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Fajita lovers unite

Cook-off Saturday at American Legion Post

By STEVE REAGAN
 Staff Writer

Lovers of all things fajitas are expected to congregate at the American Legion Post No. 506 Saturday.

The post's 10th annual fajita cook-off is scheduled for Saturday morning and offers a little something for folks on both ends of the fajita-loving spectrum.

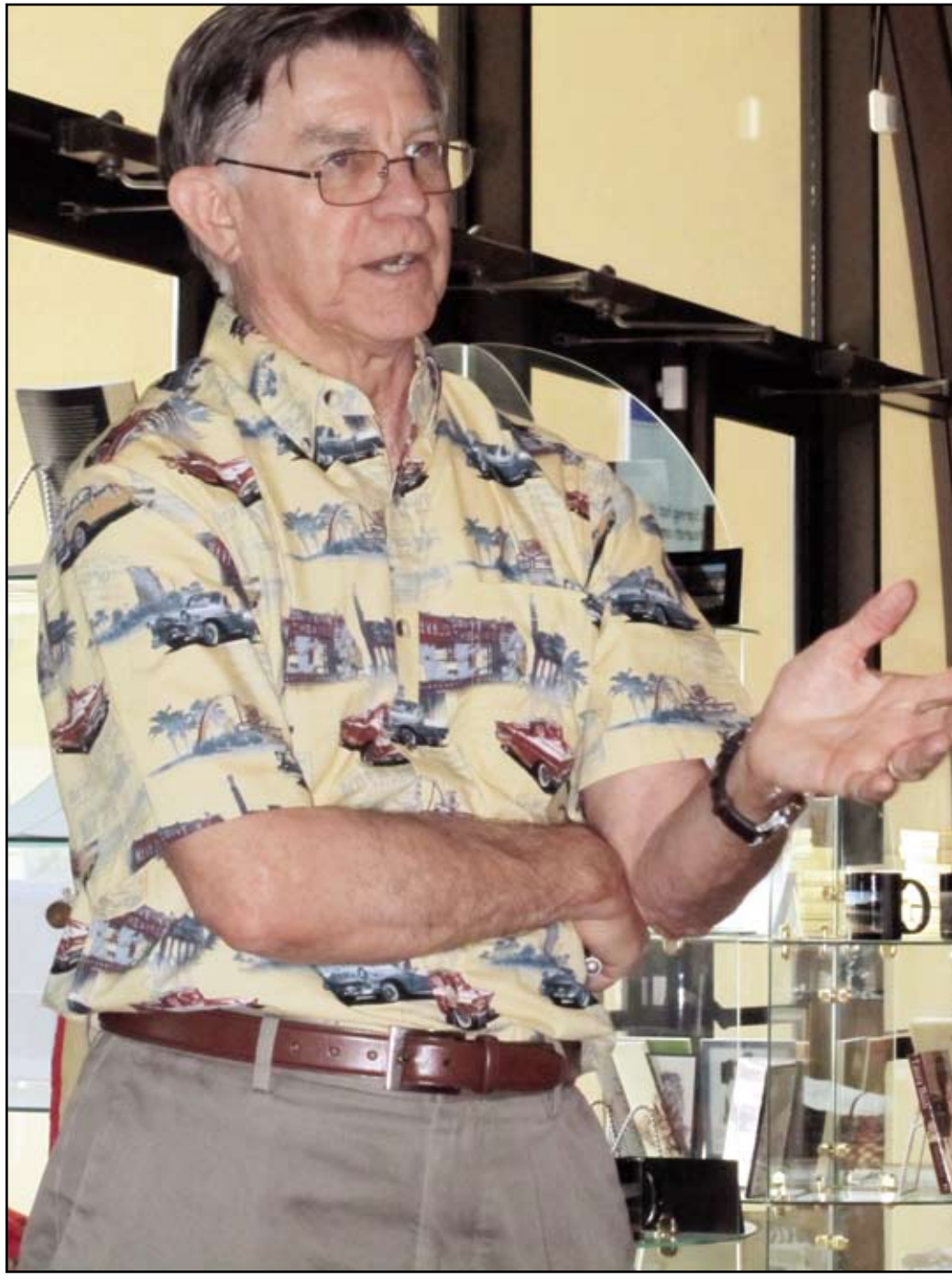
For cooks, there will be a chance to win awards for their culinary prowess — entries will be judged in two categories, beef and chicken. Entry fees are \$10 per person and everyone is welcome to compete. Those taking part in the cook-off will be able to start cooking at 9 a.m. and entries will be judged at 11 a.m. Participants will be allowed to marinate their meat at home, but the cooking must be done on-site, post members said.

Winners will be announced that afternoon; awards will be given to the top three finishers in each meat category.

As for those who enjoy eating fajitas, well, the post has a deal for you — serving begins at noon Saturday, with meals costing \$10 a plate. In addition, there will be a plant/cake walk; cost is \$1 per person.

Money raised during the event will go toward financing post projects such as its annual Christmas toy run.

For more information, call 263-2084.



Author Dan. L. Smith gives a lecture Saturday at the Heritage Museum about the Bankhead Highway. Texas' first state highway and the first intercontinental, all-weather highway in the nation. Part of the highway came through Big Spring.

Historic highway made its way through Big Spring

BY LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer

Once known as the "Broadway of America" and now just forgotten stretches of roads, the Bankhead Highway was the first intercontinental, all weather highway built at the turn of the last century during a movement that would transformed the country's transportation system.

"The Bankhead Highway, I think, is the most significant highway in America that nobody has heard of," said Dan L. Smith, author of "Texas Highway No. 1, The Bankhead Highway in Texas."

Smith was in Big Spring Saturday at the Heritage Museum to give a lecture and sign copies of his book about his research of the Texas segment of the highway that stretched from Washington, D.C., to San Diego, Calif.

Big Spring falls along the route of the original Bankhead Highway. Smith believes the highway came down the present Midway Road through Big Spring along what is now called Third

One final 'good boy' slated by kennel club

By ANDREIA MEDLIN
 Staff Writer

Nothing lasts forever and the end of an era is at hand.

A Big Spring tradition for close to 50 years, this weekend's 44th annual Big Spring Kennel Club Dog Show will be the last to be held in Big Spring. The event will be moving to Midland next year, according to Trellis Lucas, breeder contact for the Big Spring AKC. "There just isn't anyone left in Big Spring involved in it," said Lucas, who is no longer able to be involved due to health reasons.

"It's sad, but it's just one of those things that happens," said Lucas. "The Midland people want it all to be over there and there just isn't anyone left from Big Spring."

The Big Spring AKC held its first meeting on

Activities

- Thursday**
- National Day of Prayer, noon, County Courthouse, 300 S. Main. This year's event will take place at the east side of the Howard County Courthouse at the war memorial. The current state of the nation and the recent destructive weather in the central states will be subjects reflected on during the service, according to Kathryn Wiseman.
 - BSHS band Concert, 12:05 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th St. and Goliad.
 - The Big Spring High School honor band will perform at the St. Mary's Eastertide offering concert. Following the 30-minute concert, a light lunch will be provided by St. Mary's. There is no admission charge but donations will be accepted.
 - Spring Concert performed by the Coahoma Choir Kids and a group of 50 third-grade singers, 7 p.m., elementary school cafeteria, 400 Ramsey St., Coahoma.
 - The program will feature a wide variety of music, including American folk songs, African and American freedom songs, traditional canons and songs by Beethoven and Schubert.
- Friday and Saturday**
- Cinco De Mayo, Howard County Fair Barns
 - Featured performers include REVO LIVE, Grupo Vida and Gary Hobbs. Local bands scheduled are Ssierra PPC, BackRoadz, Tejano Express and also Eddie Austin and 20 after 4.
 - The two-day festival includes a wash-rer tournament, a car show by Low Image Car Club, food, arts and craft vendors and more. The event is sponsored by the North Side Movement and co-sponsored by Budwieser and Pepsico. Admission charge is \$5 for those age 12 and older. Doors open on Friday at 5 p.m. and continue to midnight. The festivities resume Saturday at 11 a.m. and end at midnight.
- Saturday**
- American Legion Post 506, 10th Annual Fajita Cook-Off, at the Legion Hall, 3203 W. Highway 80.
 - Entry fee is \$10. Cook start time is 9 a.m. Beef or chicken is acceptable but you must cook three pounds each. Judging begins at 11 a.m. and lunch is served at noon. Plates will be \$10 each. The event will also include a plant/cake walk held all day.
- Saturday and Sunday**
- Big Spring Kennel Club, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.
 - Dogs of all breeds will descend upon the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum for the annual Big Spring Kennel Club Dog Show. In a sad note, this will be the last show in Big Spring after 44 years.
- Monday**
- Chorale Performance, 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 701 Rannels
 - The Allegro Chorale will perform in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church. The free concert will consist of music for chorus with organ accompaniment and music for the organ alone. Featured music include pieces composed by Handel, Buxtehude, Brahms, Haydn, Mozart and Fauré. The chorale is conducted by Dr. Cory Alexander, director of choral activities at UTPB. The featured organist is Steve Spain, who is the organist at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Midland.

