direction, it's nothing we can't fix," Wigington said. "If we just keep our kids at heart, we can't make the wrong decision."

In other business, Wigington informed trustees that a reconstitution plan for four campuses — Goliad, Marcy Washington and Big Spring

Junior High — is already under way.

Reconstitution is a requirement by the TEA for school campuses which have been found low performing for the past two years. The plan requires major overhaul of the campus, including the

See **BSISD**, Page 3

Wanted no more

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer
 Cross a name off the "most wanted" list. Anthony Lee Evans, who was only recently placed on the Texas Department of Public Safety's Most Wanted Fugitives' List, was apprehended without incident Thursday evening, Big Spring police officials said.



Evans

the DPS' Criminal Investigation Division arrested Evans at around 7 p.m. Thursday at the Park Village Apartments at 1905 Wasson Road.

Evans, 33, was wanted by the state pardons and parole board for parole violation charges, officials said.

Evans is a member of the Bloods gang and has a criminal history dating back to 1999, including arrests for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, burglary of a vehicle and forgery of a financial instrument.

In 2001, Evans was convicted of discharging a firearm at an individual and was sentenced to 10 years in prison. He was paroled in 2013. On Nov. 6, 2013, the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles issued a parole violation for his arrest.

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



Happy Valentines!

Suggs Halmark employees Dora Hernandez, left, and Susan Loper rearrange a Valentine's display in the store, which is located in the Springtown Mall. At right, nothing says I love you like a pink, furry pig. This cute stuffed animal was one of many items on sale for Valentine's Day, an option to the traditional flower arrangement.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody



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 Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7331 before 6 p.m. weekdays.



'Shape' provides new perspective on art and its impact on individuals

Herald Staff Report

Is there a line that shouldn't be crossed when it comes to art?

This age-old question is the subject of "A Shape of Things," a play slated to appear at 8 p.m. Feb. 21 and 22 in the Hall Center of the Arts on the Howard College Campus.

The play is a combined effort of the Howard College theater and art departments. "A Shape of Things," written by Neil LaBute, was made into a feature film starring Paul Rudd in 2003.

"It is a modern take on the

seduction of Adam and Eve," according to Instructor of Theater/Drama Nathan Jacobs. "It takes place at a fictitious college in anywhere America," Jacobs explained. "The main character, Adam Sorenson played by Wiley McIntosh, is an English literature major at a university who meets Evelyn Ann Thompson, played by Alexis Armstrong, a grad student in art at the local museum where he works."



Jacobs

For her master's thesis, Ev-

elyn chooses to transform her new boyfriend esthetically, based on her own likes.

"From that point on, his life begins to change. She begins to shape him to what she wants, who his friends are. She changes his attire; he starts going to the gym and even goes so far as to have cosmetic surgery," said Jacobs.

As a result of all the attention and affection, Adam falls in love with Evelyn and subsequently proposes marriage. But everything isn't what it

See **SHAPE**, Page 3

Food 2 Kids extends invitation

Food 2 Kids of Big Spring is having an informational meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church Garrett Hall.

Food 2 Kids provides food to elementary age students who do not receive enough food from the school provided lunch on Friday until they return to school Monday morning.

This invitation is extended to groups and churches who would like to get involved.

First United Methodist Church is located on the corner of Fourth and Scurry in downtown Big Spring.

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News in brief

Another messy, snowy morning in winter-weary Northeast; many in South still waiting for power

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Commuters face a messy morning of travel a day after a winter storm brought snow and ice to many states, leaving at least 21 dead, including a pregnant woman struck by a mini-plow in New York City whose baby was then born by cesarean section in critical condition.

The next go-round of bad weather began early Friday in some places — just in time to delay tens of thousands of deliveries of Valentine's Day flowers.

The sloppy mix of snow and face-stinging sleet grounded more than 6,500 flights nationwide on Thursday and closed schools, businesses and government centers. About 1.2 million utility customers lost power as the storm moved from the South through the Northeast, dropping to about 550,000 outages, mostly in South Carolina and Georgia.

"Every time it snows, it's like, 'Oh, not again,'" said Randal Delvernois of New Cumberland, Pa., which had about 10 inches of snow by midafternoon Thursday. "I didn't get this much snow when I lived in Colorado."

Record flight cancellations this winter; storms, cost cuts, new regulations strand passengers

NEW YORK (AP) — The relentless snow and ice storms this winter have led to the highest number of flight cancellations in more than 25 years, ac-

ording to an analysis by The Associated Press.

U.S. airlines have canceled more than 75,000 domestic flights since Dec. 1, including roughly 14,000 this week. That's 5.5 percent of the 1.35 million flights scheduled during that period, according to AP calculations based on information provided by flight tracking site FlightAware.

It's the highest total number and highest percent of cancellations since at least the winter of 1987-1988, when the Department of Transportation first started collecting cancellation data.

