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MONDAY
MARCH 10, 2014

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Atmos increase on council agenda

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

After months of negotiations, Big Spring city officials are poised to approve a modified rate increase by Atmos Energy.

Big Spring City Council will consider approval of the rate increase when it meets at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in council chambers, 307 E. Fourth.

Atmos' rate increase has been the subject of intense negotiations between the natural gas supplier and a coalition of cities including Big Spring.

The fact Atmos was seeking a rate increase wasn't a point of contention with Big Spring and other West Texas representatives. What has been a sticking point, however, is agreements Atmos has

reached with other cities.

Amarillo and Lubbock representatives reached agreements with Atmos that are favorable to the terms the company is seeking from the West Texas coalition, Darden said, and Big Spring and other communities in this area wanted the same treatment.

The tentative agreement between Atmos and the West Texas coalition reduces the

company's overall rate increase from \$12 million to slightly more than \$8 million, which will mean an average monthly increase of 77 cents for residential customers.

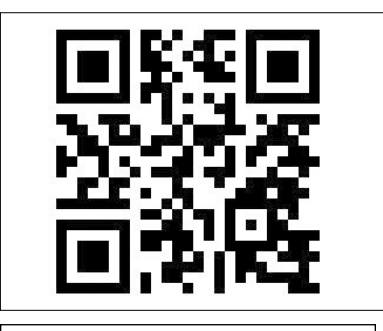
"In addition, and most importantly, the negotiated result reflects a cost of service for the company based on its entire system, which means

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

What: Big Spring City Council meeting
Where: Council chambers, 307 E. Fourth St.
When: 5:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Ann Duncan, left, and Bill Schaffner prepare to cook up another batch of flapjacks during the Kiwanis Club of Big Spring's annual pancake supper at the Howard College cafeteria Friday evening. Club officials said this year's supper was one of the most successful ever.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan



Gallup: Uninsured rate drops, health law cited

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With just three weeks left to sign up under President Barack Obama's health care law, a major survey tracking the rollout finds that the uninsured rate keeps going down.

The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, released Monday, found that 15.9 percent of U.S. adults are uninsured thus far in 2014, down from 17.1 percent for the last three months — or calendar quarter— of 2013.

That translates roughly to 3 million to 4 million people getting coverage.

Gallup said the share of Americans who lack coverage is on track to drop to the lowest quarterly level it measured since 2008, before Obama took office.

The survey found that almost every major demographic group made progress getting health insurance, although Hispanics lagged.

With the highest uninsured rate of any racial or ethnic group, Latinos were expected to be major beneficiaries of the new health care law. They are a

relatively young population and many are on the lower rungs of the middle class, holding down jobs that don't come with health insurance.

But the outreach effort to Hispanics got off to a stumbling start. The Spanish-language enrollment website, CuidadodeSalud.gov, was delayed due to technical problems. Its name sounds like a clunky translation from English: "Care of Health." A spot check of the Spanish site on Sunday showed parts of it still use a mix of Spanish and English to convey information, which can make insurance details even more confusing.

All indications point to lackluster Latino numbers, prompting the administration to make a special pitch as the end of open enrollment season approaches on March 31. The president was on Spanish-language television networks last week to raise awareness.

Gallup found the biggest drop in the uninsured rate was among households making less than \$36,000 a year — a decline of 2.8 percentage points.

See **GALLUP**, Page 3

Gas prices rise slightly, survey shows

Special to the Herald

Average retail gasoline prices in Texas have risen 3.7 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.24 a gallon Sunday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 gas outlets in Texas.

This compares with the national average that has increased 3.4 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.47 a gallon.

Including the change in gas prices in Texas during the past week, prices yesterday were 29.3 cents per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 14.8 cents per gallon higher than a month ago.

The national average has increased 18.5 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 19.1 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

"Unsurprisingly, the surge in the national average has continued over the last week," said GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan.

See **GAS**, Page 3

INDEX

Comics	9
Classified	5-8
Police	2
Obituaries	2
Sports	4,10

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Obituaries

James "Coach" Collinsworth



James "Coach" Collinsworth, 76, of Big Spring, died Saturday March 8, 2014, at his residence. The family will receive friends 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be 2 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Reverend Ken McMeans officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born Oct. 29, 1937, in Shamrock, Texas, to Zoe and Clinton Charles Collinsworth. He grew up in Shamrock and graduated from West Texas State University. He coached and taught in Childress, Spearman, Coleman and Big Spring. He came to Big Spring in 1985. He retired from Big Spring Independent School District where he coached, taught biology and driver's education. He was a member of First United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Carla Collinsworth of Big Spring; four sons, Rick Collinsworth and his wife Cindy of Amarillo, Texas, Cary Collinsworth and his wife Kim of Clovis, N.M., Cam Collinsworth and his wife Angie of Amarillo, Texas, Rob Dennis and his wife Ashley of Nashville, Tenn.; one daughter: Angela Smithie of Big Spring; 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents he is preceded in death by two brothers, Eugene Collinsworth and Ralph Collinsworth. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home and Chapel. Please pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Frances McKiski

Frances McKiski, 60, of Big Spring died Sunday, March 9, 2014, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jacques T. Newton

Jacques T. Newton, 93, of Big Spring died Saturday March 8, 2014 at Parkview Nursing and Rehab Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Fidel Martinez

Fidel Martinez, 57, of Big Spring died Saturday, March 8, 2014, at University Medical Center in Lubbock. Services are pending at Myers & Smith

Police blotter

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

- LORI MICHELLE KIRBY, 43, of 1800 Wallace, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- FERNANDO SAUCEDO, 51, of 5015 Wasson Rd., was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated with child passenger.
- RODOLFO HERNANDEZ III, 19, of 1002 N. Main was arrested Sunday on charges of public intoxication, consumption of alcohol by a minor, no drivers license when unlicensed, failed to maintain financial responsibility and 10 counts of fail to appear.
- BRYSON LENARD REED, 30, of 1401 N. Highway 87 apt. 1503, was arrested Sunday on a warrant from another agency.
- RONALD STACY, 38, of 1906 Alabama, was arrested Sunday on a warrant from another agency.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported at the 3100 block of S. Highway 87 and 3400 E. Interstate Highway 20.
- INTOXICATED DRIVER was reported at EB 161.
- DISTURBANCE reported at he 1000 block of Main.
- THEFT reported at the 200 block of W. FM 700.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING reported at the 6400 block of Permenter Rd.
- MINOR ACCIDENT reported at the 200 block of Corbell Rd.
- HARASSMENT reported at the 4200 block of Parkway.
- SHOTS FIRED was reported at the 3-4 block of West LEC.

Sheriff

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

ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE
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Support Groups

MONDAY

- VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.
- 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.

- Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the back of the church.

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

TUESDAY

- Noon — The Just For Today Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets in Room 3 at Spring Creek Fellowship, 501 Birdwell Lane.
- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

- Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerriroosenbaum9488@msn.com

- VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 62 inmates at the time of this report.

- LYNDON TRENT FRALEY was booked by HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid with previous conviction/suspension without final resolution.

- DANIEL RUSSELL QUALLS was booked by BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram and possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces.

- JUSTIN ROBERT HOELSCHER was booked by HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

- FRANCISCO JAVIER GARCIA JR. was booked by BSPD on a charge of theft less than \$50.

