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# BIG SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**

**JANUARY 27, 2015**



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## Fake patients, but real skills

*Howard College officials tout new SimDental Center*

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer  
 Thanks to a gift from a long-time benefactor, Howard College officials say they have a dental hygiene program that's second to none.

The college unveiled its F. Marie Hall SimDental Center, which essentially replaces nervous, fidgety human patients with compliant, computerized simulations, to much fanfare Monday morning.

Speaking of fanfare, officials directed plenty at Hall, who has lent her largesse several times to the college in the past, helping to finance projects such as the arts center which bears her family's name.

"This new center wouldn't be possible without Marie Hall," College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said. "We wanted to do something to take this program to the next level ... and we talked to Marie about it. She wanted something excellent and visionary, so we went to work on it and she graciously helped us out."

More than praise was heaped on Hall Monday — the college bestowed an honorary degree on her later in the day.

The new center that bears her name is the second step in a three-phase process in upgrading the college's dental hygiene program, officials said.

The first phase, Sparks said, was the endowment of two chairs in the department, named in honor of dentists

who were instrumental in getting the program off the ground, Alice Haynes and Rip Patterson.

Sparks said the SimDental system provides HC with a teaching tool unique among junior colleges.

"This is really cutting edge," she said. "A lot of dental schools have this equipment, but I don't know of any dental hygiene programs that do."

The center is located adjacent to the existing dental hygiene clinic and houses 10 "smart" simulation units. These units are designed to enhance students' learning experiences without requiring live patients, increasing hands-on learning opportunities for students and strengthening skill sets necessary for entering the workforce.

Dr. David Orr, who heads the dental hygiene program, said the new center will allow students to realistically simulate many procedures in a classroom environment.

"This is ideal for first-semester students," he said. "It allows them to sit, watch and try, all at the same time ... and develop the confidence to work on live patients. Eventually, they move on to live training in clinics."

Or, as Sparks put it: "(Students) get the opportunity to do this on sims before they do it to us."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at [reporter@big-springherald.com](mailto:reporter@big-springherald.com)



HERALD photos/Steve Reagan

Clockwise, from top: Dr. David Orr, head of the Dental Hygiene Department at Howard College, explains the new SimDental Center to visitors Monday; HC President Dr. Cheryl Sparks addresses the audience; and college benefactor Marie Hall receives an honorary degree from Board of Trustees Chairman John Freeman.

**INDEX**

Comics	14
Classified	10-13
Features	5
Obituaries	2
Sports	9,15

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

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## Survey shows gas prices increase slightly in Texas

Special to the Herald

Average retail gasoline prices in Texas have risen 1.6 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$1.83 a gallon Sunday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 gas outlets in Texas. This compares with the national average that has fallen 2.3 cents per gallon in the last week to \$2.02 a gallon.

Including the change in gas prices in Texas during the past week, prices Sunday were \$1.25.9 per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 22.5 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 27.1 cents per gallon during the last month and stands \$1.25.8 per

gallon lower than this day one year ago.

"Welcome back, \$1.99! This is the week that we'll see the return to a national average of \$1.99 a gallon, but motorists shouldn't expect it to last very long," said Patrick DeHaan, senior petroleum analyst with GasBuddy. "Refineries have been processing less crude oil and thus producing less gasoline, which will contribute to a soft bottoming out of the national average before a small recovery back in the very low \$2s."

And while this year will still feature far lower prices than last year, consumers be subject to a

See **GAS**, Page 3

## Shooting may be accidental

Herald Staff Report

The cause of a gun shot wound to a 19-year-old female this weekend appears to be accidental, according to the initial report by the Big Spring Police Department.

There are no new updates on the condition of the victim — Lea Gomez of Big Spring — according to a BSPD press release. She was reported in serious condition earlier.

"Investigators will interview the victim as soon as she is medically able," said St. Tony Everett, BSPD spokes person. "The initial report from the victim, prior to her transfer to Lubbock, indicated that she accidentally shot herself while handling a handgun. The investigation is ongoing and there is no further information at this time."

See **SHOOTING**, Page 3



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## Obituaries

## Betty C. Barr



Betty C. Barr, 87, of Big Spring, died Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015, in a local assisted living facility. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2015, at the First United Methodist Church of Big Spring. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park, Big Spring.

The family will receive friends from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2015, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch

Funeral Home.

Betty was born Dec. 6, 1927, in Callahan County, Texas and married James "Buddy" Barr, June 3, 1947, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Sept. 17, 2010.

Betty was a resident of the Vincent community most of her life. She was instrumental in bringing telephone service to the community, serving 37 years on the Wes-Tex Telephone Board. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Coahoma, where she taught Sunday School for a number of years and served on numerous committees. She was a member of both the 1941 Study Club and Eastern Star of Coahoma. Betty enjoyed her

family and especially her grandchildren.

Betty is survived by two sons, Mark Barr and wife, Stacy and Maxwell Barr and wife, Kaye, all of Big Spring; three grandsons, Stewart Barr and wife, Stephanie of Frisco, Aaron Barr and wife, Sarah of Houston and Johnathan Barr and wife, Christy of Rockwall; two granddaughters, Andrea Barr and husband, Rob Cook of Big Spring and Meredith Barr Durst and husband, Barrett of Lajitas; five great-grandsons, Erik, Brandon, Nathaniel, Ethan and Caleb Barr; two great-granddaughters, Lily and Mackenzie Barr; and two sisters, Patty Winters of Plainview and Elaine Carpenter of Austin.

In addition to her husband, Betty was preceded in death by her parents, Edward Jacob and Hilda (Favor) Carpenter; one brother, Edward Carpenter; and one sister, Nan Cate.

The family suggests memorial donations be made to the James and Betty Barr Ag Scholarship Fund, Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

*Paid obituary*

## Curtis Smith



Curtis Smith, 79, of Coahoma, died Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015, in Amarillo. The family will receive friends from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. A funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Oct. 3, 1935, at Center, Texas to Margie and Truitt Smith. He married Verna Medlin June 2, 1957, in Lubbock. He owned Curtis Implement Company for a number of years.

He later worked at Sears and sold other farm products for Primrose Oil Company. He managed KBYG and worked for Texas Agricultural Commission. He served on the City Council at Coahoma. He had lived in Coahoma since 1985 and was a member of Grace Fellowship Church of God.

He is survived by his wife, Verna of Coahoma; one son, David Smith of Odessa; three daughters, Vanita Woolsey and her husband Larry of Amarillo, Annette Henry and her husband Jackie and Angela Smith, all of Coahoma; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, David Smith.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

## Josephine H. Brinkman

Josephine H. Brinkman, 88, of Big Spring, died Friday, Jan. 23, 2015, in a local hospital. Private memorial services will be held at a later date.

Josephine was born Nov. 10, 1926, in Big Spring, Texas and married Harry Brinkman Sept. 16, 1984.

She was a nurse's aide at Big Spring State Hospital for several years.

Josephine is survived by her husband, Harry R. Brinkman of Big Spring; daughters, Mary Jones and husband, Steve of Canton, Miss. and Carol Wiel and husband, Gene of Pittsburgh, Penn.; a

step-daughter, Deborah Clark and husband, Mark Clark of Lubbock; and step-son, Michael Brinkman and wife, Paula of Lakewood, Wash.; one brother, Gilbert Hernandez of Kerrville; and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Manuel and Josephine Hernandez; two sons, Bruce Hicks and Eric Lansperg; and one brother, John Hernandez.