Mother Nature isn't entirely to blame. A mix of cost-cutting measures and new government regulations has made airlines more likely to cancel flights and leave fliers scrambling to get to their destination.

On Thursday, more than 70 percent of flights were canceled in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington D.C. and Charlotte, N.C. thanks to a winter storm that paralyzed most air traffic along the East Coast. Ice storms this winter have caused major headaches in typically warm cities like Atlanta, Dallas and Houston.

Judge declares ban on same-sex marriage in Virginia unconstitutional

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — In a federal court ruling echoing decisions reached elsewhere in the U.S., Virginia on Thursday became the first state in the South to overturn a voter-approved prohibition of same-sex marriage.

U.S. District Judge Arenda Wright Allen issued a stay of her order while it is appealed, meaning that gay couples in Virginia still will not be able to marry until the case is ultimately resolved. Both sides believe the case won't be settled until the Supreme Court decides to hear it or one like it.

Allen's decision makes Virginia the second state in the South to issue a ruling recognizing the legality of gay marriages.

A judge in Kentucky ruled Wednesday that the state must recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states. But that judge did not rule on the constitutionality of same-sex marriages inside the state. Decisions similar to that of the Virginia judge have been issued in Utah and Oklahoma federal courts.

The office of newly elected Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring took the unusual step of not defending the law because it believes the ban violates the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. In her ruling, Wright Allen agreed.

Oscar Pistorius says he mourns for girlfriend on 1st anniversary of day he killed her

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Oscar Pistorius, the celebrated athlete who became a murder suspect, said Friday that he is consumed by grief on the first anniversary of the day that he fatally shot his girlfriend in his home.

The rare statement by the double-amputee runner came ahead of the March 3 start of his trial for the killing of Reeva Steenkamp, shot in her boyfriend's bathroom in the pre-dawn hours of Valentine's Day.

"No words can adequately capture my feelings about the devastating accident that has caused such heartache for everyone who truly loved - and continues to love Reeva," said Pistorius, who told a court last year that he mistook Steenkamp for a dangerous nighttime intruder. Prosecutors allege the track star, who is out on bail, intentionally killed her after an argument.

"The pain and sadness — especially for Reeva's parents, family and friends consumes me with sorrow," Pistorius said. "The loss of Reeva and the complete trauma of that day, I will carry with me for the rest of my life."

The statement from

Pistorius, 27, was unusual because his uncle, Arnold, has normally been quoted in statements from his camp, which has sought to shield the runner from intense media and public interest in a case that transfixed many people around the world.

Japanese online retailer Rakuten moves into voice calls with Viber purchase for \$900 million

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's Rakuten Inc. is buying Cyprus-based Viber Media, which operates a popular Internet phone application, for \$900 million, fortifying the online retailer's social networking footprint.

The Tokyo-based company said Friday it sees Viber, with 280 million global users, as a key platform as people are moving from TVs and computers to mobile devices to consume and enjoy content.

Rakuten, which competes with Amazon.com and Yahoo, has been successful with online shopping in Japan, where it is the top Internet retailer.

But it is eager to expand in scope as well as outside Japan.

Comcast merger with Time Warner cable worries, outrages customers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Comcast and Time Warner Cable regularly rank at the bottom of the pay TV industry when it comes to customer satisfaction. So it didn't take long for customers to vent frustrations online over high prices, spotty service and fears of a monopoly after Comcast announced its \$45 billion purchase of Time Warner Cable.

Outrage that these two big cable companies would join hands to form an even more massive entity spurred a cascade of sarcastic tweets and satirical memes: the killer Death Star battle station from "Star Wars," the evil Eye of Sauron from "The Lord of the Rings," and a "South Park" snippet where character Eric Cartman and friends are tormented by cable employees before a logo curiously similar to Time Warner Cable's own.

Consumers weren't buying the assertion of Comcast CEO Brian Roberts that the combination, which will have 30 million TV and Internet subscribers, would be "pro-consumer and pro-competitive."

Using a contorted logic, the two companies are expected to argue to anti-trust regulators that the fact they don't directly compete against each other in many parts of America shows the deal won't reduce competition and therefore should be approved.

But it is that lack of overlap, and lack of choice, which is at the root of customer frustration, according to America Customer Satisfaction Index managing director David VanAmburg. Cable companies that purposely don't compete against each other to provide fast Internet or reliable TV service can get away with not fully meeting customer needs in markets where they dominate.

Military food researchers say they're near the holy grail: MRE pizza that lasts 3 years

NATICK, Mass. (AP) — They call it the holy grail of ready-to-eat meals for soldiers — a pizza that can stay on the shelf for up to three years and still remain good to eat.

Soldiers have been asking for pizza since lightweight individual field rations — known as meals ready to eat, or MREs — replaced canned food in 1981 for soldiers in combat zones or areas where field kitchens cannot be set up.


Researchers at a U.S. military lab in Massachusetts are closing in on a recipe that doesn't require any refrigeration or freezing.