- TRAVIS NEAL McMILLAN was booked by HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- MITCHELL MCCULLOUGH WHITE was booked by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- JESSICA ELIZABETH WRIGHT was booked by DPS on capias pro fine/disorderly conduct and theft of property greater than or equal to \$500 but less than \$1,500.

- KYLA RENEE WRIGHT was booked by DPS on charges of driving while license invalid (DWLI) with previous conviction/suspension without final resolution and bail jumping failure to appear DWLI.

- DONNI KAY ROBERTSON was booked by BSPD on a charge of robbery.

- STEVEN VANCE WEAVER was booked by HCSO on a charge of fail to maintain financial responsibility.

- LORI MICHELLE KIRBY was booked by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- FERNANDO SAUCEDO was booked by BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated with child less than 15 years of age.

- RODOLFO HERNANDEZ III was booked by BSPD on charges of public intoxication, consumption of alcohol by a minor, no driver's license, fail to maintain financial responsibility and 10 counts of failure to appear.

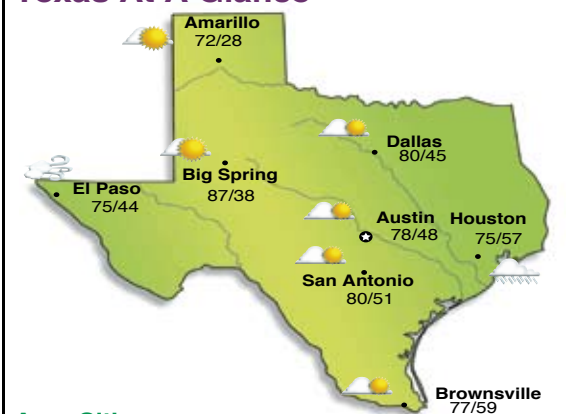
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 3/11	Wed 3/12	Thu 3/13	Fri 3/14	Sat 3/15
87/38 A few clouds early, otherwise mostly sunny. Very warm. High 87F.	59/31 Sunny and wind. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 30s.	67/38 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	78/42 Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 40s.	77/43 Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 8:01 AM Sunset: 7:51 PM	Sunrise: 8:00 AM Sunset: 7:52 PM	Sunrise: 7:59 AM Sunset: 7:53 PM	Sunrise: 7:57 AM Sunset: 7:53 PM	Sunrise: 7:56 AM Sunset: 7:54 PM

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Texas At A Glance



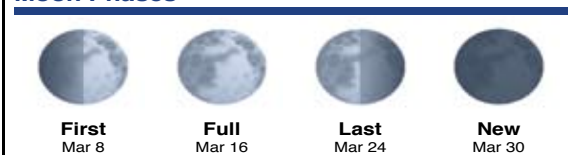
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	86	41	mst sunny	Kingsville	81	56	rain
Amarillo	72	28	mst sunny	Livingston	76	52	rain
Austin	78	48	pt sunny	Longview	77	49	pt sunny
Beaumont	71	57	rain	Lubbock	83	31	sunny
Brownsville	77	59	pt sunny	Lufkin	77	55	rain
Brownwood	86	43	mst sunny	Midland	85	40	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	76	57	rain	Raymondville	79	57	pt sunny
Corsicana	78	45	pt sunny	Rosenberg	75	56	rain
Dallas	80	45	pt sunny	San Antonio	80	51	pt sunny
Del Rio	87	54	mst sunny	San Marcos	78	48	pt sunny
El Paso	75	44	windy	Sulphur Springs	79	46	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	83	41	windy	Sweetwater	86	39	mst sunny
Gainesville	79	39	mst sunny	Tyler	77	48	pt sunny
Greenville	77	42	pt sunny	Weatherford	81	40	mst sunny
Houston	75	57	rain	Wichita Falls	83	39	mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	76	57	pt sunny	Minneapolis	38	18	sn shower
Boston	53	33	pt sunny	New York	59	41	pt sunny
Chicago	45	24	rain	Phoenix	79	53	sunny
Dallas	80	45	pt sunny	San Francisco	66	49	rain
Denver	42	22	mixed	Seattle	52	39	rain
Houston	75	57	rain	St. Louis	77	36	pt sunny
Los Angeles	77	54	mst sunny	Washington, DC	72	49	pt sunny
Miami	83	69	pt sunny				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Tue 3/11	Wed 3/12	Thu 3/13	Fri 3/14	Sat 3/15
7	7	7	7	7

- RONALD DWAYNE STACY was booked by revocation of community supervision of driving while intoxicated 2nd offense.

- BRYSON LENARD REED was booked by BSPD on a charge of felony 2nd burglary of habitation.

Fire/EMS

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

FRIDAY

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT reported at the intersection of 17th St. and Jennings. No transport.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT reported at the 1600 block of W. FM 700. Service refused.

- MEDICAL call reported at the 900 block of Lancaster. No information.

- MEDICAL call reported at the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One patient transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

SATURDAY

- MEDICAL call reported at the 1700 block of Lancaster. One patient transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL call reported at the 2200 block of Main. One patient transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL call reported at the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One patient transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL call reported at the 1600 block of Lancaster. One patient transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA call reported at the 1800 block of Nolan. One patient transported to SMMC.

- STRUCTURE FIRE reported at the 2400 block of Scurry. Extinguished.

SUNDAY

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT reported at the 1800 block of Highway 350. One patient transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL call reported at the 1100 block of Wood. One patient transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL call reported at the 1200 block of Frazier. One patient transported to SMMC.



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News in brief

Investigators pursue 'every angle' on missing Boeing 777 as search fails to find any trace

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Dozens of ships and aircraft have failed to find any piece of the missing Boeing 777 jet that vanished more than two days ago above waters south of Vietnam as investigators pursued "every angle" to explain its disappearance, including hijacking, Malaysia's civil aviation chief said Monday.

Malaysian maritime officials found some oil slicks in the South China Sea and sent a sample to a lab to see if it came from the plane, the Department of Civil Aviation chief, Azharuddin Abdul Rahman, told a news conference.

Hundreds of distraught relatives were gathered in a hotel in Beijing, waiting to be flown to Malaysia. Of the 227 passengers, two-thirds were Chinese. There were also 38 passengers and 12 crew members from Malaysia, and others from elsewhere in Asia, Europe and North America, including three Americans.

"We accept God's will. Whether he is found alive or dead, we surrender to Allah," said Selamat Omar, a Malaysian whose 29-year-old son Mohamad Khairul Amri Selamat was heading to Beijing for a business trip. He said he was expecting a call from his son after the flight's scheduled arrival time at 6:30 a.m. Saturday. Instead he got a call from the airline to say the plane was missing.

China Communist Party abuses officials into confessions as part of anti-corruption efforts

LILING, China (AP) — The local Chinese official remembers the panic he felt in Room 109. He had refused to confess to bribery he says he didn't commit, and his Communist Party interrogators were forcing his legs apart.

Zhou Wangyan heard his left thigh bone snap, with a loud "ka-cha." The sound nearly drowned out his howls of pain.

"My leg is broken," Zhou told the interrogators. According to Zhou, they ignored his pleas.