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HIGHWAY

Continued from Page 1

Street and exited the town through Fourth Street.

“Try to imagine from what you’ve read and what you’ve heard and maybe what your grandparents have told you, what roads were like in America 100 years ago in 1914,” Smith said to the crowd who attended his lecture. “Basically, nationwide and certainly in Texas, roads 100 years ago were certainly a mess.

“For the early part of the 20th Century, the roads were terrible all over the place,” Smith continued. “They were mostly dirt, impassible when it was wet. Who built the roads in the first place? Texas had no highway department in 1914. If you lived out here or anywhere in Texas, and you wanted a road built, it was the responsibility of the county or maybe the town.”

At that time, the federal government had very little responsibility for roads with the exception of post roads for mail delivery and military highways, Smith said. Towns and county residents had to be convinced to provide funds for roads through taxes or bonds which was never an easy sell, Smith said.

“You can imagine, that first part of the 20th century, it was tough getting roads built,” Smith said. “If I am going to donate money or tax money for roads in my county I don’t give a hoot about a road going from Big Spring to Abilene. I want money to pay for better roads in my county. You can imagine how that goes.”

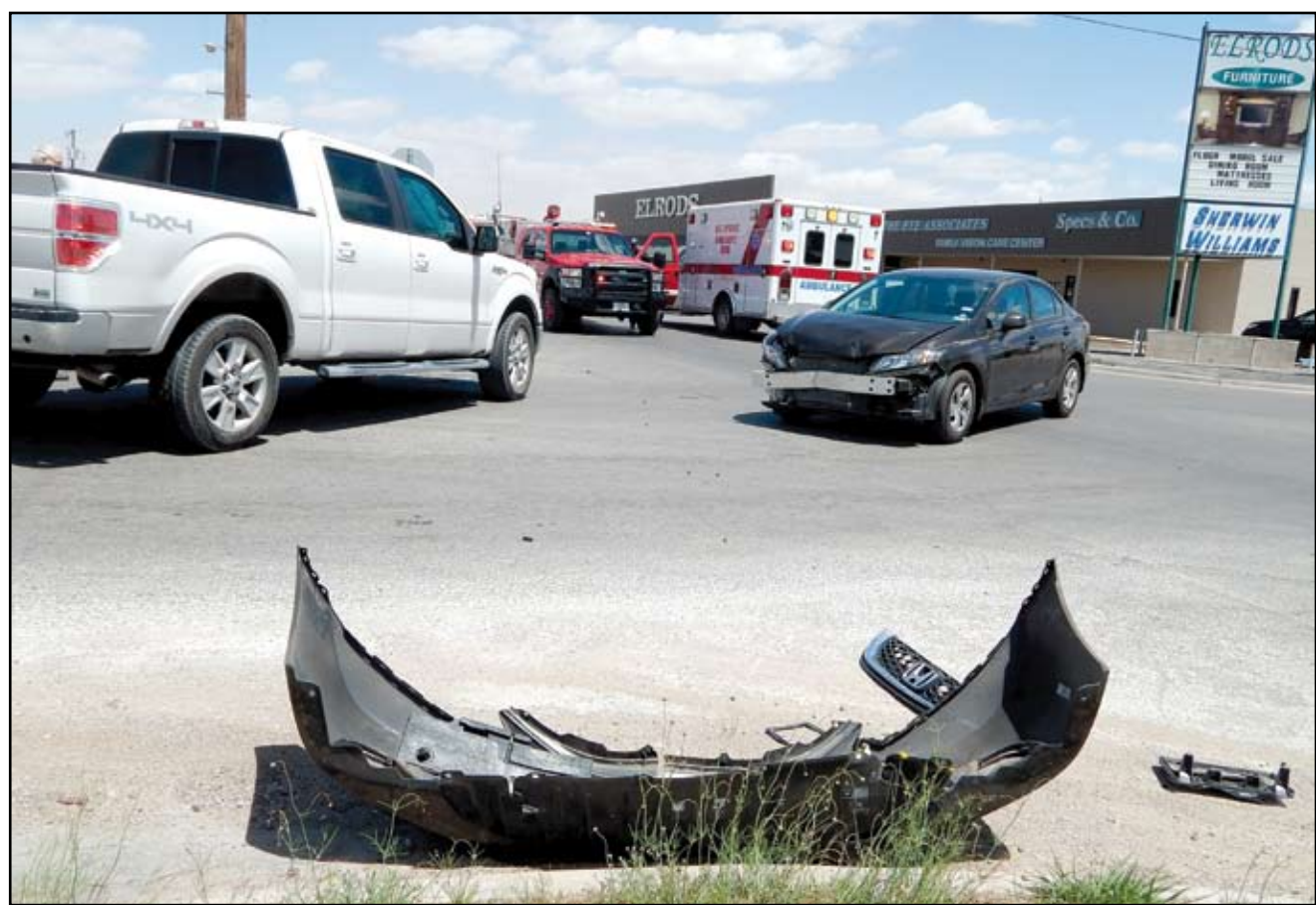
America’s concept of transportation first began to change in the 1890s when the Good Roads movement began to form all over the country, he said.

“People had these machines and couldn’t use them on these muddy,

impassible roads. Those machines were not cars. They were bicycles,” Smith said. “Bicycles were a major craze in the 1890s, and they weren’t recreational vehicles. They were a means of transportation. A good road was a hard surface, gravel road. That was the definition of a good road back then. Forget pavement.