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

## Police/Sheriff

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- FLOYD RAY POPE II, 38, 818 W. Eighth, was arrested on a warrant charging assault/family violence.
- JACINDA LINEA ANNALA, 24, Lamesa, was arrested on charges of forgery, prohibited weapon and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- ASHLEY ZIPPER GALVAN, 28, San Angelo, was arrested on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- JENNIFER CORTEZ, 23, Lamesa, was arrested on a charge of forgery.
- BILLY MANN KIRK JR., 40, 408 S. Lancaster, was arrested on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.
- JESSICA LYNN BURDEN, 22, 2911 N. Moss Lake Road, was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance/more than 1 gram but less than 4 grams.
- BIANCA CHRISTINE RODRIGUEZ, 25, 820 W. Eighth, was arrested on a charge of criminal mischief/less than \$500.
- NELDA JEAN CHANCY, 42, 810 E. 14<sup>th</sup>, was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- DAVID MICHAEL PETERSON, 23, 1111 E. 14<sup>th</sup>, was arrested on a charge of forgery.
- JAMELA SHANTIL OVERTON, 24, 1503 Lincoln, was arrested on a charge of shoplifting.
- CHRISKA SKYE SELLERS, 25, Snyder, was arrested on a charge of shoplifting.
- KELLI NACOLE SELLERS, 18, Snyder, was arrested on a charge of shoplifting and a warrant from another agency.
- ALLEN TRISTAN JACKSON, 30, 617 McEwen, was arrested on warrants for failure to control speed and failure to appear.
- EDDIE JOE ALVARADO JR., 18, 301 N.W. 10<sup>th</sup>, was arrested on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.

- RUBEN CISNEROS, 38, 1002 N. Main No. 12, was arrested on a warrant charging possession of drug paraphernalia.
- TIFFIN DAWN BURKE, 28, 1600 Canary, was arrested on warrants charging theft by check, issuance of bad check, disregarding red light and no driver's license.
- AMANDA NICOLE EDMONDSON, 26, of 3224 Cornell was arrested on warrants for possession of marijuana, more than 2 ounces but less than or equal to 4 ounces; prohibited substance in a correctional facility-takes controlled substance/dangerous drug/alcohol; and hindering secure creditors, less than or equal to \$500 but less than \$1,500.
- JASON WAYNE ENGLISH, 37, of 1502 S. Rannels was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.
- LYNDIA MARIE HERNANDEZ, 21, of 1302 Scyamore was arrested on a warrant for theft, less than \$50.
- MICHAEL LEE LOPEZ, 27, of 411 N. Scurry was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- JORDAN DEAN BALIOS, 24, of 1702 S. Monticello was arrested on a warrant for possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces but more than 4 ounces.
- JOSEPHINE GUADALUPE TORRES, 25, of 2700 Frankland Ave., Midland, was arrested on a charge of theft, more than \$50 but less than \$500-shoplifting; and a warrant from another agency.
- MICHAEL JOHN STEPHENS, 53, of 2313 Plume Dr., Tyler, was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- ASHLEY ANNA BURT, 27, of 1604 S. Benton St was arrested on a warrant for forgery-check/credit card.
- JOHN EUGENE KELLY, 48, of 1203 E. 16<sup>th</sup> St. was arrested on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid-no insurance

and display of fictitious registration insignia.

- MINOR ACCIDENT was reported in the area of Highway 87 and NW 12<sup>th</sup> St., and the area of FM 700 and Gregg St.
- BURGLARY OF A BUILDING was reported in the 600 block of E. FM 700, the 2200 block of Main Street and the 1500 block of E. FM 700.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 600 block of W. Eighth.
- THEFT was reported in the 2200 block of Morrison, the 200 block of W. FM 700, the 1800 block of Wallace and the 200 block of W. FM 700.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main, the 3700 block of Boulder, the 1000 block of Ridgeroad, in the 1300 block of Wood, the 900 block of E. 16<sup>th</sup>, the 100 block of N. Nolan and the 1900 block of Martin Luther King.
- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 500 block of Washington and the 600 block of McEwen.
- FORGERY was reported in the 500 block of N. Lamesa Highway.

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

- SHANE ALAN KNOWLTON, 28, was jailed on a charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and assault/family violence.
- JOSHUA HYDEN, 39, was jailed on a charge of theft/less than \$500.
- JUAN ROBERTO CALDERON, 28, was jailed on a charge of cruelty to non-livestock animals.
- STEVEN LLOYD BATEMAN, 35, was jailed on a charge of public intoxication.
- RUBEN CISNEROS, 38, was jailed on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- BIANCA CHRISTINE RODRIGUEZ, 25, was jailed on a charge

See **POLICE**, Page 3

## Dora Hernandez



Dora Hernandez, 94, of San Antonio, formerly of Big Spring died Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015, in San Antonio. The family will receive friends from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday. A prayer service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Mike Aguilar, her son, officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Dora lived in Big Spring for many years and was well known and respected by everyone that knew her. She was a member of the Jehovah Witness congregation.

Dora was born May 20, 1920, to Rosendo and Nicolasa Morelion. Dora had 10 children.

She is survived by seven of her children, Patsy Cavazos of Big Spring, Texas, Gloria Hernandez of San Antonio Texas, Jose Hernandez of San Antonio, Texas, Ismael Hernandez of Australia, Fernando Hernandez of North Carolina, Miguel Aguilar of South Carolina and Pete Aguilar of Big Spring, Texas. She also has one surviving sister, Maria Mendoza of California.

Dora leaves behind 26 grandchildren, 50 great-grandchildren and 46-great-great grandchildren whom loved and will miss her very much. Dora also had an abundance of nieces and nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Rosendo Morelion and Nicolasa Morelion; two brothers, Jose Rosendo Morelion and Juan Antonio Morelion; one sister, Ciria Esquivel; and three sons, Francisco Vasquez Sr., Domingo Vasquez Sr. and Guadalupe Vasquez.

Pallbearers will be her grandsons, Paul Talamantez Jr., Jose Luis Aguilar, Caleb Hernandez, Frank Vasquez, Jr., Henry Vasquez and Robert Hernandez.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

*Paid obituary*

## Valentin R. Levario



AMARILLO — Former Big Spring resident Valentin R. "Val" Levario, 81, died Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015, at Cox Funeral Home Benton Chapel with Chaplain Ken Haney officiating. Burial will follow in Llano Cemetery under the direction of Cox Funeral Home.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home Wednesday,

Jan. 28, 2015, from 6-8 p.m.

Val was born in Feb. 14, 1933, in Mexico to Antonia Ramirez and Jose Levario. He married Mary Ann Moreno in Big Spring in 1977. In 1980, he moved to Amarillo. He was a maintenance supervisor with Montgomery Ward and retired after 35 years. He also had worked at Eastridge Lanes and was in the ABC Men's Bowling Association. In his spare time, he enjoyed working on cars.

He is preceded in death by his parents and 10 siblings.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; a daughter, Valerie Levario; his sons, James Levario, Angel Levario and Val Levario Jr.; his grandchildren, Victoria, Jeriah, Jacob, Joel, Aiden, Zacharias, Andrea, Amber, Angelica, Annalisa, Chris and Arturo; his great-grandchildren, Cailen, Layla, Ava, McKenna, Aubrey, Juliana, Brayden, Jacob and Hayden; his sisters, Soledad Ruiz and Gloria Levario; and many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements by Cox Funeral Home of Amarillo. Please sign the online guest book at www.coxfuneralhomeamarillo.com

*Paid obituary*

## Horace Yanez

Horace Yanez, 85, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2015, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

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Marie Hall, center right, is joined by Howard College and Chamber of Commerce officials at ribbon cutting ceremonies marking the opening of the F. Marie Hall SimDental Center Monday morning. Related story and photos, Page 1.