China's government is under strong pressure to fight rampant corruption in its ranks, faced with the anger of an increasingly prosperous, well-educated and Internet-savvy public. However, the party's methods for extracting confessions expose its

85 million members and their families to the risk of abuse. Experts estimate at least several thousand people are secretly detained every year for weeks or months under an internal system that is separate from state justice.

In a rare display of public defiance, Zhou and three other party members in Hunan described to The Associated Press the months of abuse they endured less than two years ago,

U.S. plans sweeping new system to constantly monitor habits of workers with secret clearances

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. intelligence officials are planning a sweeping system of electronic monitoring that would tap into government, financial and other databases to scan the behavior of many of the 5 million federal employees with secret clearances, current and former officials told The Associated Press.

The system is intended to identify rogue agents, corrupt officials and leakers, and draws on a Defense Department model under development for more than a decade, according to officials and documents reviewed by the AP.

Intelligence officials have long wanted a computerized system that could continuously monitor employees, in part to prevent cases similar to former National Security Agency analyst Edward Snowden. His disclosures bared secretive U.S. surveillance operations.

An administration review of the government's security clearance process due this month is expected to support continuous monitoring as part of a package of comprehensive changes.

Japan's disaster reconstruction slowed by building boom, manpower shortages

TANOHATA, Japan (AP) — Tens of thousands of people on Japan's northeastern coast who were left homeless in the March 2011 tsunami are shivering their way through yet another winter in cramped temporary housing, with perhaps several more to go.

Reconstruction plans are taking shape after three years of debate and red tape, but shortages of skilled workers and materials are delaying the work. In areas such as Tanohata, a fishing town of 3,800 along a

scenic stretch of craggy cliffs and forests, less than a tenth of the new housing has been built. Overall, the figure is less than 8 percent completed, and less than a quarter of projects started.

As Japan's over-stretched construction industry begins gearing up to build venues and revamp aging infrastructure for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, shortages of skilled carpenters and heavy equipment operators as well as cement and other materials, are frustrating residents and local officials.

"It's just cold, so very cold," Shio Hironai, 53, said of the hut that has served as home since the 20-meter (65-foot) wave slammed into one of the town's tiny coves. "And the roof is caving in. It has been all along."

Japan on Tuesday marks the third anniversary of the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disasters known as 3.11 that killed 15,884 people and left 2,636 unaccounted for on its northern coast. The country has struggled to rebuild tsunami-hit towns and to clean up radiation from the nuclear crisis. It has earmarked 25 trillion yen (\$250 billion) for reconstruction through to March 2016. About 50,000 people from Fukushima are still unable to return home due to concerns over radiation.

Oscar Pistorius trial: Prosecutor says autopsy testimony is graphic, should not be broadcast

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — The chief prosecutor in the murder trial of Oscar Pistorius on Monday asked the judge to bar broadcasting of what he says will be the graphic testimony of the expert who conducted the autopsy on Reeva Steenkamp, who was fatally shot by her athlete boyfriend.

After an adjournment, the court heard arguments about whether to allow audio and video broadcasting of the testimony of Prof. Gert Saayman, head of the forensic medicine department at the University of Pretoria.

Saayman's testimony has an "explicitly graphic nature" and should not be shown around the world, said prosecutor Gerrie Nel, noting that he had the support of chief defense lawyer, Barry Roux.

"It's not a question of press freedom," Nel said.

Saayman said the "very personal nature" of his autopsy findings as well as graphic details about the injuries could "compromise the dignity of the deceased," as well as harm her friends and family, if they are broadcast.

GALLUP

Continued from Page 1

Among blacks, the uninsured rate was down by 2.6 percentage points. It declined by 1 percentage point among whites. But Latinos saw a drop of just eight-tenths of a percentage point.

The Gallup poll is considered authoritative because it combines the scope and depth found in government surveys with the timeliness of media sampling. Pollsters interview 500 people a day, 350 days a year. The latest health care results were based on more than 28,000

interviews, or about 28 times as many as in a standard national poll.

The survey can be an early indicator of broad shifts in society. Gallup saw a modest decline in the uninsured rate in January, and now two full months of data indicate a trend is taking shape.

Gallup said the drop coincides with the start of coverage under the health care law on Jan. 1. The major elements of the Affordable Care Act are now in effect. Virtually all Americans are now required to get covered or risk fines. Insurers can no longer turn away people with health problems. New state-based markets are

offering taxpayer-subsidized private insurance to middle-class households.

Medicaid rolls are also growing, with about half the states agreeing to the program expansion in the law. Low-income people who qualify for Medicaid are able to sign up year-round, so the uninsured rate may

keep going down even after the end of open enrollment for private coverage.

The administration is citing numbers that are far higher: about 4 million people signing up for private coverage, and 9 million for Medicaid.

But those statistics also include people

who already had health insurance and switched to coverage offered under the law. The government numbers also include children, while Gallup focuses on adults.

The survey was based on telephone interviews from Jan. 2-Feb. 28 with a random sample of 28,396 adults aged 18 and

older in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. For results based on the total national sample, the margin of error is plus or minus 1 percentage point, larger for subgroups.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

that the West Texas cities will no longer be subsidizing lower rates of the other cities," stated a letter from the coalition's legal counsel. "The establishment of system-wide rates was a non-negotiable demand of the Steering Committee."

If approved, the new rates will go into effect in April.

In other business, the council will consider:

- A non-emergency ambulance service permit for Powell Professional Services of West Texas, LLC.

- The Economic Development Corporation's annual audit.

- A resolution supporting a Texas Department of Transportation plan to reduce the amount of parking at the southeast corner of Third and Main streets.

- A proposed collection fee of \$240 on past due ambulance service accounts.

- An interlocal agreement with Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission for a solid waste grant.

- Naming of the pavilion at Bert Andries Park.

- Quarterly investment report.

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

GAS

Continued from Page 1

"As refinery maintenance season is now in its prime, and will be for several weeks, motorists could see additional volatility at the pump should issues or unexpected problems arise with this period of maintenance.

"There tends to be

glitches and issues restarting these plants, and the progressive switchover to various blends of gasoline complicates matters further," DeHaan added. "Then, as refineries get back online, the volatility will ebb, and prices will slow their climb-but all of that light at the end of the tunnel remains several weeks away."

GasBuddy operates

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

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

James "Coach" Collinsworth, 76, died Saturday. The family will receive friends from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be 2 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Jacques "Jackie" Newton, 92, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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MANUEL R. CARRASCO, MD

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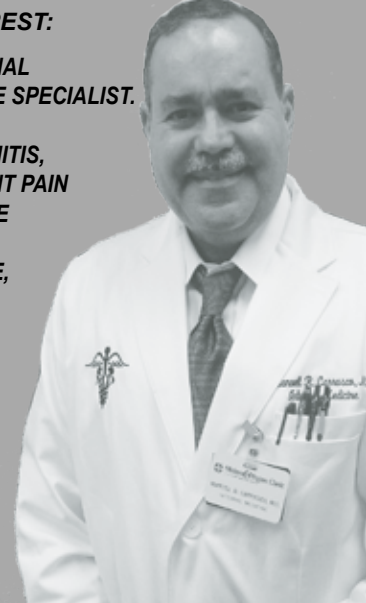
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Big Spring takes 7th at SA Boys' Golf Classic

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School boys' golf team turned in a stellar outing on Saturday at the San Angelo Boys' Golf Classic on Saturday at the Quicksand Golf Course. The Steers finished seventh in the final team standings in the Blue Division with a team total of 694.