"You can basically take the pizza, leave it on the counter, packaged, for three years and it'd still be edible," said Michelle Richardson, a food scientist at the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center.

U.S. sees more delay likely in finalizing security agreement with Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration has quietly stopped demanding that Afghan President Hamid Karzai finalize a stalled security pact within weeks, opening up the possibility that a decision on keeping U.S. and international forces in Afghanistan after this year might not be made until after Karzai's successor is elected this spring.

While U.S. officials say they still strongly prefer that the agreement be signed quickly, they did not rule out the possibility of waiting to see if a new Afghan leader might be easier to work with. Pushing off the decision on keeping troops in Afghanistan comes with increased risks and complications.



By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has gone:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	3 ♣	Pass

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠ KJ8742 ♥ 643 ♦ KQ ♣ A7
- ♠ KQ9542 ♥ — ♦ A83 ♣ KQ74
- ♠ KQJ1093 ♥ J6 ♦ 5 ♣ AJ62
- ♠ AJ7652 ♥ J98 ♦ 10 ♣ AQ9

- Three hearts.** Partner obviously has a good hand, since he has made two forcing bids, but caution is needed to reach the best contract. Only two bids can be considered — namely, three hearts and three notrump.
- Five clubs.** Hands rise and fall in value, depending on partner's (and sometimes the opponents') bids. Thus, the initial two-heart bid took a lot of wind out of your sails, but the three-club bid has now added signif-

icantly to your hand's original value. To raise to four clubs at this point would be inadequate. This could all too easily be read merely as a forced response to partner's forcing bid of three clubs. Now that the club fit has been discovered, you have much more than a minimum opening bid, and the best way to indicate this sudden improvement is to jump to five clubs.

- Four spades.** Game in spades is practically certain, as it is difficult to imagine losing four tricks opposite whatever partner has to contribute. Your spades are playable as trump even if partner is void, so showing your club support is unnecessary.
- Four hearts.** This hand, with 12 high-card points, is far more promising for game purposes than 11and No. 1, with its 13 points. The difference is one of fit.

In the first hand, you started with a minimum opening bid, and it pretty much stayed that way throughout. You therefore did nothing more than show a preference for hearts. But here, with better heart and club support, and especially because of your singleton diamond, your hand is no longer in the minimum class. The jump-preference is used to express these additional values in case partner is interested in slam.

Tomorrow: A double-barreled endplay.
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Attorney At Law

Family Law And Criminal Law

Ward & Myers, L.L.P.





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Sudoku Answer on Page 3

sudoku

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

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

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News in brief

Abilene mom given 30 years in daughter's death

ABILENE, Texas (AP) — A West Texas woman was sentenced to 30 years in prison Thursday for the starvation death of her 22-month-old daughter, who was found dead in her crib inside a squalid home while her father was on an Air Force deployment.

Tiffany Klapheke could have gotten life in prison after being found guilty Wednesday of injury to a child by malnutrition and dehydration in the 2012 death of her daughter, Tamryn.

The 23-year-old Klapheke did not testify at trial, but she has said her now ex-husband's deployment left her too stressed to care for the couple's three girls.

"I really wasn't a good mom the past few days," she told an Abilene police detective on Aug. 26, 2012, the day police found Tamryn dead at the family home. "I've been honest even though it makes me look horrible."

A video of the interview was played at her trial.

"I don't want you to take them away because I was lazy," Klapheke told the detective.

Investigators told the jury about the stench of urine and feces that prevailed in the Klapheke home when they arrived. Prosecutors alleged that Klapheke's two older daughters were not being fed.

According to the Abilene Reporter-News, prosecutor Joel Wilks said in his closing argument that Klapheke "turned her back," adding: "She shuts the door and she leaves. She leaves that child in pain."

Texan charged with abuse over burped, injured son

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A South Texas man has been charged with child abuse after he allegedly caused a brain injury to his then-2-month-old son while burping the baby.

Ryan Schwope of Alamo Heights has been charged with causing serious bodily injury to a child. Online Bexar County jail records don't list attorney information for Schwope, who was released Thursday on \$25,000 bond.

An arrest affidavit says Schwope told Alamo Heights police that he might have slapped the baby too hard while burping him. Police say the incident happened in November as Schwope watched the baby overnight, for the first time by himself, while the mother worked. The suspect's 3-year-old son was also home.

Doctors say the baby suffered brain injury and had a seizure.

Further details on the infant weren't immediately available.

Brush-eating goats could help Texas firefighters

VICTORIA, Texas (AP) — Some hungry goats have been put on two months of fire-prevention duty in South Texas.

City officials in Victoria are renting the barnyard animals as part of an experiment for the goats to eat dry, flammable brush at Riverside Park.

Fire prevention officials at the Texas A&M Forest Service are monitoring the project involving more than two dozen goats trucked each day to the park. The animals eat their way through sometimes poisonous scrub that's closed parts of Riverside Park since 1998.