HERALD photo/  
Steve Reagan



**GAS**

Continued from Page 1

seasonal lift in gasoline prices as refineries slow production to do maintenance and to make the progressive switch over to cleaner burning summer gasoline.

Last year's lift began the second week of February and saw the upward trend last until the beginning of May, during which, the national average saw a rise of 35 cents a gallon. This year, consumers can

expect a similar rise, though the previous few years the rise has averaged 30-65 cents per gallon, DeHaan noted.

On the diesel side of things, price drops have continued to outpace drops in gasoline prices, he said. Diesel prices dropped an average 7 cents per gallon in the last week to \$2.835 a gallon.

By the start of February, DeHaan predicts diesel will fall under \$2.80 a gallon, and by Valentines Day, they'll fall to \$2.65/gal, "a sweetheart deal for con-

sumers and trucking companies that have seen diesel prices lag behind gasoline prices," he said.

Some quick gasoline price statistics as of Monday morning:

- Missouri has the lowest state average in the country; at \$1.79 today, it is one of 27 states averaging under \$2 a gallon.
- There is only one state averaging above \$3 a gallon today: Hawaii (\$3.27).
- In the lower 48 states, California has the highest average at \$2.45, fol-

lowed by New York at \$2.42.

- Every state has a lower average today than the same day last year. Ohio, at \$1.89 today, has seen the biggest drop from the same day last year, down \$1.40 from its Jan. 26, 2014 average.
- Only one state has an average less than \$1 lower than last year: Hawaii (which was 76 cents lower).
- There are only three states that don't have a single station reporting a price under \$2 a gallon: Vermont, Alaska and Hawaii.

**POLICE**

Continued from Page 1

of criminal mischief/less than \$500.

- NELDA JEAN CHANCY, 42, was jailed on a Bexar County warrant charging driving while intoxicated.
- TIFFINNY DAWNE BURKE, 28, was jailed on warrants charging issuance of a bad check, disregarding a red light and no driver's license.
- DAVID MICHAEL PETERSON, 23, was jailed on a charge of forgery.
- JAMELA SHANTIL OVERTON, 24, was jailed on a charge of theft/less than \$50.
- AARON MIKEL BOUTIN, 20, was jailed on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- KELLI NACOLE SELLERS, 28, was jailed on charges of theft/less than \$500 and a warrant for resisting arrest.
- EDDIE JOE ALVAR-

ADO JR., 18, was jailed on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.

- ALLEN TRISTAN JACKSON, 30, was jailed on warrants charging failure to control speed and failure to appear.
- CHRISKA SKYE SELLERS, 25, was jailed on a charge of theft/less than \$500.
- FLOYD RAY POPE, 39, was jailed a charge of assault/family violence and three capias warrants.
- BILLY MANN KIRK JR., 40, was jailed on a charge of burglary of a vehicle.
- JESSICA LYNN BURDEN, 22, was jailed on a charge of possession of a controlled substance/less than 4 grams.
- ASHLEY ZIPPER GALVAN, 28, was jailed on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.
- JACINDAL'NAE ANNALLA, 24, was jailed on a charge of forgery, prohibited weapon and

possession of drug paraphernalia.

- JENNIFER CORTEZ, 23, was jailed on a charge of forgery.
- AMANDA EDMONSON, 27, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for hindering secure creditors, more than or equal to \$500 but less than \$1,500; prohibited substance in a correctional facility-takes controlled substance/dangerous drug/alcohol; and possession of marijuana, more than 2 ounces but less than or equal to 4 ounces.
- JASON WAYNE ENGLISH, 37, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram.

- LYDIA MARIE HERNANDEZ, 21, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for theft, less than \$50.
- ASHLEY BURT, 27, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for forgery of a financial instrument.
- MICHAEL LEE LOPEZ, 27, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for bail jumping and failure to appear.
- JORDAN DEAN BALIOS, 24, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana, more than 2 ounces but less than or equal to 4 ounces.
- JOSEPHINE GUADALUPE TORRES, 25, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for

**SHOOTING**

Continued from Page 1

Police responded to 1606 Kentucky at about 11:40 p.m. Friday in reference to a shooting, a BSPD news release stated. Upon arrival, the police learned Gomez was driven to Scenic Mountain Medical Center by her boyfriend in a private vehicle, police said. Officers secured the residence and responded to the hospital. Gomez suffered a gunshot wound to the upper torso and was subsequently flown by helicopter to University Medical Center in Lubbock for treatment. BSPD investigators executed a search warrant for 1606 Kentucky Way and recovered evidence relating to this investigation, the release stated.

Officers secured the residence and responded to the hospital.

Gomez suffered a gunshot wound to the upper torso and was subsequently flown by helicopter to University Medical Center in Lubbock for treatment. BSPD investigators executed a search warrant for 1606 Kentucky Way and recovered evidence relating to this investigation, the release stated.

false report to the police and on a charge of theft of property, more than \$50 but less than \$500.

- MICHAEL JOHN STEPHENS, 53, was booked by the BSPD on an Upshur County Capias warrant for driving while intoxicated.
- JOHNEUGENE KELEY, 48, was booked by the HCSO on charges of driving while license invalid with previous conviction, suspension; and display of fictitious motor vehicle registration.

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Curtis Smith, 79, died Saturday. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. A funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Dora Hernandez, 94, died Thursday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. tonight. A prayer service will be held at 7 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. A funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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**PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (never known to fail)**  
O most Beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother.

O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in the necessity. There are none that can withstand your power.

O show me you are my Mother, O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you. (3 times)

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (3 times)

Said 3 consecutive days; after 3 days request will be granted.  
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## What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Boy's shirt is green. 2. Girl's shirt is orange. 3. Older boy's hair is shorter. 4. There is a squirrel in the grass.

## THIS DAY IN...



## HISTORY

- 1888: THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY IS FOUNDED IN WASHINGTON, D.C.
- 1944: THE 900-DAY SIEGE OF LENINGRAD IS LIFTED DURING WORLD WAR II.
- 1984: MICHAEL JACKSON SUFFERS BURNS TO HIS SCALP WHILE FILMING A COMMERCIAL FOR PEPSI.



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ANSWER: ICE SKATING



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- SPANISH:** Pie
- ITALIAN:** Piede
- FRENCH:** Pied
- GERMAN:** Fuß

## Did You Know?

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## GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: HOCKEY SKATES

## SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

## BY BOB WEBER JR.

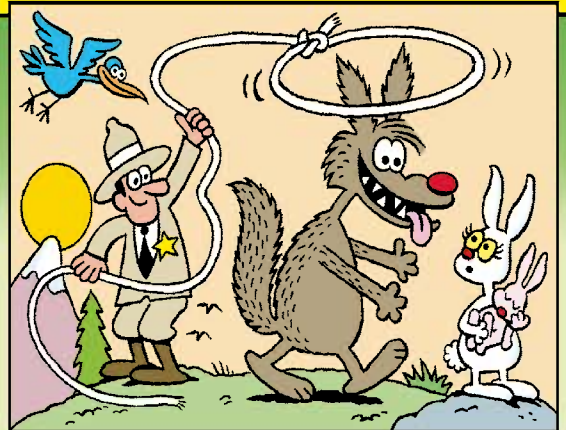
An angry beaver claims Slick Smitty stole his tree after he spent all morning gnawing it down. Smitty insists he used his chainsaw to cut down the tree and it belongs to him. Why does Slylock Fox believe the beaver?