San Antonio Alamo Heights won the boys' team crown by rallying past Andrews on the final day of competition. Alamo Heights posted a final round of 312 and finished five strokes ahead on Andrews. Midland Christian was third in the standings at 659.

Mike Pappajohn and Devin Roberson highlighted the Steers' outing.

Pappajohn was Big Spring's top finisher. After posting a first-round mark of 87 on Friday, he turned in a strong effort over the final 18 holes on Saturday. He shot

an 84 in the back 18 and finished with a two-day score of 165.

Roberson turned in a steady outing in the two-day tournament. The BSHS senior carded identical rounds of 84 in each of the two rounds and finished with a score of 168.

Tyler Bryan and Sam Harris also did well at the tournament. Bryan shot rounds of 89 and 94 and finished with a total of 183.

Harris finished at 186 with rounds of 96 and 90, respectively.

Big Spring senior Tate Kennedy, the team's top performer in Friday's opening round, scratched for the meet on Saturday. He had fired an 82 in the first round.

Amarillo Tascosa won the Orange Division of the tournament. Tascosa finished the tournament with a mark of 605 and finished 20 strokes ahead of Odessa Permian.

BSHS girls finish 16th at Andrews meet

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School Lady Steers' golf team finished 16th in the final team standings at the 2014 Andrews Girls' Golf Classic on Saturday.

The Lady Steers did not compete as a team in Saturday's final round due to not having five players. Their first-round total left them in a tie with Fort Stockton for 16th. Fort Stockton also did not compete as a team in the final round.

Mariah McIntosh and Gabby Fair highlighted Big Spring's second-round performance with

solid outings as individuals.

McIntosh fired a final round of 98 and finished with a two-day total of 193. She carded a round of 95 on Friday.

Fair shot a 110 over the final 18 holes of the meet, which was held at the Andrews County Golf Course. She finished with a final mark of 219.

Big Spring's Kelsie Guinn and Briana Cobos did not participate in Saturday's round. Guinn was seventh in the individual standings on Friday with a round of 86. Cobos carded a 100 on Friday.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring junior Julianna Rodriguez was one of three BSHS players named to the District 4-3A girls' all-district squad recently. Joining Rodriguez in earning postseason honors were senior Dyrshae Vanderbilt and sophomore Diamonique Mayes.

Lady Steers put 3 on 4-3A all-district teams

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School Lady Steers capped their 2013-14 high school basketball season recently by having three members of their playoff qualifying squad named to the District 4-3A all-district team. Garnering honors from the district's coaches were Julianna Rodriguez, Dyrshae Vanderbilt and Diamonique Mayes.

Rodriguez highlighted the Lady Steers' selections. The BSHS guard was chosen to the first-team all-district roster after a phenomenal junior season. She led the team in several offensive categories, including three-point shooting.

Vanderbilt and Mayes were both selected to the second-team roster. The two, along with Mayes and senior Alex-

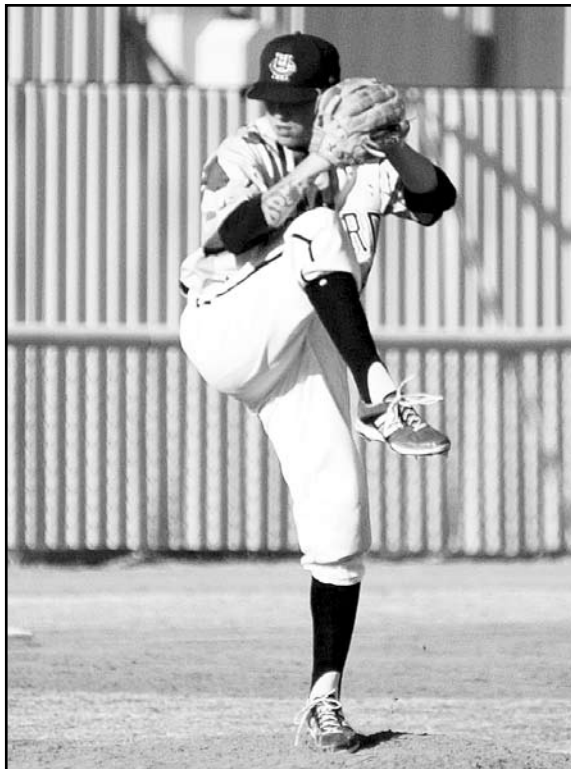
2013-14 4-3A	
All-District Team	
Most Valuable Player	
Brittany Brewer	Abilene Wylie
Offensive MVP	
Amanda Bell	Greenwood
Defensive MVP	
Punkin Mack	Abilene Wylie
Newcomer of the Year	
Oriana Ortiz	Greenwood
First Team	
Morgan McKee, Greenwood; Kali Zimmerman, Greenwood; McKylie Irons, Monahans; Shaneese Brown, Sweetwater; Lindsey Clemmer, Snyder; Dee Carrizales, Snyder; Peyton Sanders, Abilene Wylie; London Weilert, Abilene Wylie; Kinsey Christian, Abilene Wylie; Julianna Rodriguez, Big Spring	
Second Team	
Cylie Mebane, Greenwood; Jesse Weber, Greenwood; Grace Sunderland, Greenwood; Emily Poor, Monahans; Nikki Salazar, Monahans; Kayla Chowning, Sweetwater; Miccah Wesley, Snyder; Priscilla Guzman, Snyder; Chelsea Lambaren, Snyder; Makenley Lunsford, Abilene Wylie; Dyrshae Vanderbilt, Big Spring; Diamonique Mayes, Big Spring	

is Cansino, helped the Lady Steers finish fourth in the district race this season, and advance to the second round of the state playoffs.

Joining Rodriguez on the first-team squad were Greenwood's Morgan McKee and Kali Zimmerman, Monahans' McKylie Irons, Sweetwater's Shaneese Brown, Snyder's Dee Carrizales and Peyton Sanders, and Abilene Wylie's London Weilert and Kinsey Christian.

Greenwood's Amanda Bell was named 4-3A's Offensive Most Valuable Player after averaging 15.9 points and 8.7 rebounds, while teammate Oriana Ortiz was given Newcomer of the Year honors.

Abilene Wylie sophomore Brittany Brewer and Punkin Mack also netted high praise. Brewer was named the district's MVP, while Mack netted the Defensive MVP honors after helping lead the Lady Bulldogs to the district championship and a berth in the Class 3A state basketball tournament.



Herald photo/Tommy Wells

Open day ...

Howard College freshman Kenny Roder goes into his windup during the Hawks' sweep of Western Texas on Friday. Howard College's game with Odessa College on Monday was cancelled. The Hawks' next game will be on March 18 in Plainview against Wayland Baptist University.

SPC earns at-large bid to national tournament

The South Plains College Texans are headed to the men's national junior college tournament after all.

The Texans, who suffered a loss to New Mexico Junior College in the championship game of the Region V Basketball Tournament on Saturday, earned an at-large

berth in the national tournament, which gets under way on March 17 in Hutchinson, Kansas.