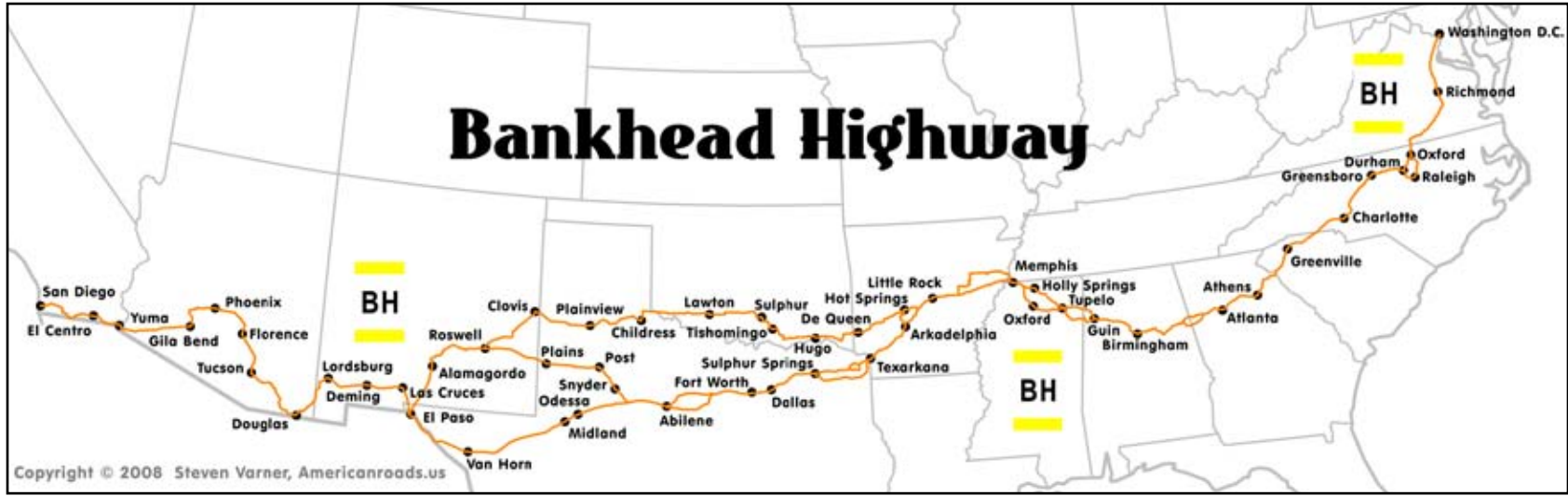
“Come the turn of the 20th Century, Henry Ford finds how to make Model Ts that he can sell for 300 dollars,” Smith said. “More and more people begin to buy cars because they were affordable and people, particularly the farmers, came to realize these automobiles and these new fangled things called trucks were cheaper than horses.”

The first intercontinental highway was the Lincoln Highway,



Police and emergency medical personnel responded to a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Scurry and 24th streets around noon Tuesday. No injury information was available at press time.

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan



which stretched from New York to San Francisco through the middle of America, Smith said. But it became impassible during parts of the year because of heavy snow and inclement weather.

The southern route across the country, which dealt with less impassible weather conditions, was named after John Hollis Bankhead, a U.S. Senator from Alabama and a powerful southern politician, Smith said.

“He was convinced the economic recovery of the South hinged on better roads, better transportation,” he said. That was a nation-

wide problem. His focus was on the South. He wrote a bill that basically passed in 1916 and President (Woodrow) Wilson signed called the Federal Aid Road Act of 1916. The significance being that for the first time, federal money was being made available to the states to build roads that actually went somewhere and to build roads to a standard. Quality roads built by engineers who knew what they were doing.”

According to Smith, World War I taught the U.S. government how crucial roads were to the security of the country and more emphasis began to be placed on transportation infra-

structure.

“The Bankhead bill made federal money available to the states on a cost share basis of 50/50,” Smith said. “Guess when Texas formed up a highway department— in 1917. Why? Because they wanted that federal money. The icing on the cake was that the federal money in the Bankhead bill would be apportioned to the states pro-rated on the mileage of the roads to be built.

“Size and mileage got Texas potentially the lion’s share of the money — like 10 percent of all the funds in the bill would go to Texas. The Texas Highway Department wasted no time.

Within two years they published a map showing where they would build the highway with federal coordination in Texas. Texas Highway No. 1 would go from Texarkana to El Paso.”

Senator Bankhead secured the money that triggered the building of the highways but the Bankhead Highway was really “the brain child” of another fellow Alabamian, John Asa Roundtree. It was Roundtree’s salesmanship and work that was crucial in getting the highway built from Washington, D.C. to San Diego, Smith said.

Texas was pivotal in Roundtree’s ability

to turn his Bankhead Highway into a transcontinental road.

“The road from Washington to San Diego, Texas is about a third of that 3,000 miles,” Smith said.

Smith’s book is available at Amazon.com.

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Jean Range, 89, died Friday. A Remembrance Service will be held at 5 p.m. on May 9, 2014 at 1st United Methodist Church Garrett Hall. Burial will be at National Cemetery at Dallas/Ft. Worth.

SHOW

Continued from Page 1

April 7, 1964, according to Heritage Museum curator Tammy Schrengost. Spending a weekend at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum watching the many different breeds, from toy to standard, working to hound, chihuahua to poodle and beyond, was a tradition many locals enjoyed. The show drew owners, breeders, vendors and

fans from Oklahoma, Arkansas and as far away as California.

This year’s show will, as always, offer a wide arrange of canines, including a sheltie group and Germanian shepherds from California.

The number and types of groups will depend on what entries there are.

So if you’ve never been and always wanted to go, now is the time. The

Big Spring Kennel Club Dog Show is this Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, located at 1001 Birdwell Ln., on the Howard College campus.

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



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News in brief

South Texas man faces new counts in hacking case

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — A federal grand jury has returned a new indictment against a South Texas man who is linked to the hacking collective Anonymous, prosecutors said Tuesday.

The 44-count indictment adds new attempted computer-hacking charges to those already faced by Fidel Salinas, 27, of Donna. It also includes 18 counts of cyberstalking.

The new allegations claim Salinas tried in 2011 and 2012 to hack into the computers of Hidalgo County, the La Joya Independent School District, The Monitor newspaper in McAllen and a woman he is now accused of cyberstalking.

Authorities say he used a computer program to launch more than 14,000 attempts to access the county website over a two-day period in January 2012, costing the county \$10,000 to repair.

Salinas already had pleaded not guilty to a 15-count indictment returned earlier this month. His defense attorney, Alma Garza, did not immediately return a message Tuesday night.

An indictment last year had accused him of attempting to gain unauthorized access to the Hidalgo County website. Salinas initially told FBI agents who arrested him last year that he was just checking to see if he could get into the website to alert network administrators of security problems.

Authorities said Salinas was found to frequent a chat room run by Anonymous for exchange of ideas for undermining security measures. Anonymous is a loosely organized worldwide hacking group that has stolen confidential information, defaced websites and temporarily put some victims out of business.

South Texas officers sentenced on drug charges

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — Sometimes the heists were carefully choreographed ruses designed not to raise suspicion. Other times they were brazen grabs. Either way, lawmen sentenced Tuesday in South Texas used their badges to protect drugs or steal them for resale to other traffickers.

U.S. District Judge Randy Crane sentenced four of nine former law enforcement officers to prison terms ranging from eight years to nearly 12 years before recessing to continue the others Wednesday morning.

Extra seating had to be added in the aisles of the packed courtroom to accommodate everyone who wanted to watch the closing chapter of the Rio Grande Valley's latest corruption scandal.

What started as a drug investigation in early 2011 eventually led federal investigators to a local joint task force created to combat the street-level drug trade. Instead, the so-called Panama Unit was stealing money and drugs, including marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine and ecstasy.

Sometimes, members of the unit initiated the thefts themselves, while other times they were hired to do them. Mission police officer Jonathan Trevino, son of the then-Hidalgo County sheriff, decided which jobs they took and how the proceeds were divided.

Former Hidalgo County Sheriff Lupe Trevino has denied any knowledge of the unit's illicit activities. But eventually federal authorities nabbed several people close to him as their investigation widened to include additional corruption. Lupe Trevino himself resigned earlier this month and pleaded guilty to a federal money laundering charge related to taking campaign funds from another drug trafficker.

Port Arthur man who killed wife gets death penalty

WACO, Texas (AP) — A Southeast Texas man who met his wife as a pen pal while he was in prison has been sentenced to death for killing her a few months after his release.

A jury in Waco on Tuesday decided Carnell Petetan (PET'-uh-tahn) Jr. of Port Arthur should be executed for the September 2012 shooting death of his estranged wife, Kimberly.

Jurors on April 21 convicted Petetan of capital murder in the slaying during an argument at the woman's Waco apartment. Investigators say Petetan then abducted his wife's daughter. The then-9-year-old girl was rescued in Bryan.

Prosecutors say Petetan was serving nearly 20 years in prison for attempted murder when he met his wife in 2009 as a pen pal. They wed the following year. Petetan was released in early 2012.

1 slain in Killeen drive-by shooting

KILLEEN, Texas (AP) — A drive-by shooting in a Central Texas neighborhood has left one person dead.