Solution -- Slylock noticed the tree trunk is cut jagged and pointed. Smitty would have likely made a smoother, flat cut with his chainsaw.



BOB WEBER JR. & SR.

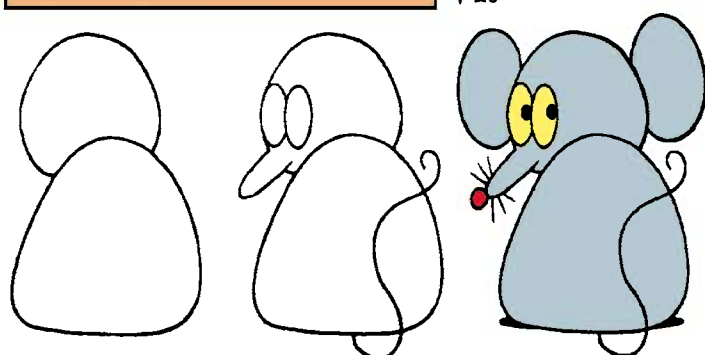
## Spot six differences between these panels.



Answer -- Hat, badge, bird, rabbit's tail, rope and tooth.

The fourth Find the six differences collection is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

## HOW TO DRAW a mouse 1-25



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A wolf's fur color can be ...

- a) White
- b) Tan
- c) Gray
- d) Black
- e) Brown

Answer -- All of the above.



Bird Poop:

# A once-frequent visitor

Although the skies seem empty now, the 1980s and '90s offered us many hands-on experiences with the holdovers from prehistoric eras. Ancient as time itself, their species endured.

With a phone call giving a locale came my usual confusion. Folks living in Sand Springs could always count on my asking directions more than once.

On the eastern outskirts of Big Spring, the small community sprawled along the Interstate until it bumped into the city lights of Coahoma. Somewhere in between was a sandhill crane.

Usually a building or unusual advertising sign was given as a reference. From there, we were on



BEBE  
McCASLAND

our own. The woman's description of the bird was troubling. Standing on one foot, the crane could only move about by lifting its body with the flapping of its nearly six-foot wingspan.

Once it had reached the desired location, the sandhill would settle back down on its foot. As it probed the ground with its long, pointed

bill, the earthworms and grubs it found did not disappoint.

After we eased up her driveway to the front of the house, the homeowner's greeting was tempered by

See BIRD, Page 8



# It's your life — how you live it is your choice

A friend of mine recently commented, "I've heard that

a hundred times in a hundred different ways before it

finally got through to me."

His words reminded me of the many lessons of life that we have learned through the years, and have been reminded of many times, but for whatever reason, we never fully grasped.

These are lessons that we should be aware of, and should address for our own personal gain.

We know that the average human life is rela-

tively short, and yet we are usually surprised when it ends, especially to someone we know.

It's like walking up a flight of stairs with a distracted mind, and misjudging the final step. We are taken totally by surprise and find ourselves fortunate if we are able to keep our balance.

I guess the lesson is that we must live our life a day at a time, be bold and courageous and acknowledge that the life we live is the life we create for ourselves. Our life is ours alone, but it does have its influence on others.

Others can influence us, but they can't decide for us. They can walk with us, but not in our shoes. So we must make sure the path we decide to walk aligns with our own intuition

and desires and not to be scared to switch paths or pave a new one when it makes sense.

This is our life, and it is made up entirely of our choices.

May our actions speak louder than our words; may our life preach louder than our lips. We should always keep in mind that success never comes to look for us; we must look for the opportunities for success, keeping in mind that we are what we do, not what we say we will do.

Knowledge is basically useless without action, and good things don't usually come to those who wait; good things come to those who work on meaningful goals.

We should ask ourselves what is really important and then have

the courage to build our life around our answer, keeping in mind that if we wait until we feel 100 percent ready to begin, we'll likely be waiting the rest of our lives.

Thinking and doing are two very different things, but we don't want to fill our lives with busyness, for being busy does not mean being productive. Busyness is not a virtue, nor is it something to respect.

Though we all have our times of crazy schedules, very few of us have a legitimate need to be busy all the time. We simply do not know how to live with-

in the time we have.

We need to prioritize properly, and say no when we should.

Just take a look around. Busy people are rushing all over the place, and running late much of the time. They are heading to work, conferences, meetings, social engagements, etc.

They often do not have enough time for family or friends, and they rarely get enough sleep. Yet, emails are shooting out of their smart phones like machine gun bullets and their day planners are jammed to the brim with obligations. They're like hamsters

running on a wheel.

Though being busy can make us feel more alive for a moment, the sensation is not sustainable in the long term. Someday we will come to wish that we spent less time being busy and more time actually living a purposeful life.

Our life is ours to spend as we choose, but we can only spend it once.

As Carl Rogers once said: The good life is a process, not a state of being. It is a direction, not a destination.

*Darrell Ryan is director of school safety for Big Spring Independent School District.*



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Howard County Junior College District	
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION	
Year Ended August 31, 2014	
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2014</b>
Operating revenues	
Tuition and fees (net of discounts of \$4,514,307)	\$4,180,218
Federal grants and contracts	2,841,448
State grants and contracts	990,745
Local grants and contracts	11,479
Nongovernmental grants and contracts	1,586,823
Sales and services of educational activities	399,371
Auxiliary enterprises (net of discounts of \$1,359,856)	297,683
Other operating revenues	509,022
Total operating revenues	<u>10,816,789</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Operating expenses	
Instruction	\$10,675,989
Public service	1,296,592
Academic support	2,902,692
Student services	2,139,733
Institutional support	5,346,324
Operation and maintenance of plant	3,543,242
Scholarships and fellowships	2,691,540
Auxiliary enterprises	1,805,103
Depreciation	1,832,120
Total operating expenses	<u>32,233,335</u>
Operating loss	(\$21,416,546)
<b>NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>	
State appropriations	11,498,988
Property taxes for operations	5,118,233
Property taxes for debt service	1,791,602
Payments in lieu of taxes	145,192
Federal revenue, non operating	5,037,332
Investment income (net of investment expenses)	38,785
Interest on capital related debt	(935,326)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(150,215)
Other non-operating revenues	405,935
Net non-operating revenues	<u>22,950,526</u>
Income before other revenue	1,533,980
Other revenue	
Capital contributions	829,409
Increase in net position	2,363,389
Net position - beginning of year, as previously reported	40,300,544
Net position - beginning of year, as adjusted	40,300,544
Net position - end of year	<u>\$42,663,933</u>





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## News in brief

### Tens of millions of Northeast residents hunker down for storms not quite as bad as predicted

NEW YORK (AP) — Tens of millions of people along the East Coast hunkered down for a storm that for most failed to live up to predictions that it would be one of the worst they'd ever seen.

Forecasters originally said the storm could bring 1 to 3 feet of snow and punishing hurricane-force winds. But early Tuesday, they downgraded most of those numbers, saying New England would fare the worst, but even then not as bad as expected.

Bruce Sullivan of the National Weather Service said Boston and Providence, Rhode Island, could get the most snow, about 2 feet. New York could see 10 inches to 20 inches, Hartford, Connecticut, 1 to 2 feet, and Philadelphia and central New Jersey about 6 inches.

The National Weather Service over the weekend had issued a blizzard warning for a 250-mile swath of the region, meaning heavy, blowing snow and potential whiteout conditions.