South Plains finished the regular season as the Western Junior College Athletic Conference champion.

SPC, which was fifth in the final national poll, was one of four at-large

bids extended by the NJCAA. Also garnering an at-large invitation was Trinity Valley Community College.

Trinity Valley was ranked No. 8 in the NJCAA's final rankings last week, but Paris Junior College won the national tournament berth for Region XIV by

beating TVCC 74-63 Saturday.

Overall, five teams from Region 5 and Region XIV will be in the 24-team tournament — Paris, Hill, NMJC, South Plains and TVCC.

Howard College advanced to the Region V semifinals before falling to NMJC.

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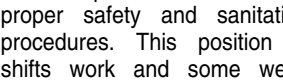
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury and Saturn Urge for Simplicity

Mercury in Aquarius lines up to square Saturn in Scorpio, an aspect that will bust open news, spill secrets and cause a change in our choice of technology, friendship and communal activities. The tendency will be to over-think things, and it might help to ask, "What would be even easier and less involved?" Happiness is keeping it simple.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Someone near you has a secret, and that secret is, "I hurt." It is, perhaps, the most universal secret there is. As you are feeling relatively good, you're in the perfect position to help the situation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Health and responsibility come before

all else for you, and your life flows beautifully from these two values. There also will be time for fun, love, sharing and reveling in what most appeals to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You are not the cause of negative events, but you can still do something about them. Even if all you do is hold a hopeful, cheerful space inside yourself, you will be doing a lot.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Once you do the top important tasks on your list, you'll feel gloriously free to use the day as you wish. Your best day happens when you tackle your list early on and get it out of the way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Business is like a game. The equipment needed to move ahead will be as mental as it is physical. Use your knowledge of psychology to predict your opponent's next move and counter it before it happens.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). An important event is coming up, and you're not quite prepared for it yet. In order to be appropriately

ouffitted, you'll need to do some shopping. Note that shopping isn't always buying.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Just as you cannot cut well with a dull knife, you cannot work well if your skills are rusty. Take the time to sharpen them.

Perhaps you won't be paid for this immediately, but it will pay off in the end.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You cannot make another person happy, but you can provide an environment that welcomes happiness, and this you do expertly. Your efforts to serve those around you will be successful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will have a beautiful day as long as you know your boundaries, honor them and steer clear of those who are likely to ignore them and intrude. Love from a safe distance is still love.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Create positive images involving you being the person you want to be, living the life you want to live. It works for you now.

As you sleep tonight, your brain will assimilate the messaging, moving you in that direction.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Much boils down to how you perceive the causes and consequences of events. Your resolve to see the pluses and advantages in each situation determines the win.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be thinking about the distant future: where you'd like to live, the kinds of people you'll know and how you will spend your time. There's magic in the act of narrowing down your options.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 10). This year features stellar and varied companionship representing love in its many forms. You'll step up your self-care and fitness commitment next month and enjoy a healthier perspective in April. A relationship that needs healing will turn around in May. Negotiate for better wages in June. Sagittarius and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40,

2, 11, 24 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I have birth marks in various places on my body. Seven of them are small dark moles. One on my left shoulder is called a cavernous hemangioma. It used to be large when I was an infant, and now it's barely detectable. I also have what's called a salmon patch on the back of my neck and head. My mother says I had a Mongolian spot on my buttocks when I was an infant, but I've grown out of that. My mother has one or two moles, and my father has none. Do you think it's some kind of sign that I was born with so many skin irregularities?" I do. Then again, I think everything is a sign. But you and I are not alone in suspecting that birthmarks have some kind of cosmic meaning. Divination by birthmarks, a.k.a. moleomancy, has been practiced by many different cultures through the ages. Here's my reading:

The hemangioma on your left shoulder is the imprint of angels who finger-tapped

you before your birth. This is a blessing that comes in the form of knowing what you want to do with your life at an early age. You have an ear for your calling. More on this tomorrow!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Revlon cosmetic brand Almay recently named Carrie Underwood a brand ambassador and the fresh face exemplifying the brand's positive beauty message. The accomplished and yet still relatable country music superstar was born when the sun and Mercury were in Pisces, indicating there is a strong intuitive guidance within her. Venus and Mars in Aries brings endless energy.

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KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

kidney disease. I didn't know that high blood pressure and diabetes are two of the leading causes of this disease. But I learned quickly that early detection and proper treatment can slow its progress.

I learned so much in the following months: why I need to watch my weight, why regular exercise helps and why I need to make sure my high blood pressure is under control. I've been able to maintain the same degree of kidney function since being diagnosed, but not without lots of information and changes in my lifestyle.

March is National Kidney Month. March 13th is World Kidney Day. Won't you help me join the National Kidney Foundation in urging Americans to learn about the risk factors and simple blood and urine tests for kidney disease? There are many free kidney health screenings around the country. The National Kidney Foundation at kidney.org provides information about these

screenings and about staying healthy. Thank you. -- *Gail Rae-Garwood, Glendale, Ariz.*

Dear Gail Rae-Garwood: Thank you so much for sharing your story. We hope our readers will take your advice and check for screenings in their area or discuss their kidney health with their personal physicians. We are sure your letter will help many. Bless you.

Dear Annie: We are in our late 60s. We have four children, and between them, there are 10 grandchildren, ages 2-15. They all live far away, so we don't get to see them often.

For Christmas and birthdays, we spend quite a bit of time and money buying, ordering, wrapping and mailing presents. We never receive a thank-you note, even when we include a self-addressed envelope.

We know you've addressed this issue many times. We don't want to stop sending presents altogether. Should we send a check and stop spending

so much energy on gifts? Should we discuss it with the parents, even though we suspect that would create problems? -- *Frustrated Grandparents*

Dear Frustrated: It's perfectly OK to call the parents (and any grandchild) to ask whether your gift was received, saying you worried it was lost en route. Young children need to be taught to thank those who are kind enough to remember them with gifts, and you can try to instill this, even though it is really the parents' job. And if it would make you feel less put out to send a check, we doubt they would mind. But also suggest to the grandchildren that they acknowledge gifts via email or text. It may not be as proper as a handwritten note, but it is certainly better than nothing, and you are more likely to get a response.