Killeen police say a 36-year-old man died after being shot early Wednesday. Authorities did not immediately announce any arrests.

Investigators are trying to determine who fatally shot the man. The victim suffered gunshot wounds to the chest and was pronounced dead at a hospital.

The name of the victim was not immediately released. An autopsy has been ordered.

Killeen police did not immediately provide further information on the investigation.

Laredo merchant gets 18 months for fake goods

LAREDO, Texas (AP) — A South Texas merchant caught with nearly 6,000 bogus designer items has been sentenced to 18 months in prison.

A federal judge in Laredo on Tuesday also ordered 47-year-old Yi Hui Chen to make more than \$428,000 in restitution. Chen, who operated J Design in downtown Laredo, pleaded guilty last May to trafficking in counterfeit goods.

Undercover agents bought fake designer products including handbags, clothing and luggage. The items were portrayed as being from Burberry, Cartier, Chanel, Coach, Gucci, Jimmy Choo, Prada and Rolex.

U.S. seeks reinstatement of charge in BP spill case

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A federal appeals court in New Orleans is set to hear arguments about charges facing a former BP executive over allegations that he concealed information from Congress about the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

David Rainey was charged with obstructing a congressional investigation and lying to law enforcement agents by failing to disclose internal information from BP PLC. Prosecutors said the information indicated that the amount of oil gushing into the Gulf of Mexico after the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion could be far higher than the estimates being made publicly.

U.S. District Judge Kurt Englehardt threw out the obstruction-of-Congress charge. Prosecutors have appealed and arguments were set for Wednesday at the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Prosecutors also have brought a new indictment on the same charge.

1 officer dead, 2 missing in northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Authorities in Mexico's northern state of Nuevo Leon say gunmen killed a police officer and apparently kidnapped two others who were on their way to investigate the slaying.

Nuevo Leon state's government says gunmen ambushed a state police patrol Tuesday in the town of Sabinas Hidalgo, killing an officer and wounding a colleague. Two other state police officers later went missing as they drove to Sabinas Hidalgo to investigate.

Officials say the incidents happened on a road near the state line between Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas states.

Northeastern Mexico has seen an increase in violence, with at least 64 people killed in Tamaulipas in April. The area was long the scene of a turf battle between the Zetas and Gulf drug cartels, but violence had quieted over the last year.

Shuttle-ferrying jet reaches Space Center Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — A modified jumbo jet that transported shuttles piggyback to Florida follow-

ing flights has arrived at its new home in Texas after an 8-mile highway trek.

What was known as the Shuttle Carrier Aircraft, or SCA, reached Space Center Houston after a slow-moving trip from Ellington Field.

Some giant flatbed trailers on Monday began hauling the biggest disassembled pieces of the old 747 jumbo jet that flew shuttles on cross-country trips. The last of the entourage arrived at Space Center Houston early Wednesday.

The jet will be put together and topped with a shuttle replica about 60 feet off the ground as a museum piece. The site is expected to open next year just outside NASA's Johnson Space Center.

Mission Control in Houston served as the center for the nation's manned space flights.

Gov. Perry baptized in same creek as Sam Houston

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry has long revered Texas icon Sam Houston and now shares a spiritual connection with one of his political heroes: getting baptized in the same waters.

Perry was dunked last month in Little Rocky Creek near the small town of Independence in a private ceremony witnessed only by close friends and family, spokeswoman Lucy Nashed confirmed Tuesday. It's the same rural and rocky spot where Houston was baptized before becoming the seventh governor of Texas in 1859.

"Gov. Perry has a deep and abiding faith in God, and like many people of faith, the governor wanted to reaffirm his commitment in a way that holds great personal meaning," Nashed said.

The baptism was first reported by The Texas Tribune.

Perry, who will leave office in January and hasn't ruled out another presidential run in 2016, has extolled his faith throughout his 14 years in office. He announced his first run for the White House in 2011 just a week after staging a massive prayer revival in Houston called "The Response" that drew roughly 30,000 worshippers at Reliant Stadium.

His reverence of Sam Houston is almost as well known. Even on Monday, Perry again lionized his early predecessor during an interview with conservative talk radio host Michael Medved.

Perry recalled Houston's struggles with alcoholism but praised his discipline in other parts of his life. Like Perry, Houston also had presidential aspirations: He was briefly a candidate in 1860, and Perry suggested that had Houston won there wouldn't have been a Civil War.

Midland-based CAF moving headquarters to Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — A vintage military aviation group known for its historic planes, air shows and education will move its headquarters from West Texas to Dallas.

Officials with the nonprofit Commemorative Air Force on Tuesday announced plans to relocate to city-operated Dallas Executive Airport. The CAF is currently based at Midland International Airport.

Organizers sought access to a larger metro area and considered airports in more than 20 cities.

What began as the Confederate Air Force was chartered in 1961 in Texas to restore and preserve World War II-era combat aircraft. The CAF in 2002 changed its name to the Commemorative Air Force, currently with about 9,000 members and a fleet of nearly 160 decommissioned military planes.

Midland Mayor Jerry Morales said Tuesday that CAF's decision to move its operations, and in particular its annual air show, was a blow to the Midland-Odessa region.

"It was very disheartening news to our community," Morales said.

The two-day air show each year drew 20,000 to 30,000 people to the Midland airport and served as an economic boon for the area, he said. Despite the CAF relocating to Dallas, the air show at least for this year will be held in Midland, Morales said. It's typically held in October.

The CAF preserves vintage aircraft and promotes military aviation.

The organization was based in Harlingen before moving to Midland in 1991, according to The Dallas Morning News.

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News in brief

Oklahoma halts execution of inmate writhing on gurney; man dies later of heart attack

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) — Oklahoma prison officials halted an inmate's execution on Tuesday after a new drug combination left the man writhing and clenching his teeth on the gurney, before he later died of a heart attack.

Clayton Lockett, 38, was declared unconscious 10 minutes after the first of the state's new three-drug lethal injection combination was administered. Three minutes later, though, he began breathing heavily, writhing, clenching his teeth and straining to lift his head off the pillow.

The blinds were eventually lowered to prevent those in the viewing gallery from watching what was happening in the death chamber, and the state's top prison official eventually called a halt to the proceedings. Lockett died of a heart attack a short time later, the Department of Corrections said.

"It was a horrible thing to witness. This was totally botched," said Lockett's attorney, David Autry.

The problems with the execution are likely to fuel more debate about the ability of states to administer lethal injections that meet the U.S. Constitution's requirement they be neither cruel nor unusual punishment. That question has drawn renewed attention from defense attorneys and death penalty opponents in recent months, as several states scrambled to find new sources of execution drugs because drugmakers that oppose capital punishment — many based in Europe — have stopped selling to prisons and corrections departments.

Racist views, not actions, are costing Donald Sterling his NBA life

Donald Sterling is being exiled for racist views shared in private.

America cherishes its freedom of thought and speech. But Sterling's comments were so nakedly bigoted that demands intensified for the Los Angeles Clippers owner to pay a heavy price for his views, even though they were taped during a private conversation with his girlfriend.

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver heeded the demands and delivered one of the harshest penalties in the history of U.S. sports: a lifetime ban from the league and a \$2.5 million fine. Despite Sterling's donations to black causes and the rich contract he gave the game's top black coach, Silver also promised to convince owners to force a sale of the Clippers over the 80-year-old Sterling's "hateful" demands for his 31-year-old girlfriend not to broadcast her association with black people.

"He has a right to his beliefs, to his thoughts. He has a right to free speech. He doesn't have a right to be an owner of an NBA franchise," said Dr. Harry Edwards, a scholar of race and sports who has worked as a consultant for several professional teams.

"We can't remove racism from American society any more than we can remove murder," Edwards said. "But just because we can't remove it, that doesn't mean we shouldn't fight it."

Iraq holds key parliament elections as it slides deeper into strife; bombs kill 2 women voters

BAGHDAD (AP) — Unshaken by the latest surge in violence, Iraqis braved the threat of bombs and attacks to vote Wednesday in key elections for a new parliament amid a massive security operation as the country slides deeper into sectarian strife.