On Monday, life abruptly stopped across the region as officials ordered workers to go home early, banned travel, closed bridges and tunnels, and assembled their biggest plowing crews.

### Japanese envoy to Jordan voices hopes for release of Islamic State group hostage and pilot

TOKYO (AP) — A Japanese envoy in Jordan expressed hope that both Japanese hostage Kenji Goto and a Jordanian pilot held by Islamic militants will return home "with a smile on their faces," as questions rose Tuesday over the government's handling of the crisis.

In the Jordanian capital, Amman, Deputy Foreign Minister Yasuhide Nakayama seemed determined, saying he believed there were "firm ties" between Japan and Jordan.

"I hope we can all firmly work hard and join hands to cooperate, and for the two countries (Japan and Jordan) to cooperate, in order for us to see the day when the Jordanian pilot and our Japanese national Mr. Goto, can both safely return to their own countries with a smile on their faces," Nakayama, a lawmaker sent to coordinate efforts in Amman to save two Japanese hostages of the Islamic State group, said late Monday night.

It was the first mention by a Japanese official of Jordanian pilot 1st Lt. Mu'ath al-Kaseasbeh, who has been held by the extremist Islamic State group after crashing in December. It wasn't clear when the pilot's possible release had entered the picture.

### Libyan security official says gunmen at luxury Tripoli hotel take hostages; 3 guards killed.

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Gunmen stormed a luxury Libyan hotel popular with foreigners Tuesday, killing at least three guards and taking hostages, a security official said.

Essam Al-Naas, a spokesman for a Tripoli security agency, said a standoff continued Tuesday afternoon at the Corinthia Hotel, which sits along the Mediterranean Sea.

A hotel staffer said five masked attackers wearing bulletproof vests stormed the hotel after security at the gates tried to stop them. He said they entered the hotel and fired randomly at the staff in the lobby.

The staffer said the gunmen fired in his direction when he opened his door to look out.

# RESTAURANT GUIDE



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## BIRD

Continued from Page 5

her concern for the bird. "I think its other leg is broken," she offered.

Stuffed around our largest cardboard box were pole nets and several large towels. Gloves were left behind. To safely capture the injured crane would require quickly encircling its body and wings with one arm and pressing the bird to my side.

At the same time, grabbing its beak with my other hand was primary. Only the feel of bird against my flesh would tell me of success.

In the open lot beside her home stood the sandhill crane. By quietly walking in a large circle around it, we could see that the thigh area of the unused leg had been affected. The slightly bulging area and the rest of the leg would have to be supported by Art so that no more damage could occur.

Approaching the crane from behind reminded me of other rescues. My recalling one of Art's favorite phrases discouraged any hesitation. "Just do it!"

The nearly four-foot high sandhill offered little resistance. For a bird that easily flies 40 miles or more in a day in search of food, and readily eats mice, frogs, lizards and snakes, the present food source was disappearing rapidly. In the Sand Springs locale, its other diet of grain sorghum, wheat and peanuts was absent.

Having notified Midge Erskine of Eos Wildlife Sanctuary in Midland of the crane's injury, we met her at the veterinary clinic that helped her with birds. Having seen Steve Betton extract a cactus thorn from our cat's eye, we knew how meticulous and caring he was.

Since the broken bone was contained within the flesh and not exposed to air, he felt the bird had a chance. Several X-rays confirmed

the surgery needed.

Until the bones calcified, the bird would be supported within a sling.

Only when further X-rays confirmed the healing process would he consider the next phases of its recovery and rehab.

Upon leaving the examining room, a glance back enabled us to appreciate one more time how striking the crane was in its layered coat of gray feathers. The patch of red skin on its forehead was a sign of maturity.

In that January of 1994, we could not have anticipated that 21 years later the descendants of that sandhill crane would be part of 314 species considered to be at risk for extinction by 2080. An extensive study by Audubon was frightening.

A reality has always been that migrations change as cranes and other birds perceive a better path to continue their existence. But hampering seasonal journeys now are more droughts, fires, high voltage lines, agricultural decline, pollution and loss of habitat.

In the 1970s, nearly 7,000 cranes accepted One Mile Lake in Big Spring as their winter safe haven. Stanton's evening sky was often black with 35,000-40,000 cranes headed to Natural Dam Lake. What we once considered commonplace is now remembered and appreciated even more.

When we heard the bugling, or call, of some 30 sandhill cranes flying over our house this past November, we were reminded of what we have to lose, and what we long to hear.

During the beginning of our commitment to the rescue of wild, migratory birds, we came across an anonymous quote. Enduring as an important reminder of the work ahead, it warned, "When there are no birds to sing, who will hear them?"

*Bebe McCasland is author of The Scoop from Bird Poop. She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.*



# Steers finish second at C-City Invitational

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Tyler Nairn and Andrew Paredez helped the Big Spring High School Steers continue to turn heads on the West Texas powerlifting circuit this past Saturday. Nairn and Paredez won their respective weight classifications and helped propel a short-handed

BSHS team to second in the final team standings at the 2015 Colorado City Powerlifting Championships.

Big Spring had seven lifters finish in the top five of their weight classifications and finished with 27 points.

"I was pretty happy with the way we competed," said BSHS coach John Wright.

"I though we did really well considering we were missing several people."

Nairn and Paredez didn't miss a thing. The two state-ranked lifters easily won their classifications.

Nairn won the 123-pound crown and was named the Light Platform Best Lifter following the meet. Paredez

was first in the 114-pound division.

Mason Lane and Colin Sutton both posted second-place marks. Lane was the runner-up in the 198-pound class, while Sutton was second in the 220-pound class.

Val Presas Contreras, Levi Molina and Davian Moore also did well. Contreras was

third in the Super Heavyweight class, while Molina was fourth in the 275-pound standings. Moore was fifth in the 198-pound bracket.

Emily Crawford and Haylena Davidson starred for the BSHS girls. The two finished second and third, respectively, in their division.

See **STEERS**, Page 15

# Hawks remain atop WJCAC

## Gray leads Hawks to 59-50 win over WTC

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Western Texas may have went into Monday's match-up with the Howard College Hawks near the bottom of the Western Junior College Athletic Association standings, but HC head coach Scott Raines never let his team believe the Westerners would roll over.

Not even for a second.

That attitude – along with a stellar night by point guard Rob Gray and dominance of the boards – paid huge dividends for the Hawks as they held off a gutsy test from Western Texas to claim a 59-50 victory in the Scurry County Coliseum.

"It was a hard fought game," said Raines. "They came in at 2-5, but they could have easily been 5-2. They're a good team and they gave us a tough game."

With the victory, Howard College remained tied for the WJCAC lead heading into the start of the second half of conference play on Thursday in Midland. The Hawks are tied with No. 25 South Plains at 7-1.

Niels Bunschoten enabled Howard to withstand an early challenge by Western Texas. After the Westerners had pounded out a 6-3 run in the first four minutes of play, he 6-foot-9 sophomore knocked down his second three-pointer of the contest and tied the game at 6-6.

Howard College took complete advantage of the spark. The Hawks outscored Western Texas by an 11-5 clip over the next five minutes and took a 17-11 lead midway through the first half.

Howard, now 16-5 for the

See **HAWKS**, Page 15



Hawks' guard Rob Gray drives past a Western Texas defender for a basket during Howard College's 59-50 victory on Monday in Snyder. Gray finished the game with 24 points and 11 rebounds.

Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

# First-half surge sends WTC to 67-42 win over HC

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Western Texas reeled off a 14-0 midway through the first half on Monday evening in the Scurry County Coliseum and never looked back en route to claiming a 67-42 victory over the Howard College Lady Hawks.

With the victory, Western Texas improved to 1-6 in conference play and left the Lady Hawks in sole possession of the WJCAC basement at 0-7.

Turnovers, according to Lady Hawks' head coach Earl Diddle, were a major issue for the

young Hawks in the contest. Western Texas scored 19 of its points off HC turnovers.

"Give Western Texas credit. I thought they played hard," he said. "It wasn't that we didn't play hard, because we did, but turnovers hurt us."

Howard College, now 6-17 for the year, played well in the first 10 minutes. The Lady Hawks, despite an early 5-0 run by WTC, picked up a clutch three-point shot from Monica Perez just minutes into the game and enjoyed a 9-7 lead.

Moments later, Rosemary Rits pushed in a

left-handed layup that ended a WTC rally and put HC on top 15-14 with less than 10 minutes left.

Unfortunately for the Lady Hawks, the Lady Westerners came alive. WTC pounded out a 14-0 run over the ensuing five minutes and raced to a 29-15 before Tamara York could end the spurt with a shot off the glass.

Spurred by the run, Western Texas managed to outscore Howard by a 235 run over the final 9:56 of the half and took a 37-20 lead into the intermission.

"It kind of spiralled

See **HOWARD**, Page 15



Howard's Raffaella Angelidou shoots over a WTC defender for a basket during the second half of the Lady Hawks' game on Monday.

Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

# Second place on line for BS teams

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Make no mistake about it, the Big Spring High School boys' and girls' basketball teams will step onto the Steer Gym court tonight with huge playoff implications on the line. Both the BSHS boys and girls will face off with rival Lamesa tonight with second-place in their respective district races hanging in the balance.

Julianna Rodriguez and the Big Spring Lady Steers find themselves in the more crucial battle. The Lady Steers tips off the second half of the District 2-4A race tied with the Lady 4As with the runner-up spot. Lamesa, however, owns the head-to-head tie-breaker thanks to a 45-34 victory over Big Spring in the district-opener for both teams on Jan. 9.

In their first outing, the Lady Steers struggled through a tough shooting performance. The BSHS girls shot just 24 percent from the floor in the game, and made just six shots from the field in the final 16 minutes of play.

With a win over Lamesa tonight, Big Spring would move to within two wins of clinching a postseason berth.

Big Spring enters tonight's game sporting a 13-13 record.

The Big Spring Steers, now 15-7 overall, roll into their showdown with Lamesa in a three-way tie for second. Big Spring, Lamesa and Leveland are all 2-1 after three district outings.

A win tonight, combined with a victory by Estacado over Leveland, would put Big Spring in sole possession of second place heading into the Steers home game with Estacado on Friday.

The Steers are coming off a hard-fought victory over Sweetwater on Friday.

Games will begin at 5 p.m.

# Little League sign-ups to resume Jan. 31

Big Spring Little League will hold sign-ups for the upcoming season starting on Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015 at the Springtown Plaza (formerly Big Spring Mall) on the end by Beall's from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The league is open to players ranging in age from 4-16. Parents registering their children should bring a birth certificate.

Registration fees are \$90 per child and the league provides the entire uniform.

Sign-ups will also be held Feb. 7 and Feb. 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and also on Feb. 9-13 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Individuals interested in coaching please sign up early and let a board member know.



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**CROSSROADS HOSPICE** is hiring for a RN/LVN for patient care in the Big Spring & surrounding areas. Bilingual a plus. Hospice experience preferred.

Come by 421 Main St or fax resume to 432.263.5304 Attn: Debbie Read (EOE)

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family business is looking for an office assistant and a part time reception coordinator. If you are dependable, able to work with people and have basic computer skills please send resume to bakerkasi@yahoo.com. Health benefits and 401K provided.

**EXPERIENCE FARM** Hand Wanted! Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

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Must have a desire to work in a team environment and the ability to follow directions. Must have at least 1 yr maintenance experience. Abilities to include: painting experience; general plumbing, general sheetrock repair and texture and HVAC skills. Must have own tools, ability to take afterhours and weekend calls; valid TX drivers license and liability insurance. Apply in person at Bent Tree Apartments, 1 Courtney Place. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE...

**HELP WANTED** - Const. work, HVAC Installers for new school in Colorado City, apply in person @ 1244 East Tenth Street, Colorado City

**HIRING IMMEDIATELY**  
TOP NOTCH LANDSCAPING is hiring for all positions! Apply under careers and opportunities at topnotchlandscapingco.com.

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**JD'S SERVICES** Snyder, Texas Looking For Pipe Line Construction Equipment Operator. Apply in Person @ 3801 23rd St in Snyder or Submit Resume to cathy@jdservices.us

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**NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE** Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.

**NEW HOPE** Christian School Has an Immediate Opening For a Full Time, Mature Christian Teacher for 18-Months Through 24 Months. Apply in Person at 118 Cedar Rd.

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Candidates should possess an associate's degree in business or a related field or the equivalent work experience. Minimum of four years of experience in materials purchasing, requisitioning or inventory system. Employment is contingent upon passing background check, physical and drug screening. For complete job descriptions and to apply online, go to the career page at: www.midamericanrenewablesllc.com and search "Available Positions".

**NOW HIRING:** RBC Transport, Inc., a local oilfield company, needs CDL drivers. Tanker endorsement is required. Health insurance provided after 90 days. Please call 432-517-0593 or 432-213-3442.

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Applications must be turned in to the Auditor's office by January 28, 2015. EOE.

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 Rape Crisis Services/Big Spring

**Venus Heart Transplant**

Venus in Pisces will bring changes of heart. In the weeks to come, hearts that danced with intention will take it to the next level, sprouting wings and flying to unexpected places. The heart's journey happens on many planes at once, including the astral plane. Don't be in a rush to make sense of it. The heart has its own mystical logic.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

people are and how they are likely to behave is much more useful than blanket statements of trust or distrust.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). It's said that you're not supposed to awaken people who are sleepwalking. Similarly, it could be dangerous to offer too much outside reality to one who is living very much within a bubble of personal reality.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Your social landscape is changing. Instead of offering signs of approval, try empathy. Ask the questions that might help you better understand how another person walks this world.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Does self-improvement have to be such an endless quest? You may simply not be in the mood for it today. As Winston Churchill said: "He has all of the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Even though you've done nothing wrong, those who misunderstand you could ask you to

defend yourself. If you think you might be put on the stand, prepare a case for yourself beforehand.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Some responsibilities do not need to be taken on, and others cannot be avoided and therefore should be accepted immediately. Knowing the difference takes wisdom, which you definitely possess.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Just because you have a right to do a thing doesn't mean you should. There are many considerations to factor into today's decisions, not the least of which have to do with the feelings of others.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). While the gurus spout the glories of being "authentically you" and "living your truth," the reality is that relating well to a variety of other humans takes specialized skills that must be learned. At first it will feel like an act.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When the laws of supply and demand don't seem to be working

in your favor, get creative. You're truly brilliant in your ability to manage the equation to better suit you.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Instead of avoiding negative feelings, dive right in to whatever is bothering you. Dealing directly with your challenges will liberate you. A moment of unpleasantness will be followed by hours of relief.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You can plan this day to a point, but leave yourself exit strategies too, and be willing to bail on the plan when spontaneous opportunity arises (and it will).