Dear Annie: I think "Grandpa in South Dakota" could teach his voracious

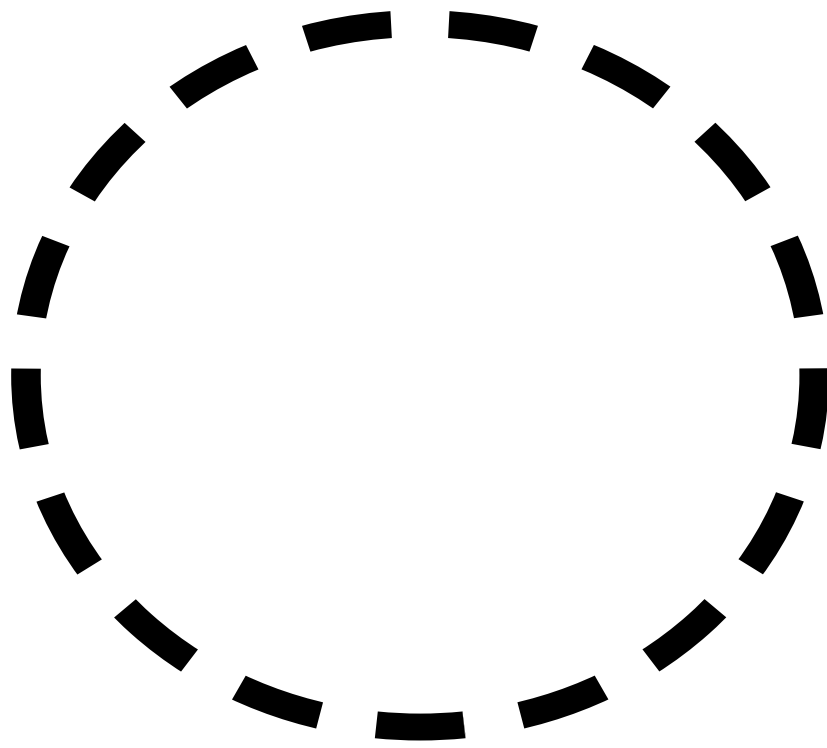
reader of a grandson cursive writing himself. I have heard of schools that have Cursive Clubs because it is no longer taught. It would be a fun project to do with a grandchild. -- *I Would*

Dear Would: An excellent idea. Schools have only so many hours in a day and cannot cover everything. We are sorry to see cursive go, but we understand why and think it's a great idea to learn these skills outside of school.

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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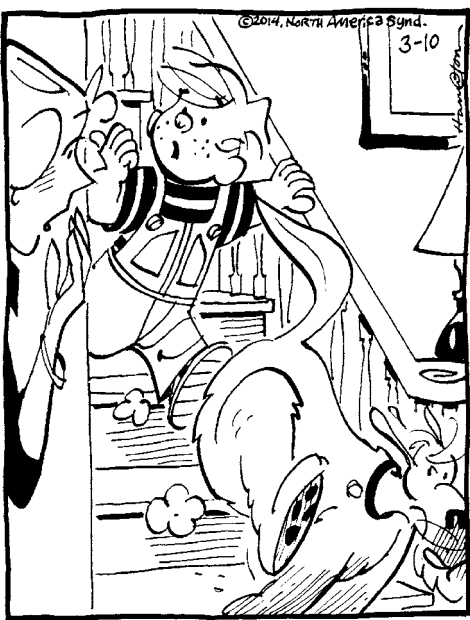
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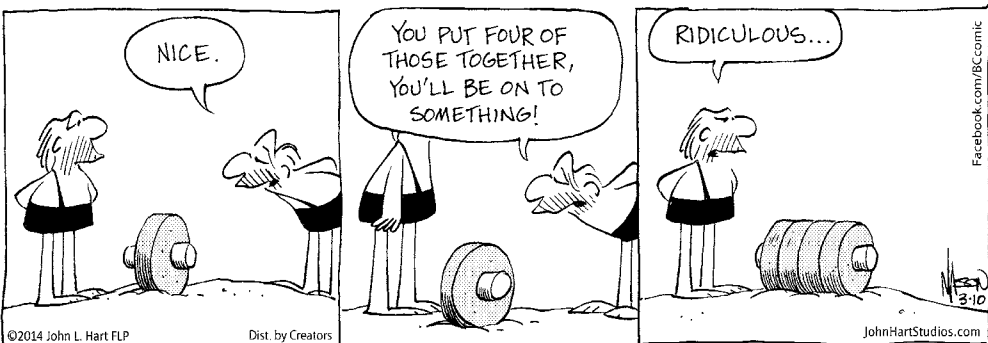
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM	News ABC	Casa	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Uri Harel	Charlie Rose	Rifleman	Rods N' Wheels	Movie: Snakes on a Plane	Bar Rescue	Castle (DVS)	106 & Park: Top 10	Jessie	Around	SportsCenter
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	De Que Te Quiero	Big Bang	News CBS	Caso Cer-rado	News	Seinfeld	McDonald	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Rods N' Wheels	Bar Rescue	Castle (DVS)	Movie: The Perfect Holiday, Queen Latifah	The Princess and the Frog	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	
7 :PM	The Bachelor	Por Siempre	Bones (DVS)	How I Met Broke Girl	La Impostora (SS)	The Voice	Fam. Guy	Upd	Elton John in Concert	Gilligan	Rods N' Wheels	Movie: Jaws, Richard Dreyfuss	Bar Rescue	Castle (DVS)	I Didn't Dog	Jessie	College Basketball	College Basketball
8 :PM		Lo Que la Vida	The Following	Mike Mom	En Otra Piel (SS)		Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	David Garrett: Music -- Live	Heroes	Rods N' Wheels	Contrac	Dallas	Movie: Big Momma's House, Paul Giamatti	Good	Jessie	College Basketball	College Basketball
9 :PM	(01) The Bachelor	Qué Pobres	Mod Fam	Intelligence	Camela La Texana	(01) Believe	Conan	House	Charlie Rose	Twi. Zone	Rods N' Wheels	Movie: Jaws 2, Murray Hamilton	Contrac	Private Lives	Wendy Williams	Good	Jessie	SportsCenter
10 :PM	News ABC	Impacto	Arsenio Hall	News CBS	Noticias	News	Conan	Mani		Perry Mason	Rods N' Wheels	Movie: Jaws 3, Simon MacCorkindale	Bar Rescue	(:01) Dallas	Shake It	ANT Farm	College Basketball	SportsCenter
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Familia-Suerte	How I Met	Ferguson	En Otra Piel (SS)	Seth Meyers	Holmes	Cros	World	The Un-touchables	Rods N' Wheels	Bar Rescue	Private Lives	Wendy Williams	Good	Jessie	College Basketball	SportsCenter
12 :AM	Extra	Ni Contigo, Ni sin Ti	Raymond	Insider	Camela La Texana	News	Holmes	Yohanan	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Gallery	Rods N' Wheels	Movie: Jaws 3, Simon MacCorkindale	Bar Rescue	(12:02) Law & Order	Movie: Joy Road, Roger Guenveur Smith	Deck	NBA	SportsCenter
1 :AM	Paid	Conducta	Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Pagado	(07) Today	Larry the Cable Guy: Heath	Light of the Southwest		Alfred Hitch-cock Hr.	Rods N' Wheels		Bar Rescue	(:02) Law & Order	Deck	NBA	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE

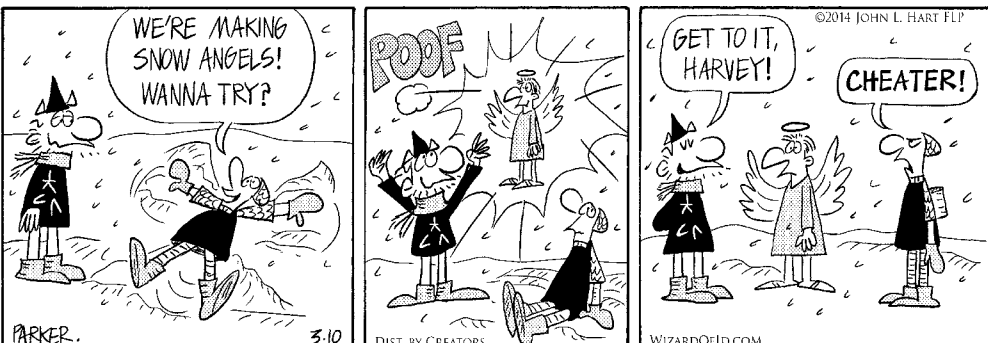


"I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT JUST HAPPENED, BUT I WANTED YOU TO BE THE FIRST TO KNOW!"