Goat owners Terry and Susan Hatfield get \$1,200 a week for the project that began Monday. The Hatfields run a petting zoo in Port Lavaca.

Councilman Tom Halepaska, who backs the program, says the goats can easily make their way along the steep banks of the river.

Ex-Victoria trainer gets 15 years for student sex

VICTORIA, Texas (AP) — An ex-athletic trainer for a South Texas district has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for having sex with a student at her home and in a school parking lot.

Jurors in Victoria late Thursday sentenced 33-year-old Jesse Earl Holmes in the case involving a 15-year-old girl.

The Victoria Advocate reports Holmes on Tuesday pleaded guilty to two counts of sexual assault of a child.

Holmes was hired by the Victoria Independent School District in 2010. Investigators say he was an athletic trainer at Victoria East High School when he had sex with the girl in the fall of 2012, plus sent sexually explicit texts to several students.

Dozen immigrants in stolen SUV caught

FLATONIA, Texas (AP) — A stolen SUV chase in Central Texas has led to a dozen people who were crammed in the vehicle facing immigration or human smuggling charges.

The Fayette County Sheriff's Office says a deputy and a Texas trooper on Thursday pursued the SUV on Interstate 10 near Flatonia, about 80 miles east of San Antonio. Sheriff Keith Korenek says the driver refused to stop until the SUV ran out of roadway atop a hill.

Flatonia police helped arrest the dozen individuals who tried to run.

Investigators detained the driver on human trafficking and evading arrest charges. The other 11 people were turned over to federal immigration agents in the Houston area.

Authorities did not immediately provide additional information on the immigrants or say a possible destination.

Human remains found at retention pond

HOUSTON (AP) — Investigators will try to identify skeletal remains discovered at a Houston-area retention pond.

Authorities say some people walking nearby found the remains Thursday night in the pond in northwest Harris County.

The remains are so decomposed that authorities could not immediately determine the gender or age of the person.

Further details weren't immediately available.

Body in Texas believed to be missing Colo. woman

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Police say they believe a body found in suburban San Antonio is that of a Colorado woman missing nearly four weeks.

The San Antonio Express-News reports Garden Ridge police believe the body found Thursday is that of 33-year-old Leanne Bearden.

Police say Bearden's ID and jewelry were found with the body. Few other details were released.

An autopsy was planned.

Bearden and her husband, Josh, are from the Denver area and had been staying at his parents' home in Garden Ridge. She was last seen Jan. 17 when she left her in-laws' home for a walk. The body was found in a wooded area less than a mile from where she was last seen.

The couple had been traveling the world for the past two years.

Police: iPod links rape suspect to other attacks

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas police say a 27-year-old man they've linked to attacks on three women may have been involved in as many as 10 more assaults.

Jesus Madrid-Dubon is being held on two counts of aggravated sexual assault and one count of aggravated kidnapping.

He was arrested last week in connection with the rape at gunpoint of a 16-year-old girl.

Deputy Police Chief Gil Garza said Thursday that police have located an iPod at the home of Madrid-Dubon's mother that contains videos of attacks on about 10 women.

One of those women reported a rape to Dallas police in August.

Madrid-Dubon is being held on \$200,000 bail. Jail records say he declined an attorney.

Texas woman admits to obtaining records

SHERMAN, Texas (AP) — Federal prosecutors say a North Texas woman who worked as a translator for U.S. forces in Afghanistan has admitted she illegally obtained classified military records.

Thirty-nine-year-old Farida Yusufi pleaded guilty Thursday to federal charges that include theft of government records.

Prosecutors say FBI agents in March searched her McKinney home, north of Dallas, and found classified documents she obtained while embedded with U.S. forces.

She admits in court documents to taking a leave schedule and weapons assignment roster for a military unit with which she was embedded in Afghanistan.

She's also accused of making false statements to FBI agents investigating her.

A message left with her Seattle attorney, Charles Swift, was not immediately returned.

Court revives transgender widow's legal fight

HOUSTON (AP) — A Texas appeals court on Thursday overturned a judge's ruling that had voided the marriage of a transgender widow whose firefighter husband died battling a blaze.

The 13th Texas Court of Appeals sent the case of Nikki Araguz back to the lower court, saying "there is a genuine issue of material fact regarding (Araguz's) sex and whether the marriage was a same sex marriage."

In 2011, state District Judge Randy Clapp in Wharton County ruled that the marriage between Nikki Araguz and her husband Thomas Araguz was "void as a matter of law."

Thomas Araguz's mother and his first wife had challenged the marriage's validity, arguing the fallen firefighter's estate should go to his two sons because Nikki Araguz was born a man and Texas does not recognize same-sex marriage.

Nikki Araguz, 38, had argued in court she had done everything medically and legally possible to show she is female and was legally married under Texas law.