Hundreds of thousands of troops and police have fanned out to guard voting centers in what is also the first nationwide balloting since the 2011 American pullout. Polls across the energy-rich nation opened at 7 a.m. local time and will close at 6 p.m. Iraq's 22 million voters are electing a 328-seat parliament.

A roadside bomb killed two women as they walked to a polling station in the small Iraqi town of Dibis near Kirkuk, a turbulent city some 290 kilometers (180 miles) north of Baghdad. Another bomb in Dibis targeted an army patrol, wounding five soldiers, according to Sarhad Qadir, a senior police officer in the area.

In central Baghdad, police and army manned checkpoints roughly 500 meters (yards) apart, while pickup trucks with machine-guns perched on top roamed the streets. Much of the city looked deserted without the normal traffic congestion that Baghdad is notorious for. Most stores were closed.

In Baghdad's mostly Shiite Sadr City district, for years a frequent target of bombings blamed on Sunni militants, elite counterterrorism forces were deployed and helicopters hovered above the sprawling area. Buses were used to ferry voters to polling centers.

Sluggish economic growth at start of 2014 is expected to improve as year progresses

WASHINGTON (AP) — The economy likely stumbled at the start of this year, but there's probably little reason to worry: Economists foresee a solid rebound with the end of a harsh winter.

The Commerce Department on Wednesday will issue the first of three estimates of how fast the economy grew in the January-March quarter. The expectation is that growth slowed to an annual rate of around 1.1 percent, a lackluster pace that would be sharply down from a 2.6 percent annual growth rate in the previous quarter.

Economists think the first-quarter slump, caused in large part by the severe winter, will give way to stronger growth that should endure through the rest of the year.

Most analysts say a bounce-back in consumer spending, business investment and job growth will lift growth in the second quarter.

In fact, many say 2014 will be the year the recovery from the Great Recession finally achieves the robust growth that's needed to accelerate hiring and reduce still-high unemployment.

Death toll hits 35; forecasters downplay dire predictions for 3rd day of severe storms

LOUISVILLE, Miss. (AP) — Ruth Bennett died clutching the last child left at her day care center as a tornado wiped the building off its foundation. A firefighter who came upon the body gently pulled the toddler from her arms.

"It makes you just take a breath now," said next-door neighbor Kenneth Billingsley, who witnessed the scene at what was left of Ruth's Child Care Center in this logging town of 6,600. "It makes you pay attention to life."

Bennett, 53, was among at least 35 people killed in a two-day outbreak of twisters and other violent weather that pulverized homes from the Midwest to the Deep South. The child, whose name was not released, was alive when she was pulled from Bennett's arms and was taken to a hospital. Her condition was not known.

As crews in Mississippi and Alabama turned from search-and-rescue

efforts to cleanup, forecasters began to downplay their initially dire predictions of a third round of deadly twisters Tuesday. Meteorologists said the storm system had weakened substantially by evening, although some tornado watches and warnings were still in effect for isolated areas.

In North Carolina, the National Weather Service reported tornado touchdowns in five counties Tuesday, but the twisters caused only moderate structural damage to homes and toppled some trees. Two cities in the state reported extensive flooding from the storm system. No injuries were reported.

Kiev says security forces "helpless" to restore order in east, as more buildings seized

HORLIVKA, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine's police and security forces are "helpless" to quell unrest in two eastern regions bordering Russia, and in some cases are cooperating with pro-Russian gunmen who have seized scores of government buildings and taken people hostage, the country's president said Wednesday.

Oleksandr Turchynov said the goal now was to prevent the agitation from spreading to other territories.

"I will be frank: Today, security forces are unable to quickly take the situation in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions under control," Turchynov said at a meeting with regional governors.

"The security bodies ... are unable to carry out their duties of protecting citizens. They are helpless in those matters. Moreover, some of those units are either helping or cooperating with terrorist organizations."

Turchynov instructed the governors to try to prevent the threat from spreading to more central and southern regions.

Kerry wields top 2 tools — peace talks and sanctions — in demanding South Sudan cease-fire

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State John Kerry is bringing his two main tools of diplomacy — peace talks and threatened sanctions — to Africa this week to help find a way to end months of killing that is threatening to rip apart the world's newest nation, South Sudan.

It's not yet clear whether the U.S. will impose the sanctions while Kerry is in South Sudan — which, he said recently, he planned to visit during a week of stops that also include Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola. U.S. officials are still trying to persuade three of South Sudan's immediate neighbors to issue similar penalties against people on both sides of the brutal fighting.

A senior State Department official

traveling with Kerry said the U.S. was still compiling its own list of individuals whose assets could be frozen and who could be banned from travel to the U.S. The official was not authorized to be identified by name while briefing reporters and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Kerry arrives in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa on Wednesday. While there, he will meet with African Union leaders to discuss a range of security issues confronting the sub-Saharan region, including South Sudan. The U.S. wants the AU to deploy peacekeeping forces to South Sudan, but that was still being negotiated, the State Department official said.

South Sudan has been rocked by violence since December, when President Salva Kiir accused former Vice President Riek Machar of staging a coup. The violence is taking on an increasingly ethnic dimension between Kiir's Dinka community and Machar's Nuer community.

Senate set to reject Obama's proposed minimum wage boost, giving Democrats fall election issue

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hemmed in by solid Republican opposition, the Senate seems ready to hand a fresh defeat to President Barack Obama by blocking an election-year bill increasing the federal minimum wage.

Democrats, aware that the measure faces all but certain rejection Wednesday in the chamber they control, plan to use the vote to buttress their campaign theme that the GOP is unwilling to protect financially struggling families.

"Americans understand fairness, and they know it's unfair for minimum-wage workers to put in a full day's work, a full month's work, a full year's work, and still live in poverty," the measure's sponsor, Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, said Tuesday.

Harkin's bill, an Obama priority, would gradually raise the \$7.25 hourly minimum to \$10.10 over 30 months and then provide automatic annual increases to account for inflation. Democrats argue that if fully phased in by 2016, it would push a family of three above the federal poverty line — a level such earners have not surpassed since 1979.

They also say the minimum wage's buying power has fallen. It reached its peak value in 1968, when it was \$1.60 hourly but was worth \$10.86 in today's dollars.

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Are you a survivor of breast cancer? Do you feel as if that is your new identity? In "I Am Not My Breast Cancer" (362.196 PEL R), Ruth Peltason gathers the warm, loving, frank and informed voices of more than 800 women who reveal their most intimate thoughts and concerns.



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

These women speak out on every topic: One woman who is riding in a convertible, finds her long hair flying away in the wind after chemo has begun; another weeps with her husband on the loss of her breasts; while another tries to find the best way to tell her children that her cancer has returned.

The strength of will of these women and their companions are tremendous and you will read with awe on how they cope with fear, feelings, and more.

I believe this is the newest Stephen King novel: "Doctor Sleep" (F KIN S). King returns to the character and territory of one of his most popular novels ever, "The Shining." This riveting novel is about the now middle-aged Dan Torrance and the special 12-year-old girl he must save from a tribe of murderous paranormals.

On highways across America, a tribe of people called the True Knot travel in search of sustenance. They look harmless — mostly old, lots of polyester, and married to their RVs. But as Dan Torrance knows, and spunky 12-year-old Abra Stone learns, the True Knot are quasi-immortal, living off the steam that children with

the shining produce when they are slowly tortured to death.

Haunted by the inhabitants of the Overlook Hotel, where he spent one horrific childhood year, Dan has been drifting for decades, desperate to shed his father's legacy of despair, alcoholism, and violence. Finally, he settles in a New Hampshire town, an AA community that sustains him and a job at a nursing home where his remnant shining power provides the crucial final comfort to the dying. Aided by a prescient cat, he becomes "Doctor Sleep."