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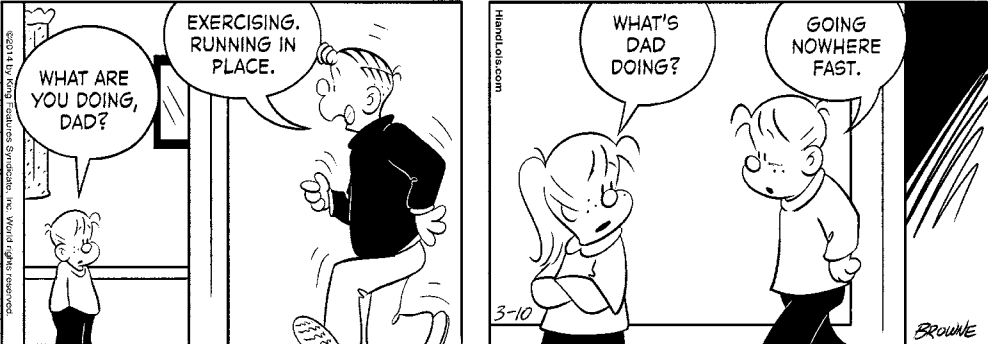
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HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



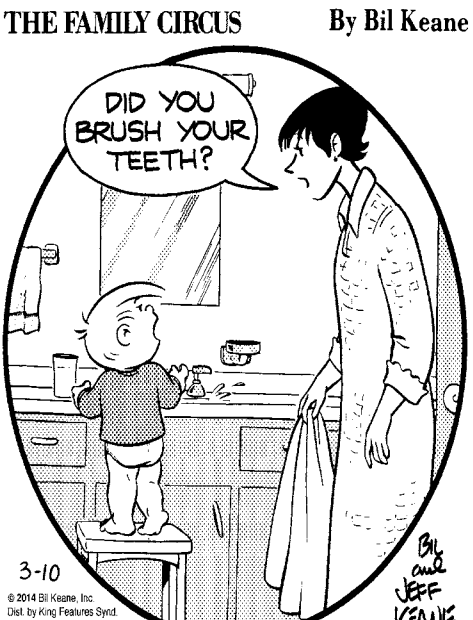
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BETLE BAILEY

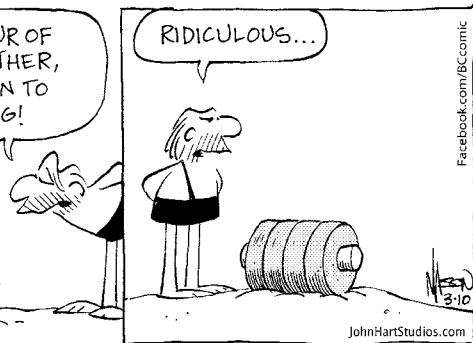


THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Most of them."

BC



HAGAR



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Monday, March 10, the 69th day of 2014. There are 296 days left in the year. Today's Highlights in History: On March 10, 1864, President Abraham Lincoln signed an order assigning Ulysses S. Grant, who had just received his commission as lieutenant-general, to the command of the Armies of the United States (Grant assumed his new command two days later, relieving General-in-Chief Henry Halleck). The song "Beautiful Dreamer" by

the late Stephen Foster was copyrighted by Wm. A. Pond & Co. of New York. On this date: In 1785, Thomas Jefferson was appointed America's minister to France, succeeding Benjamin Franklin. In 1814, the two-day Battle of Laon in France ended with a Prussian-led victory over the forces of Napoleon I. In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell's assistant, Thomas Watson, heard Bell say over his experimental telephone: "Mr. Watson, Æi come here, Æi I want to see you." In 1880, the Salvation Army arrived in

the United States from England. In 1914, the Rokeby Venus, a 17th-century painting by Diego Velazquez on display at the National Gallery in London, was slashed multiple times by Mary Richardson, who was protesting the arrest of fellow suffragist Emmeline Pankhurst. (The painting was repaired.)

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Answer to previous puzzle

IRONMIKE	FIESTA
PIXYSTIX	AMSTEL
OPENSHP	NEPALI
DENY ISLE	AYRES
UNKINKS	TNT
TRANK	CALYPSO
THEOC	DICE ROVE
WILLIAMETTER	IVER
AMIE	ARCS ADELE
BERGAMO	OPERA
ALF	EMINENT
LEARN	STNS TRIX
AFRABD	EVACUATE
NUMBED	NOLONGER
SLYEST	TIEBEAMS

Newsday Crossword

BUTTERING UP by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 57 Tehran's country | 9 Bit of dust | 35 King of beasts |
| 1 Deflated tire | 58 Fill with joy | 10 Hawaiian party | 36 Dealership's short-term freebie |
| 5 Rock-band sound boosters | 59 Be concerned | 11 Prefix for social or freeze | 38 Sculpted figures |
| 9 Give a high-five to | 60 Performer's role | 12 Soft "Hey!" | 39 "Guided" vacation |
| 13 Chinese-cuisine staple | 61 Storm drain | 15 Spot to go downhill on snow | 44 Twain character Sawyer |
| 14 Young male horses | 62 China's continent | 22 Dad's boy | 45 Copy-machine powders |
| 16 Plays on words | 63 Recedes | 24 El __, Texas | 46 Trousers |
| 17 English nobleman | 64 "No ifs, __, or buts!" | 26 Stares in amazement | 47 Quoted as a source |
| 18 Adjust slightly | 65 Genuine | 27 mystical glows | 48 Ready to be harvested |
| 19 Has a snack | | 28 What a | 49 Typical Kuwaiti |
| 20 Maple or elm | | 46 Across cooks on | 50 Clothing |
| 21 Legendary racehorse | | 29 Typeface selections | 51 Dog's tiny biter |
| 23 Cowboy-boot attachment | | 30 Omelet | 52 Young deer |
| 25 NASA affirmative | | 31 Joke around with | 54 Make simpler |
| 26 It's opened for an auto fill-up | | 32 Closeup area on a map | 55 Opera solo |
| 29 Plant with fronds | | 33 "That's false!" | 56 Pass out cards |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
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Iditarod mushers nearing finish to 1,100-mile race

NOME, Alaska (AP) — As Jeff King attempts to hold off other mushers in the last stages of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, the town famous for the finish line is getting ready for the teams to come in.

The finish line banner was set to be hung Monday morning on Front Street in Nome with help from the local electric utility.

On Sunday, city crews moved the actual finish line, the burlled arch, into place, and public works employees trucked in snow to give the mushers a path once they leave the Bering Sea ice.

"Yeah, I know, it's funny to see people dumping snow on a street instead of taking it off the street," said Greg Bill, the Iditarod's development director. "To really dress it up and make it safe for the dog teams, we have to spread a

layer of snow down for them to run on."

About 200 volunteers also have descended on Nome to make other last-minute preparations, including getting the dog lot ready to receive teams, constructing the finish chute and prepping the souvenir stand.