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Church News

Blessed Hands

Deaf Church

Pastor Jim Walterhouse invites you to worship services at 2 Sunday afternoon. Come and be a part of this growing congregation as they praise and thank God for all He is doing in, and through, the deaf community in our area. Currently, Blessed Hands Deaf Church meets inside First Baptist Church at 705 W. FM 700. For additional information, call FBC at 267-8223 and someone will be able to give you contact information for Pastor Walterhouse.

First Baptist Church

Are you in need of a do-over? God tells us in Revelation 21:5 that He is making all things new. Make Sunday a new beginning, and join us for worship services at 10:50. Pastor Mark Lindsey continues the message series "Three in One," focusing on God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

At 9:30, the New Beginnings class invites you to get acquainted with First Baptist Church, as Pastor Lindsey directs the group in answering the questions: 'Who am I?'

What do we believe? How do we operate? and How do I fit in? Everyone is welcome to participate, whether you are new to the church, a long time member, or a seeker who is interested in the church.

Also meeting at 9:30 are Sunday school classes for all ages and life stages. Greeters at each door will assist you in finding your group; come early for coffee and fellowship.

All area children are invited at 5:30 for AWANA (Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed), which is an exciting time of playing games, singing songs, learning scripture, and hearing a Bible lesson. This week is Tower Night, where we will learn about the Tower of Babel, and game time will use marshmallows and raw spaghetti in very unusual ways. Don't miss the fun.

At 6, we gather for evening worship in the chapel, while Youth Pastor Jonathan Raffini leads the teens in worship in the second floor Youth department.

In preparation for graduation, a special six-week class titled "Sticky Faith" is offered for students and parents. The students' class begins Feb. 23 at 9:30 and the parents' class will start April 6. The teachings are designed to include everyday ideas to build lasting faith in your kids. There is a retreat planned for junior high students Feb. 28-March 1 in Dallas. Contact Jonathan Raffini at 267-8223 for detailed information.

All area women are invited to a Bible Study beginning Feb. 24 at 9:30 in the conference room. The seven-session study is titled "Brave: Honest Questions Women Ask" by Angela Thomas. Contact the church at 267-8223 if you will need childcare.

Upward Basketball continues Saturday; go to fbcbigspring.org for schedule details. An end of season ceremony is planned for Feb. 22 which will feature Captain Escape.

In the Mother's Day Out program,

applications are being accepted for substitute teachers. Contact Tracy Boeker at tboeker90@gmail.com or 267-8223 for additional information.

Wednesday evenings begin with a meal served from 5-6, followed by activities for children, youth, and adults. Come in the east doors and join us for poppy seed chicken Feb. 19.

Stop by the church or call 267-8223 and someone will be happy to listen, pray with you and talk with you about Jesus Christ who is the King of New Beginnings. First Baptist Church is located at 705 W. FM 700. There is always a place for you.

First Presbyterian

The Children's Choir meets at 4:20 p.m. on Wednesdays. The Lectionary Bible Study, led by the Rev. Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, meets in the library at 5:17, and the Chancel Choir meets for practice at 6 p.m.

Ushers for February are Bob Bennett, Buddy Cochrane, Ellen Austin and Jenn Patterson. Liturgist for the month is Danny Kennemur. Susan Wilson is in charge of refreshments for "Take Ten" for Sunday.

The meetings for the entire congregation and for small group leaders with Anne Philbrick of the New Beginnings program have been rescheduled for Feb. 26 and 27, giving our members another month to get them on their calendars. We hope to see everyone at the Wednesday meeting to learn how we can set our church on a new beginning.

February 16 and 23, the Service Committee is having its annual hygiene drive, asking for toiletries and health care products to give to those in need.

Lectionary for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time is Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; I Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37. The Rev. Holstedt will deliver the sermon. The Chancel Choir will offer "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee," by Jody W. Lindh.

If you cannot attend worship, listen to KBST 1490 AM, beginning at 11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for the service, please call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: www.fpcbs.org On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Rev. Holstedt.

Living Waters

Living Waters, a new church starting in Big Spring that is committed to a dynamic spirit-filled worship service, is looking for worship team members. We are looking for all instruments, vocalist, soundman, as well as a worship leader. If you are new to the area and looking for a place to fit in, love praise and worship music, and are committed to exploring cutting-edge sounds, we would love to have you. Come and be a part of this new work God is starting in Big Spring. Call 267-7971.

See CHURCH NEWS, Page 8

Do we really want to shoot the groundhog?

The word is out. Threats are being made against Punxsutawney Phil. Some disgruntled sun worshipers are talking about groundhog stew, roasted rodent loin, and groundhog burgers. Poor Phil doesn't have a chance.



BONNIE WHEAT

It seems that a sizable vigilante group is blaming Phil for the cold weather that has swept across the nation this winter. Whether Phil actually caused the bad weather or just predicted its prolonged presence doesn't seem to matter. Phil is getting the blame for frozen pipes, icy windshields, power outages, and all kinds of aches and pains.