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Jan. 27). Besides putting in the work to get use out of the intellectual abundance of your birthright, you'll also apply emotional and spiritual intelligence to create the personal life of your dreams. February brings a financial breakthrough. You'll receive visitors in May and make memories. You'll make an important promise in September. Cancer and Virgo adore

you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 22, 14, 39 and 50.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I have a friend who lives 2,000 miles away, but has begun to work frequently in my city. He's an Aquarius, and I'm a Capricorn. He doesn't have much money, and I'm sure he really needs the work. At first I was excited to see him and have him stay with me for a few days. But now his trips are more frequent and I'm finding that when he calls and wants to "crash at my place" it feels like an inconvenience. I know I'm being selfish because after all, he mostly sleeps, takes a shower and then goes off to his job. Still, I'm irritated by his very presence in my home. What should I do?"

Aquarius natives are more communal in nature than some other signs. They often get energy from people, whereas you feel drained unless you have the proper amount of alone time. You like structure, and your home gives you the solitude you need. You've been more than generous, letting your friend stay with you

several times. Assuming that your friend is an adult, he will, sooner or later, have to make adult decisions that include finding himself adequate accommodations when he works out of town.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Comedian, actor and author Patton Oswalt has several projects in the works for the new year, including the upcoming vampire/zombie comedy, "Kitchen Sink." Oswalt was born under an unconventional Aquarius Sun and has three major planets in psychic water signs, suggesting that he uses a combination of quirky intellect and uncanny intuition to guide him in life.

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

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**Annie's Mailbox**



KATHY MITCHELL  
 MARCY SUGAR

**Dear Annie:** My wife has a good personality and makes friends easily. The problem is, she does not keep them. If someone rubs her wrong, she flares up in anger. If someone disagrees with her, she verbally abuses them. She also gets involved in everyone else's personal affairs.

When these negative things happen, the friends start backing off. Then my wife complains that we have no friends

and it's my fault because I'm not outgoing enough. But I am friendly and participate in group gatherings without getting involved in conflicts. I make friends and keep them.

This has been going on for 30 years. How can I make her see that she is the one who is driving people away? -- Need Help Down South

**Dear Need:** Your wife is disinclined to blame herself for these things. After all, if she had the capacity for genuine self-examination, she might not be alienating her friends to begin with. You

can discuss this honestly, calmly telling your wife that she seems quick to anger and slow to forgive, and perhaps she could learn a different approach, either on her own or through counseling. But if you are unwilling to risk that argument, say neutrally, "Some folks are very sensitive, and I try to be careful about what I say to them and always try to forgive them for things that annoy me. But it's hard work." That may give her some ideas about how to treat others, while not assessing blame. It's your choice. You have to live with her.

**Dear Annie:** I was ashamed of your response to "Need To Be Held," who was dissatisfied with her husband's affection. Telling her to get counseling, focus on the grandchildren, get out more, etc., was fine until I came to your last line: "Please consider doing volunteer work with babies at your local hospital."

There are probably hundreds of volunteer opportunities in her community. Just because she is a mother, you assume holding a baby would make her happy? A simple suggestion that she look into volunteering with an organization that matches her passions, whether that be at her local food bank, animal shelter, day care, library or anywhere she wants, would have been less ridiculous. -- Ventura, Calif.

**Dear Ventura:** We appreciate your weighing in, but in your effort to be gender-neutral, you miss the writer's main point. The woman's problem isn't a need to be useful and busy, for which any volunteer job would be helpful. It's that she isn't getting enough physical affection. She even signs her letter, "Need To Be Held." She isn't likely to find that at her local food bank or library. Volunteering at her local hospital, where she can hold babies, is a wonderful way for her to get the physical affection she craves, and it is also good for the babies. (Men can do it, too.)

**Dear Annie:** "Been There, Done That" lamented the trend to

give kids unusual names. These days, complicated names can be an advantage if you are searching for someone on the Internet. A person with a commonly spelled first name can be impossible to find.

Fifty years ago, my kid sister announced that she was going to marry someone with a simple last name. But when she married years later, it was to a man whose name was even harder to spell and pronounce than hers.

When I taught elementary school in the '70s, the principal suggested that it might be easier for students to call me something other than my last name, as long as it started with "Mister." On my first day, I wrote my name on the board and told the students what the principal had said. They voted to call me "Mister John." I remember one open house when a parent addressed me by my last name. Their daughter immediately interrupted to say they were incorrect. I was "Mister John." -- Hard To Spell Last Name

*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](mailto: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](http://www.creators.com).*

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**Contract Bridge**

By Steve Becker  
**The Foresight Saga**

North dealer.  
 Neither side vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
 ♠ A K 6 3  
 ♥ A J 8 5 3  
 ♦ 10 7  
 ♣ A 5  
**WEST**  
 ♠ J 10 2  
 ♥ 6 4  
 ♦ A 9 6 3  
 ♣ Q 9 7 3  
**EAST**  
 ♠ Q 9 7 5  
 ♥ K Q 10 9  
 ♦ 4 2  
 ♣ 10 6 2  
**SOUTH**  
 ♠ 8 4  
 ♥ 7 2  
 ♦ K Q J 8 5  
 ♣ K J 8 4

club. Declarer played low from dummy at trick one, winning East's ten with the jack. He then led a diamond to the ten, which held, and another diamond to the king. West took the king with the ace and returned a club to dummy's ace. Too late, South realized that he now had four good tricks in his hand — three diamonds and a club — but no way to get there. He twisted and turned, but the defenders kept him locked in dummy, and he finished down two. Declarer should have made the contract, however. All he had to do to assure nine tricks was to win the opening club lead with dummy's ace and establish four diamond tricks by driving out the ace. If South had followed the basic rule of notrump play before proceeding — count your sure winners and add to them those you can readily establish — he would have seen the danger inherent in allowing the opening lead to run to his hand. He had five sure tricks to start with, and all he needed in addition were four diamond tricks. Since this would require a later entry to his hand, he should have put up dummy's ace of clubs at trick one.

Tomorrow: Sylvia misapplies a rule.  
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**Sudoku Answer On Page 10**

**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.

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

[www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)