Then Dan meets Abra Stone and it is her spectacular gift, the brightest shining ever seen, that reignites Dan's own demons and summons him to a battle for Abra's soul and survival. This is an epic war between good and evil.

Some cookbooks to try, all from "Taste of Home," published by Reader's Digest: "Comfort Food Diet Cookbook" (641.563 REA D); "Fresh & Easy" (641.555 REA D); "Simple & Delicious Cookbook;" and "Busy Family Favorites" (641.556 REA D).

We have an eclectic selection of biographies available for checkout: "The Last Cowboy: A life of Tom Landry" (B LAN T) by Mark Ribowsky. Drawing from dozens of exclusive interviews, Ribowsky reveals that Landry was anything but "cold," and it was actually his depth as a human that positioned him to become an avatar of change, first as the civil rights movement spilled onto the field and, later, as the game of football transformed into something unrecognizable to those who had come before him.

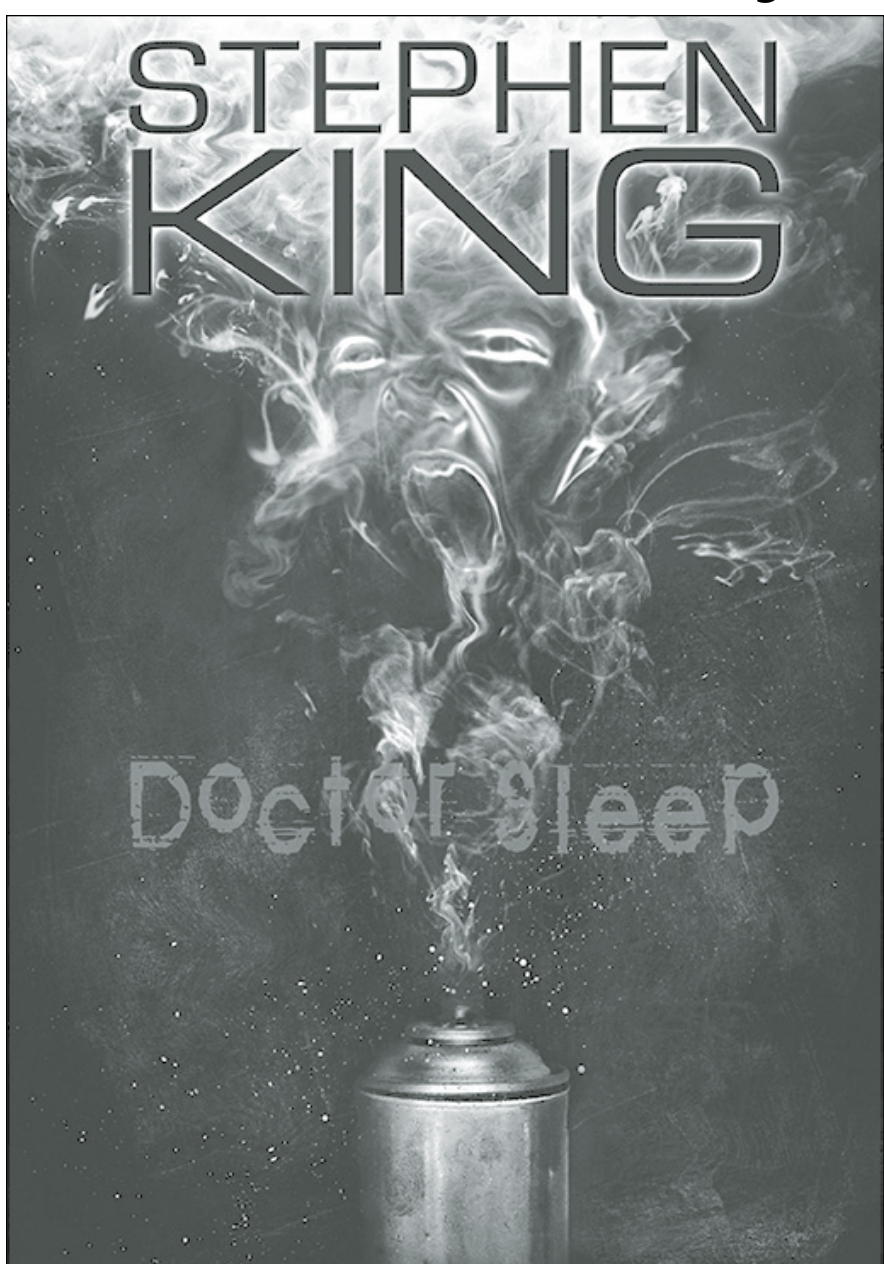
But Landry's virtues notwithstanding, he was hardly

perfect and nor were his players. From the unending quarterback controversies between Roger Staubach and Craig Morton to the locker room battles with Duane Thomas and Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson to the heartbreaking losses suffered at the hands of Landry's only true rival, Vince Lombardi, "The Last Cowboy" becomes a fascinating portrait of a fiercely Christian man desperately trying to stay the course in a city whose flamboyance mirrored that of the team he built.

"Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy" (B BOH D), the first major biography of Dietrich Bonhoeffer in 40 years, is by New York Times best-selling author Eric Metaxas. He examines both strands of Bonhoeffer's life: that of the theologian and the spy to tell a searing story of incredible moral courage in the face of monstrous evil.

In a deeply moving narrative, Metaxas uses previously unavailable documents, including personal letters, detailed journal entries, and firsthand personal accounts to reveal dimensions of Bonhoeffer's life and theology never before seen.

"Bonhoeffer" gives witness to one man's extraordinary faith and to the tortured fate of the nation he sought to deliver from the curse of Nazism. It brings the reader face to face with a man determined to do the will of God radically, courageously, and joyfully even to the point of death. (Book description is



from the book flap.)

Remember the television show "Bewitched?" Elizabeth Montgomery was Samantha the witch, along with her clueless husband, Darren Stephens and goofy neighbors and her mother Endora. We now have "Twitch Upon a Star: The Bewitched Life and Career of Elizabeth Montgomery" (B Mon E), written by Herbie J. Pilato.

She was the daughter of famed actor Robert Montgomery; and one of her four husbands was Gig Young. Before her death in 1995, Pilato interviewed her extensively and thus his work

is primary-sourced and has never before published material. It is a wonderful biography, filled with details of her life that certainly surprised me; she had depth of life and experience that one might not have expected of her.

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Hollis McCright is Howard County librarian.

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2 Chronicles 7:14 NKJV



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Roberson finishes in top 20 at state

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

It wasn't the ending Big Spring High School standout Devin Roberson wanted for his final outing as a prep golfer, but it wasn't too shabby.

Roberson fired a final round of 88 on Tuesday and finished in a three-way tie for 16th place at the 2014 Class 3A state golf tournament, which was held at the Hyatt Resort Lost Pines' course. He completed the two-round tournament with a total score of 167.

The final round was anything but kind to Roberson,

the 18-year-old son of BSHS coach Nick Roberson and his wife, Anne. His 88 over the final 18 holes was 16 strokes over par, and effectively erased his hopes of medaling. His second-round mark of 88 was the second-highest of any golfer in the top 20. Only Llano's Holden Simpson carded a higher round, shooting a 91.

Roberson and Simpson had both entered the final round tied for eighth in the standings, and just eight strokes off the lead.

For Roberson, the top 20 finish only adds to his golfing

resume for the Steers. He was part of the Steers' golf team that placed in the top five at the state meet in 2013 and 2012.

Andrews' G.K. Morrison staged a strong push over the final 18 holes to force a playoff for the individual honors. After firing a 74 in the final round, he edged out Paris' Tanner Napier in a playoff to secure the gold medal.

Napier shot a 71 on Monday and took a 4-stroke lead into the final round over Morrison.

Backed by Morrison's

strong outing, Andrews claimed to Class 3A golf team title. The Mustangs posted a score of 314 in the final round and edged out Argyle for the top spot by six strokes, 638-644. Texarkana Pleasant Grove was third at 647.