Sadly, Punxsutawney Phil hasn't done anything wrong. All the whiskered rodent did was come out of his hole in the ground to see if his shadow followed him. Now he is being accused of causing six more weeks of unbearably cold weather.

Actually, Phil's troubles are more of a reflection of human nature

than groundhog meteorology. We all need somebody or something to blame when things don't seem to be working out for us. We seem to think inconvenience, discomfort, or botched plans justifies mistreatment of the innocent i.e. Punxsutawney Phil.

Perhaps all of Phil's woes are symbolic of a larger problem - mankind's tendency to complain. We complain about the weather whether it is hot or cold. We complain about the food that we have to eat, the clothes that we have to wear, the water that we drink, and the air that we breathe. We complain about our neighbors, our relatives, and people that we don't even know. We complain about this and that, these and those, what we have or don't have, and anything else that comes to mind.

If we ever get past Punxsutawney Phil's unpopular weather fore-

cast, we might do well to heed the words of the apostle Paul. He wrote, "Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:11-13 NASB).

Perhaps we don't need to point our trigger fingers at the groundhog. Maybe we don't even need to complain about the weather. It might be better if we just joined the apostle Paul in learning how to be content in all circumstances.

Bonnie Wheat is a minister's wife and an author. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net

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Howard soars back to WJCAC lead

Weary, Epps propel HC to easy win over Frank Phillips College

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Following the Howard College Hawks' practice session on Wednesday, head coach Scott Raines didn't act like a coach whose team had won 20 games and was fighting for a berth in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference. To be sure, he wasn't not happy at his team's effort. The proverbial dog house was getting crowded, he admitted.

Fortunately, there aren't as many catching his ire today, especially freshman guard Torrian Epps and sophomore Eric Weary Jr. The two turned in sensational shooting performances on Thursday and powered the Howard College Hawks to an easy - and convincing - 81-57 victory over Frank Phillips in front of a large crowd in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. As a team, the Hawks recovered from a slow start to shoot 65 percent from the field in the first 20 minutes of the game and floored FPC early.

"To be honest, I wasn't very happy about 2-3 minutes into the game," said Raines. "We took a time out and the guys responded. Overall, I couldn't be happier with their effort."

Raines also couldn't be happier with the result of the win. The Hawks' victory, combined with Clarendon College's stunning 105-94 upset of No. 5-ranked South Plains, vaulted the Hawks into a tie for the Western Junior

College Athletic Conference lead. Both teams head into their final four games of the regular season with 9-3 records.

The news didn't start out so well for Raines and the Hawks, however. Howard College struggled to get into a rhythm early into the game. A fact that enabled Frank Phillips to hit a pair of quick baskets and grab a 4-2 lead just 2:49 into the contest.

"I wasn't too happy 2-3 minutes in," he said. "I called a time out to talk to the team. They guys responded."