Bill McCormick of Greensboro, N.C., volunteered for his first Iditarod in 1998 and has been back every year since.

"I like being part of putting something on," said the retired engineer whose job as a volunteer in Nome is to drug test the dogs. "I enjoy the people. It's like family now."

Scott Hughes was helping hammer in the final nails at the finish line Sunday afternoon. The University of Pittsburgh student made his first trip to the Iditarod and the nation's north-

ernmost state as part of a church group doing mission work.

"It's amazing," Hughes said of his visit to Nome.

King, a four-time champion, was leading Aliy Zirkle by 20 minutes as the two arrived at the Elim checkpoint shortly before midnight Sunday.

Zirkle, a 44-year-old musher from Two Rivers, Alaska, led hours before when she arrived at the Norton Bay village of Koyuk one minute ahead of King on Sunday afternoon.

King rested his 12-dog team at the checkpoint for three hours and 42 minutes, while Zirkle and her 11 dogs took a break for three hours and 44 minutes. King departed Koyuk at 5:50 p.m. and arrived in Elim at 11:27 p.m., while Zirkle got back on the trail at 5:51 p.m. and made it into Elim at

11:47 p.m., race officials said.

King last won in 2006 and is trying to be only the second musher to win five races.

Zirkle has come in second place in the last two years in the nearly 1,000-mile race to Nome, 171 miles west of Koyuk. She is seeking to become only the third woman to win the race, and the first woman to win since the late Susan Butcher in 1990.

Other front-runners Sunday were four-time champion Martin Buser, who arrived in Koyuk in third place at 4:20 p.m. Sunday, followed 13 minutes later by 2012 Iditarod champion Dallas Seavey. Veteran musher Sonny Lindner arrived in fifth place at 4:47 p.m., followed by defending champion Mitch Seavey, father of Dallas Seavey, at 5:23 p.m.

Veteran Aaron Bur-

meister had been sixth out of Shaktoolik but arrived in Koyuk at 5:58 p.m., after Mitch Seavey.

The racers, who have two more checkpoints after Elim and before Nome, are expected to begin arriving in Nome no later than Tuesday.

Temperatures in Nome hovered slightly above zero Sunday, which brought clear skies and brilliant sunshine. Snowfall has been light this winter

in the frontier town of nearly 3,700, so the city has been stockpiling snow, which was being trucked to Front Street for the final stretch.

What little snow was on the ground, along with the cooler temperatures, were welcomed by fan Nina Cross of Brandon, Miss. She attended the start of the race last year in Anchorage, fell in love with the event and decided she needed to see the finish in person, too.

Rockets rally for 118-113 OT win over Blazers

HOUSTON (AP) — Coach Kevin McHale said it first and then player after player echoed his sentiment: Early in the season Houston wouldn't have won the type of game they did Sunday night.

James Harden scored 41 points, Jeremy Lin had 26 and the Rockets rallied for a 118-113 overtime win against the Portland Trail Blazers.

"There's no way we win this game early on in the year," Chandler Parsons said. "So I think that shows a lot about our growth and maturity and just how much we're coming together and how well we're playing right now."

The Trail Blazers led by 3 in overtime after two free throws by Wesley Matthews. Houston took over from there, using an 8-2 run with a 3 from Harden and four points from Lin to make it 116-113 with 35.4 seconds left. Lin added two free throws after that to help the Rockets secure their fifth straight win.

"We didn't have a lot of zip in us tonight ... but

the guys just kept battling and kept fighting," McHale said. "Sometimes you just have to go out there and gut your way through a win."

Houston trailed by double digits in the fourth quarter before using a big spurt to close the gap. Portland regained the lead 106-103 before Harden hit a 3-pointer with seconds left in regulation to send it to overtime.

"The first three quarters we were basically just out there running around," Harden said. "The last quarter we got more physical and created some opportunities for our defense."

LaMarcus Aldridge led the Trail Blazers with 28 points and 12 rebounds, but managed just two points in OT. It's the second straight loss for Portland, following a 103-98 defeat at Dallas on Friday.

"There are a lot of angry faces because we should've had that game," Aldridge said. "We've had two tough losses on the road and we definitely felt like

we didn't do everything we could tonight, so of course guys are angry right now."

Dwight Howard added 17 points with 12 rebounds. and Chandler Parsons had 16 points.

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.

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

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CGA holding 4-man scramble on March 23

The Chicano Gold Association will be holding a 4-man scramble on March 23 at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Sign-ups will be held from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. A shotgun start will be

held at 10 a.m.

A blind draw will be held for teams closest to the pin on all par threes.

Entry fee is \$25. Mulligans are available for \$5.

Baylor, WVU to play for Big 12 title

The Baylor Lady Bears will face West Virginia tonight in the women's championship game of the Big 12 Conference Tournament in Oklahoma City.

Baylor advanced to the finals with a 65-61 victory over Oklahoma State on Sunday. West Virginia edged out the Texas Lady Longhorns, 67-60, in the other semifinal matchup on Sunday afternoon.

The championship game is scheduled to get underway at 9 p.m. at the Chesapeake Energy Center.

Baylor had opened the tournament with an 81-47 win over Kansas on Saturday.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 8 4
♥ J 9 7 4 2
♦ A 9 8 6 5
♣ —

WEST
♠ 7 5 3
♥ A 6
♦ Q 10 7 3
♣ 10 8 7 5

EAST
♠ K Q J 10 9 2
♥ —
♦ K J 4
♣ A K Q 4

SOUTH
♠ 6
♥ K Q 10 8 5 3
♦ 2
♣ J 9 6 3 2

The bidding:
North 2 ♠*
Pass 4 ♠
6 ♥
* strong

Opening lead — seven of spades.

This deal occurred many years ago in a match between Argentina and the United States. Egisto Rocchi, East for Argentina, opened the bidding with two spades after Charles Coon, the American North, passed. Rocchi could hardly have suspected at this stage that he would eventually wind up minus 1,210 points!

South, Eric Murray, overcalled with three hearts, and West, Ricardo Calvente, bid three spades. After Coon bid four hearts, Rocchi made a slam try by bidding five diamonds.

Murray, knowing that he was not going to allow the opponents to play in five spades, then bid six clubs, which was converted to six hearts by Coon. Rocchi made a forcing pass, and Calvente doubled, ending the auction.

Murray had no trouble making 12 tricks. He won the spade lead with the ace and crossruffed the rest of the way, trumping all five of his clubs in dummy. Calvente's ace of trumps scored the only trick for the defense. Rocchi, who had opened with a strong two-bid, took no tricks at all!

The contract would have failed had Calvente led the ace and another trump originally, but this was by no means a clear-cut lead.

The American East-West pair at the second table, Mervin Key and Robert Nail, fared only slightly better than their Argentine counterparts, shrewdly doubling the opponents in five hearts before they got to slam! Here the bidding went:

North East South West
1 ♥ 2 ♥ 5 ♥ Dblc
The Argentine North scratched up an opening heart bid and found himself in five hearts doubled at his next turn. East sat for the double (a questionable decision) and led the king of clubs.

North made the contract with an overtrick, scoring 750 points, but, not having bid the slam, his team lost 460 points on the deal.

Tomorrow: West rises to the occasion.
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