Andrews also emerged as the Class 3A state champion – again – in the girls' division. Spurred by a second-place finish by Sarah Black, the former Big Spring district rival won its fourth straight girls state title, edging out Snyder by 80 strokes 639-719. Monahans was third at 761.



File photo
BSHS senior Devin Roberson finished in a tie for 16th place at the Class 3A state golf tournament in Austin.

NBA deals Clippers' owner a lifetime ban

NEW YORK (AP) — NBA Commissioner Adam Silver delivered the swiftest, strongest penalty he could, then called on NBA owners to force Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling to sell the team for making racist comments that hurt the league.

Almost unanimously, owners supported the commissioner Tuesday as he handed down one of the harshest penalties in the history of U.S. sports.

"We stand together in condemning Mr. Sterling's views. They simply have no place in the NBA," Silver said at a news conference.

Sterling, 80, is banned for life from any association with the league or the Clippers, and was fined \$2.5 million — the maximum allowable under the NBA constitution. If three-fourths of the other 29 owners agree, Sterling will be forced to sell the team he has owned since 1981.

A message left seeking comment at Sterling's business office hadn't been returned Tuesday. Team spokesman Seth Burton said in an email that the Clippers had no plans to issue a statement from Sterling, but the franchise released a statement "wholeheartedly" supporting Silver's decision.

After the announcement, the Clippers' website featured only a simple message: "We are one." The mantra was repeated by the team's public-address announcers and chanted by their fans several times during their playoff game Tuesday, a cathartic 113-103 victory over Golden State.

Players and civil rights leaders alike cheered Silver's quick action. Players' union officials said that if the league's punishment hadn't included a mandate for Sterling to sell the team, players were considering boycotting playoff games, including Tuesday's matchup with Golden State.

"We wanted to be a part of this decision, and we wanted Adam Silver to know where we stood. And we were very clear that anything other than Sterling selling his team was not going to be enough for us," said Roger Mason Jr., the first vice president of the players' union.

HCs climbs to No. 19 in softball poll

The Howard College Lady Hawks climbed to No. 19 in the latest NJCAA.com poll.

The Lady Hawks, who have won five of their last six games, head into this weekend's Region V West Softball Tournament with a 40-10 record.

Indian River State College and Arizona Western held onto the No. 1 and No. 2 spots, respectively, in the weekly poll of Division I programs. McLennan College is third.



Courtesy photo

Bronze medal winners ...

Forsan's J.T. Breyman (left) and J.P. Stevenson earned a bronze medal at the Class A State Tennis Championships on Monday in Austin. Breyman and Stevenson won their first round by defeating Stamford's John Louis Dyer and James Washington by a count of 6-2, 6-2. They were defeated in the semifinals by eventual state champions, Price Ruffin and Colby Velez of Mason.

A Final Push



Herald photo/Tommy Wells

Howard College second baseman Brandon Wagner dives for a ball during the Hawks' game with Clarendon on Friday.

HC seeks to clinch 3rd against Odessa

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

The Howard College Hawks can create some positive vibes this weekend when they close out their 2014 regular season with a home-and-away series with the Odessa College Wranglers.

And a little positive feelings heading into the 2014 Region V West Baseball Tournament wouldn't exactly be bad. Especially with a run at the JUCO World Series hanging in the balance.

The Hawks, ranked No. 24 in the latest national junior college baseball poll, enter their final 4-game stretch of the season with a 35-16 record, and in need of one win – or a loss by Midland College and El Paso Community College – to clinch third in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference standings.

WJCAC Baseball Standings

Team	Conf. W-L	Season W-L
NMJC.....	26-6	32-19
Frank Phillips.....	24-8	32-18
Howard.....	18-14	25-16
Midland.....	15-17	29-22
El Paso.....	15-17	21-27
Odessa.....	14-18	24-25
Clarendon.....	13-19	19-22
Western Texas.....	13-9	19-30
Luna.....	12-20	16-31
NMMI.....	10-22	16-36

Howard College currently sits in third in the WJCAC standings with an 18-14 record. Midland College and El Paso are both 15-17, three games back with four games left.

The Hawks will have to earn any momentum they gain this weekend. Odessa College heads into the final weekend at 14-18 in WJCAC play.

The regional tournament gets underway on May 10 in Lubbock.



Herald photo/Tommy Wells

Dane Steinhagen runs down a fly ball in the outfield during the Hawks' 8-7 win over Clarendon this past weekend. The Hawks will close out the regular season this weekend against Odessa.

Area softball, baseball playoff games slated

Area high school baseball and softball fans shouldn't have too hard of a time finding a playoff game to attend. Three Crossroads-area teams will be competing this week.

The Big Spring High Steers will kick off its 2014 baseball playoffs on Thursday when they face Fort Stockton in the bi-district round on Thursday. The first game of the best-of-three series will start at 4 p.m. at San Angelo Central.

The final games are slated for Saturday,

2014 Baseball/Softball Playoffs Schedule

Thursday
Big Spring vs. Fort Stockton, 4 p.m. at San Angelo Central.
Softball
Friday
Forsan vs. Van Horn, 5:30 p.m. in Pecos HS
Coahoma vs. Muleshoe, 6 p.m. at Lubbock Cooper HS

starting at 1 p.m.
The Forsan Lady Bulldogs and Coahoma Bulldogettes will both be playing the softball playoffs. Forsan plays Van Horn, while Coahoma plays Muleshoe.

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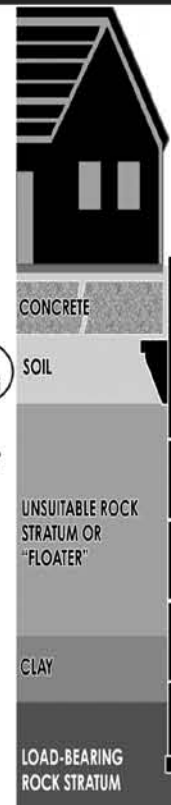
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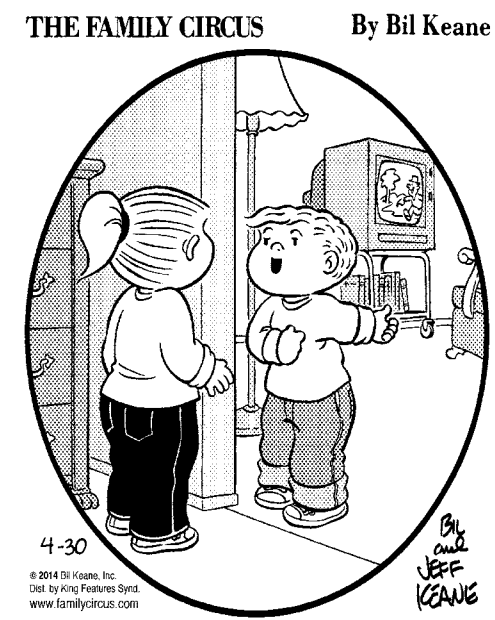
Table with 29 columns representing different TV channels (KMid, UNi, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, WTBS, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, DISC, AMC, SPIKE, TNT, BET, DISN, ESPN2, ESPN) and rows listing various TV shows and their times.