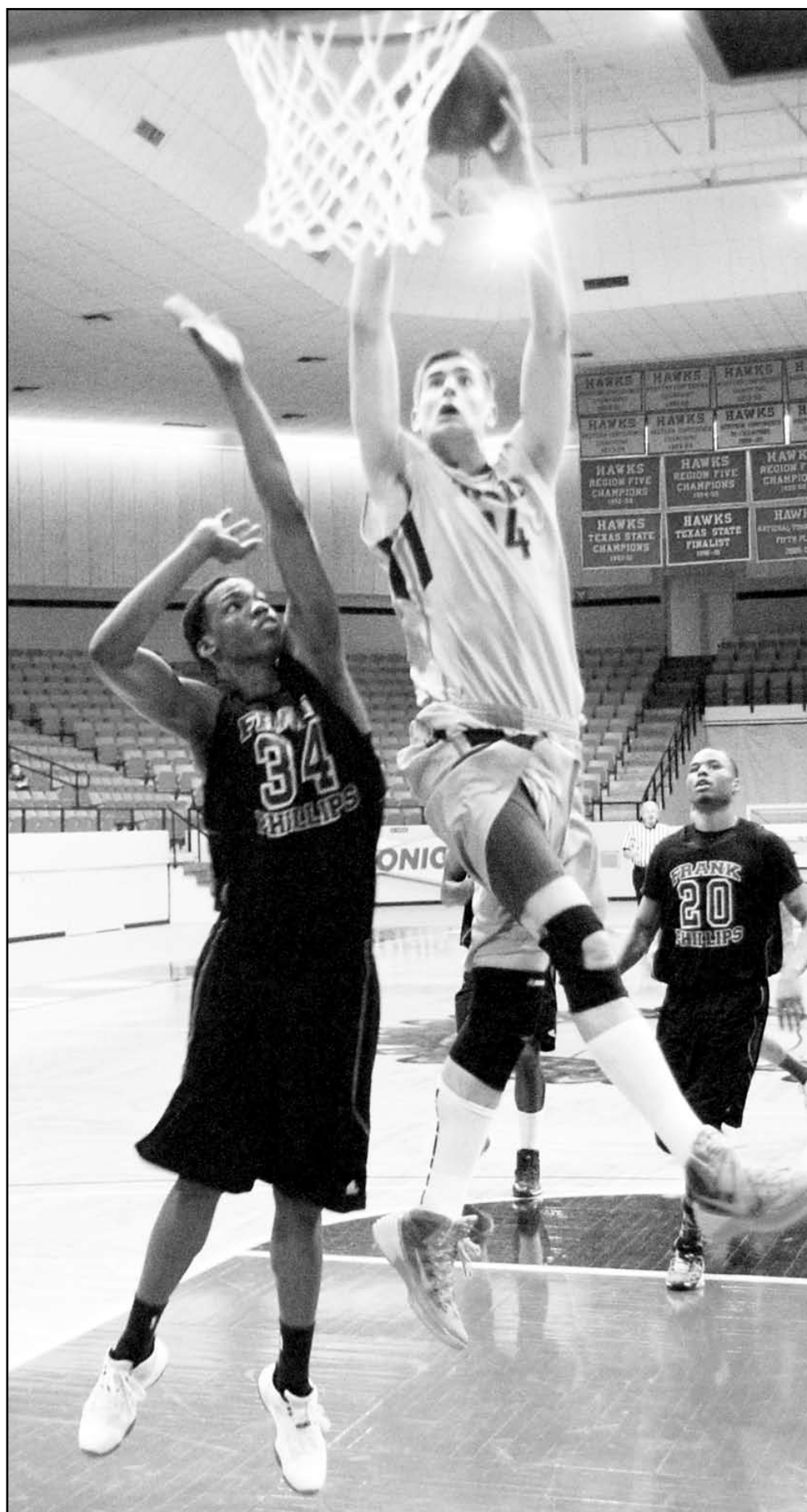
After being held to just a single basket in the initial 4:23 of the game, sophomore point guard David Joseph sparked the HC offense at the 15:37 mark by driving the baseline for a layup. He tacked on the ensuing free throw opportunity to give the Hawks their first lead, at 5-4.

It was a lead Howard would never relinquish. Joseph's basket keyed a 10-2 run by the Hawks over the next 3 minutes that staked Howard College to a 12-6 lead.

Epps led the HC run at the 13:28 mark by draining a three-pointer from the corner.

Epps was far from through torturing the FPC defense. After the Plainsmen had halted the HC run with a shot by Stan Whittaker, Epps reeled off back-to-back buckets in a 22-second span that increase the Hawks' lead to 16-8 at the 10:56 mark of the first half.

See **HAWKS**, Page 11A



Herald photo/Tommy Wells
Howard College freshman Niels Bunschoten prepares to dunk a ball over Frank Phillips' Ngqabutho Sigogo in the closing minutes of the Hawks' 81-57 victory on Thursday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The win vaulted the Hawks to 21-5 and into a tie for first in the WJCAC standings with South Plains.

Hawks control their own destiny

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Howard College men's basketball team is right where head coach Scott Raines wants them. They're in control of their own post-season fate heading into the final two weeks of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference play.

With their win over Frank Phillips on Thursday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, the Hawks moved to 9-3 in conference play and into a tie with South Plains for the WJCAC lead.

"We're looking forward to the next two weeks," said Raines, whose team is 21-5 overall. "Obviously, we have some tough games left, and with three of them being on the road it isn't going to be easy, but we control our own destiny. If we do what we are capable of, it'll be hard to keep us out (of the Region V Basketball Tournament)."

The Hawks' final four games is a Murderer's Row marathon. Of their final four opponents, two (Odessa College and New Mexico Junior College) have been ranked nationally and one other (Western Texas) recently upset No. 5-ranked South Plains.

The Hawks' biggest challenge will likely come Monday when they travel to Odessa. The Wranglers are one of the league's top offensive squads, averaging better than 80 points a night. See **WJCAC**, Page 11A

Lady Hawks end slump in OT

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

Sarah Stinnett has rebounded plenty of basketballs during the season for the Howard College Lady Hawks. None, however, were quite as important as the one she grabbed with 1:19 left in overtime on Thursday night in front of a large crowd in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

With the game tied at 54-54 in overtime, Stinnett pulled are bound out of the air and raced to the other end of the floor before dishing the ball to freshman Bailey Wipff, who was immediately fouled.

Wipff turned the rebound and foul into a pair of free throws and, even more importantly, a wild 57-54 come-from-behind victory over

Frank Phillips College.

With the win, the Lady Hawks snapped a three-game losing streak, and moved to within a game of fifth-place in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference standings.

"That was a huge win for us," said HC head coach Earl Diddle. "The way we came back and finished. I'm really proud of the team and

the refusal to quit."

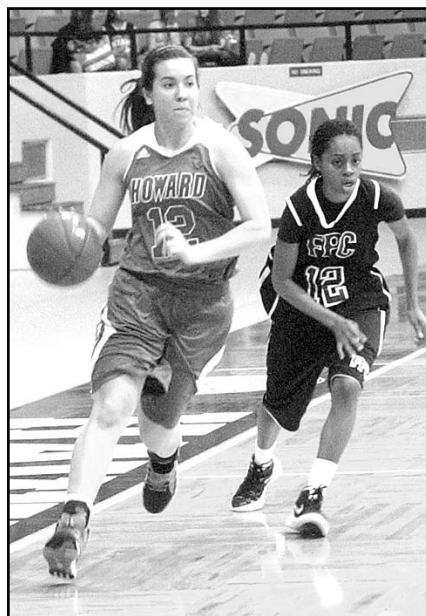
Howard College outscored Frank Phillips by a 5-2 clip in the extra frame to claim the win.

It was more than just a win for the Lady Hawks.

"After the losses we've had, it was a good for us to win this," said Stinnett, the lone sophomore on the HC roster. "It was do-or-die for us."

See **WOMEN**, Page 11A

Howard College's Briana Casas dribbles past FPC's Cheyenne Swoopes during the second half of the Lady Hawks' overtime win on Thursday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.



Herald photo/Tommy Wells

Christoval, Sudan play Area game at 'The Dorothy'

High School basketball playoff fans will get another treat this evening when Sudan and Christoval square off in a Class A Area playoff bout at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The two teams are scheduled to begin playing at 8 p.m., following the Howard Lady Hawks' non-conference game against Southwest Texas Junior College.

The game marks the third postseason game HC has hosted. Several more playoff games are pending.



Herald photo/Tommy Wells

Next step ...

Shawntee Lacy and the Big Spring High School Lady Steers will continue their playoff run tonight when they face Levelland in the Area round. The game will be played in Post, starting at 8 p.m.

Big Spring lands 4 on TSWA All-State squad

The Big Spring High School Steers placed four players on the 63rd Annual Collin Street Bakery/Texas Street Writers Association's Class 3A All-State Football Team, which was released this morning. Among the players named to the squad were Shaiem Menefield, Devin Roberson, Tate Kennedy and Tobyn Tannehill.

Menefield and Roberson earned the highest praise on the postseason squad.

Menefield, a 6-foot, 160-pound senior, was named to the second-team all-state squad as

a defensive back, while Roberson was a third-team selection as a defensive back and an honorable mention pick as a wide receiver.

Roberson recently signed to play next fall at Tarleton State University.

Kennedy, a 6-foot-4, 175-pound senior, was also named to the honorable mention team as a receiver.

A junior, Tannehill was an honorable mention pick at quarterback.

The four selections helped Big Spring advance deep into the Class 3A playoffs this season.

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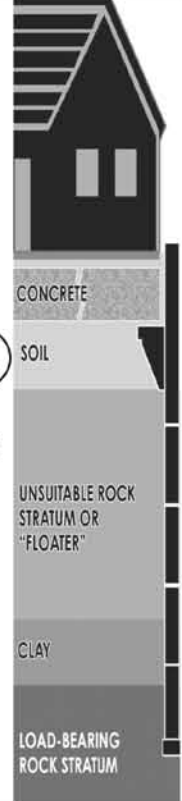
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Big Spring



Saint Valentine's Day

February 14

Heartfelt Valentine's Day Greetings

Hope I can make you this happy for the rest of your life, Amanda



Happy Valentine's Day
Your Future Husband, Tony

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

Love & Miss You!



♥ Karen & Mom

Happy Valentine's Day, Michelle Barton!



Love You, Derwin

Happy Valentine's Day...
...to my favorite boys!!




Love, Kitty

Paisley Brooke Evans
11-Mos.

Roses are red like Paisley's cheeks
Violets are blue like Paisley's eyes
Sugar is sweet and so is she.

Who loves you baby?
PaPa Barraza and Me!



HAPPY 1ST VALENTINE'S DAY TO OUR SWEET BABY GIRL!



We Love You: Pace'Lei Grace Lance!
♥ Mommy & Daddy

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!



Love, Nana & Grandpa!

Denise,

EVERY BREATH I TAKE, EVERY BEAT OF MY HEART I THINK OF YOU. YOU ARE THE LOVE OF MY LIFE. A WONDERFUL MOTHER, A LOVING COMPANION TO SHARE LIFE WITH. I LOOK FORWARD TO EACH DAY AND GROWING OLD WITH YOU. IT WAS SAID BEST IN THE SONG IN OUR WEDDING OVER 24 YEARS AGO. YOU ARE THE LOVE OF MY LIFE, YOU'RE MY LADY.

Forever,
Robert

Happy Valentine's Day!



Love, Grandpa & Nana

Happy Valentine's Day!



Mi Ser I Love You!
Gilbert

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY



Love You With All My Heart
Tony

Be My Valentine!



Valentine's

Love You, Rick