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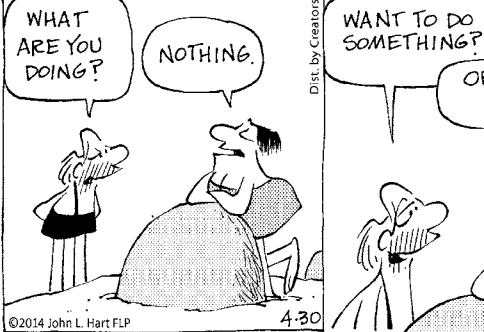
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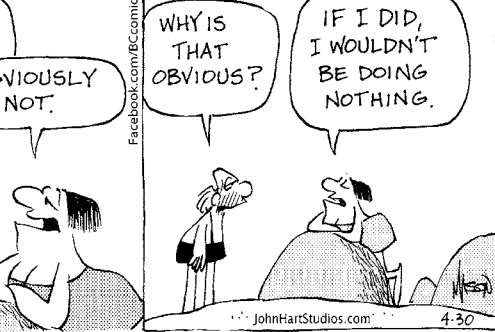
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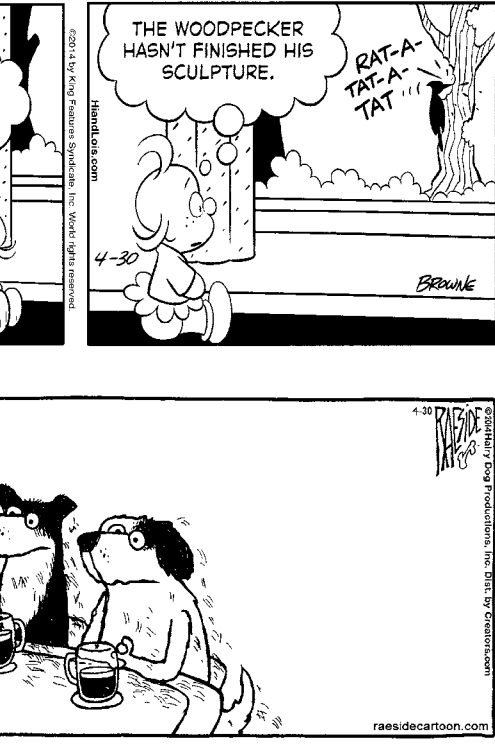
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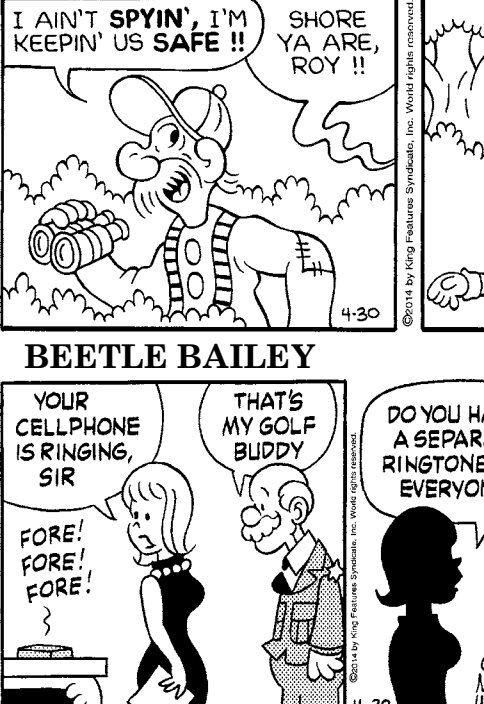
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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, April 30, the 120th day of 2014. There are 245 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On April 30, 1789, George Washington took the oath of office in New York as the first president of the United States.

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes 'KEY CLUB by Fred Piscop' and 'Edited by Stanley Newman'.

Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like TOPS, PEAL, DEMO, ABET, CACTI, EVER, SORETHROAT, SEAS, TEMPERA, DARESTO, ESS, MIDI, FAR, UPSET, VICTORY, BLAST, SPRY, GEO, LITE, PHASE, SLAW, AMI, CRIB, SHELL, HOTCHOCOLATE, LID, YORE, DAM, COCONUT, GOESAPE, UKES, CROSSPATHS, FREE, EERIE, LEIS, FAST, SEEN, EDDY.

Perez's streak ends in loss to A's

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — That impressive scoreless streak for Texas Rangers lefty Martin Perez ended quickly.

AL West-leading Oakland scored twice in the first off Perez, who had thrown 26 consecutive scoreless innings his previous three starts. The Athletics never trailed in their 9-3 victory Tuesday night.

When former teammate Craig Gentry led off the second with a triple, the A's already had three hits. That matched what Perez had allowed in each of his previous two starts while throwing three-hit shutouts, including six days earlier in Oakland.

"I think my two-seam always just stayed up and I missed a lot of pitches in the zone, up in the zone and they got a hit," Perez said. "They looked more aggressive tonight and like I said, a couple of pitches up. And when I got the ball down I got a couple of good outs."

Derek Norris drove in three runs with a pair of doubles and Scott

Kazmir (4-0) made it through five innings to match the American League lead with his fourth win.

The A's went ahead to stay on Norris' two-run double. When Norris added an RBI double to make it 4-0 in the third, the A's already had six hits off Perez (4-1), who started the night with an AL-best 1.42 ERA.

"We just had to get the ball up in the zone. He's a great groundball pitcher, he gets a lot of double plays," Norris said. "He was living down there in the zone, and we weren't biting on it and he had to elevate to get the strikes. ... When he got in a situation with runners on, we cashed in some runs."

Kazmir (4-0) needed 95 pitches to get through five innings, but left with a 9-3 lead after giving up seven hits. The lefty struck out four and walked one.

The eight runs allowed by Perez were two more than his combined total in his first five starts, and his ERA more than doubled to 2.95.



Tony Claxton photos (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Bronze medal winners ...

Howard College head softball coach Kelly Raines stands with the sophomore members of the Lady Hawks' program during a special ceremony at the team's weekend series with Frank Phillips. Show with Raines (far left) are Lani Munoz, Elizabeth Torres, Kendall Maddox, Nicole Wilson, Jessica Rivera and HC coach Kaycee Taylor

Roger Clemens in NY court for settlement talks

NEW YORK (AP) — Former baseball pitcher Roger Clemens and his onetime strength coach came face-to-face on Tuesday in a bid to settle their long-running

legal dispute, but they emerged from a closed-door meeting without a deal.

A judge had summoned Clemens and Brian McNamee to federal court in

Brooklyn for settlement talks aimed at heading off a trial in the defamation case. McNamee's lawyer emerged saying an agreement wasn't likely.

"I think this is a case where the lines are deeply drawn in the sand," said attorney Richard Emery. "I certainly expect there's going to be a trial in this case."

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Better Way

East dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 5
♥ Q 9 5 4
♦ Q 5 3 2
♣ K 10 6

WEST
♠ 10 7 3
♥ K J 8 7 2
♦ A
♣ 9 7 4 2

EAST
♠ Q J 9 8 6 2
♥ 10 6 3
♦ 6
♣ A J 5

SOUTH
♠ K 4
♥ A
♦ K J 10 9 8 7 4
♣ Q 8 3

The bidding:
East South West North
2♠ 3♦ 4♣ 5♦

Opening lead — three of spades.

Any time a declarer can add a few percentage points to the chances of making his contract, he is doing his job properly. Even if the extra chance is relatively small, it should be incorporated into declarer's overall plan as long as it does not interfere with a more promising line of play.

Consider this deal from a regional team contest. Both Souths wound up in five diamonds after East had opened with a weak two-spade bid.

At one table, declarer won the opening spade lead in his hand and

led a low diamond toward dummy. West won with the ace and returned a spade to dummy's ace. South crossed to the queen of diamonds and led a club to the queen, East following low. Declarer then returned a club to the ten, whereupon East scored the jack and ace for a one-trick set.

In essence, South played for West to hold the club jack, somewhat better than a 50-50 chance given that West was known to have started with only three spades and one diamond. In this sense, declarer was unlucky to go down. However, he missed a subtle way to add to his chances, and it cost him dearly when his counterpart at the other table found the winning line of play.

Here, South also won the first trick in his hand, but he next cashed the ace of hearts and then played a spade to the ace followed by a heart ruff in his hand, hoping the king might fall. When it didn't, he exited with the diamond jack, losing to West's ace.

This left West in a no-win situation. A spade return would hand South a ruff-and-discard, while a heart return would allow dummy's queen to score a trick. So West led a low club, on which declarer played low from dummy. No matter which club East played, South could not be stopped from scoring two club tricks, and the game was home.

Tomorrow: Play now, pay later.
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In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



Inside this issue

- 10 of the nation's top botanical gardens
- Hometown healer: All about women's health
- Fun things to go, see & do
- French almond cake recipe

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