	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWWT (14)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5:PM	News ABC	P. Luche	Two Men	News	Tele	News	Seinfeld	Justice	Focus	CHiPs	Moonshiners	Hard 2. William Atherton	Bar Rescue	Castle (DVS)	Husbands	Girl	Around	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Notic.	Two Men	News	Noticiero	News	Seinfeld	Called	Business	M*A*S*H	Moonshiners	Framework	Castle (DVS)	Husbands	Girl	Pardon	College Basketball	College Basketball: Nebraska at Michigan.
7:PM	Shark Tank	Mi Corazón Es Tuyo	MasterChef	NCIS (DVS)	Los Miserables (SS)	Parks	Big Bang	Upd	Genealogy Rd	Griffith Griffith	Moonshiners	Movie: The Bourne Supremacy, Brian Cox	Framework	Movie: The Replacements, Orlando Jones (DVS)	Husbands	Jessie	2015 Australian Open Tennis: Quarterfinals.	College Basketball: Florida at Alabama.
8:PM	Agent Carter	Hasta el Fin	New Girl	NCIS: New Orleans	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	Mary Me	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	Edison: American Experience	Heroes	Cheers	Framework	Movie: The Replacements, Orlando Jones (DVS)	Husbands	Movie	2015 Australian Open Tennis: Quarterfinals.	College Basketball: Florida at Alabama.	
9:PM	Forever	Que te Perdona	Mod Fam	CSI: Crime Scene	Dueños del Paraíso	Chicago Fire	Ground	Cougar	Charlie Rose	Taxi	Big Giant Swords	Movie: The Bourne Supremacy, Brian Cox	Framework	Movie: The Replacements, Orlando Jones (DVS)	Husbands	Keyshia	2015 Australian Open Tennis: Quarterfinals.	College Basketball: Florida at Alabama.
10:PM	News	Impacto	Cleveland	News	Tele	News	Conan	With Scholars	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett Perry Mason	Moonshiners	Framework	Movie: The Replacements, Orlando Jones (DVS)	Husbands	Girl	2015 Australian Open Tennis: Quarterfinals.	College Basketball: Florida at Alabama.	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Que No	How I Met	Letterman	Titulares	Tonight Show	Ground	Ministerios Vida	T. Smiley	McCloud	Big Giant Swords	Framework	Movie: The Replacements, Orlando Jones (DVS)	Husbands	Dog	2015 Australian Open Tennis: Quarterfinals.	College Basketball: Florida at Alabama.	
12:AM	Extra	Un Refugio	How I Met	The Late Late Show	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	Seth Meyers	Conan	Upd	(Off Air)	McCloud	To Be Announced	Movie: X-Men, Ian McKellen	Framework	CSI: NY	The Real	Deck	2015 Australian Open Tennis: Quarterfinals.	College Basketball: Florida at Alabama.
1:AM	Paid	Alma	Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Paid	De siones	Pagado	Light of the Southwest	Gallery	Moonshiners	Tattoo	Tattoo	CSI: NY	Game	Wizards	NFL Live	2015 Australian Open Tennis: Quarterfinals.	College Basketball: Florida at Alabama.

### DENNIS THE MENACE

1-27 Hamilton

"SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE LIFE IS PASSING ME BY."

"MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE IN THE SLOW LANE."

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

1-27

"You don't need to get the broom, Mommy. Barfy's gonna clean up for you."

### HAGAR

1-27

"THERE HE IS! 498"

"I GUESS IT HAD TO HAPPEN ONE DAY!"

"SO THIS IS WHAT DEFEAT LOOKS LIKE!"

1-27

"NO... THIS IS WHAT VICTORY LOOKS LIKE... AFTER A LITTLE TOO MUCH CELEBRATING!"

### BC

1-27

"I'VE DECIDED TO BECOME A VEGETARIAN."

"IS IT FOR HEALTH REASONS, OR ARE YOU OPPOSED TO ANIMAL CRUELTY?"

"BECAUSE TURNIPS CAN'T SMELL YOU COMING."

### WIZARD OF ID

1-27

"HONEY! WE NEED TO GO NOW, OR WE'LL MISS OUR FLIGHT!"

"WE NEED TO BE A GOOD TWO HOURS EARLY TO CHECK OUR BAGS"

"WE SHOULD HAVE LEFT LAST WEEK"

### BLONDIE

1-27

"AND TODAY, I'M ALL ABOUT REUBENS!!"

"ARE YOU ON THE PHONE?"

"WOOHOO! THIS BABY'S GOING VIRAL!!"

"SORRY, MOM, I ACCIDENTALLY SHOWED DAD HOW TO SHOOT VIDEOS WITH HIS PHONE!"

1-27

### AGNES

1-27

"WOW! DID YOU GET A BOX IN THE MAIL?"

"YEP."

"WHAT'S IN IT?"

"DON'T KNOW. IT COULD BE ANYTHING. MAYBE GOLD!"

"I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT."

"THAT'S BECAUSE YOU OPEN YOURS."

### HI AND LOIS

1-27

"MOM SAID I COULD HAVE ONE CALL BEFORE MY TIMEOUT STARTS."

"SORRY, DITTO, I CAN'T 'BAIL YOU OUT.'"

### THE OTHER COAST

1-27

"WELL? AREN'T YOU GOING TO TAKE HIM DOWN?"

"ONE OF MY NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS WAS TO BE NICER TO PEOPLE."

### SNUFFY SMITH

1-27

"I CAN'T WAIT TO HAVE THIS BABY AN' GIT RID OF MY BIG BELLY, LOWEZEY!!"

"IT DON'T GO AWAY QUITE AS QUICK AS IT CAME, LINDY!!"

"HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?!"

"I'LL LET YA KNOW WHEN I FIND OUT!!"

### BEEBLE BAILEY

1-27

"13th DIVISIO"

"COME ON, SMILE, SARGE"

"THINK ABOUT SPENDING A DAY WITH YOUR FRIENDS IN YOUR PLATOON"

"GREG + MORT WALKER"

"YEAH! THAT'S IT!"

### Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- Croc's cousin
- Costa \_\_\_\_\_
- Short-term worker, for short
- Without assistance
- Snug . . . bug in \_\_\_\_\_
- Black-and-white cookie
- Mothers of colts
- Cast a ballot
- Very funny person
- Ambulance destinations: Abbr.
- Review of the day's happenings
- Money, slangily
- End of a college URL
- Makes indistinct
- Fireplace residues
- Toward sunrise
- Shoestring
- Poisonous substance
- Funny TV program
- Group being taught
- \_\_\_\_\_ Scotia, Canada
- One-spot playing cards
- Incredible bargain
- Securing, as shoestrings
- Pas' partners
- Marsh grasses
- Nonscripted TV program
- Part of a barbecued "rack"

DOWN

- Checkers or Monopoly
- Warning signal
- Sculpted form
- Washington's bill
- Deal in secondhand goods
- Rant and \_\_\_\_\_
- Clothes-pressing appliance
- Adorable child
- List at a meeting
- Ripped
- One of the Great Lakes
- Cat's cry
- Soup-making vessels
- Bank's safe
- Great enthusiasm
- Slow-witted
- Baseball game delayer
- Go quickly
- Public tribute
- Business boss, for short
- \_\_\_\_\_ dish (potato or rice)
- PC bailout key
- Feels unwell
- Numerical fact, for short
- Jealous feeling
- Albany is its capital: Abbr.
- "Me too"
- Capital of Egypt
- Some coffeehouse orders
- New Jersey's largest city
- Pancake topping
- Plane without a pilot
- Bum slightly
- Evaluate
- Canyon sound
- Prayer conclusion
- See-through camera part
- Kingly address
- Parka's head covering
- Hive dwellers
- Light brown

## This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 27, the 27th day of 2015. There are 338 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 27, 1945, during World War II, Soviet troops liberated the Nazi concentration camps Auschwitz and Birkenau in Poland. On this date: In 1756, composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria. In 1880, Thomas Edison received a patent for his electric incandescent lamp. In 1901, opera composer Giuseppe Verdi

died in Milan, Italy, at age 87. In 1913, the musical play "The Isle O' Dreams" opened in New York; it featured the song "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" by Ernest R. Ball, Chauncey Olcott and George Graff Jr. In 1944, during World War II, the Soviet Union announced the complete end of the deadly German siege of Leningrad, which had lasted for more than two years. In 1951, an era of atomic testing in the Nevada desert began as an Air Force plane dropped a one-kiloton bomb on Frenchman Flat. In 1965, "Up the Down

Staircase," Bel Kaufman's novel about a young, idealistic teacher at a New York inner-city school, was published by Prentice-Hall. In 1973, the Vietnam peace accords were signed in Paris. In 1977, the Vatican issued a declaration reaffirming the Roman Catholic Church's ban on female priests.

Answer to previous puzzle

ACCT	SEC	ENCORE
DRAW	OUR	NORMAL
MARE	FRO	TWEENS
I VORY	TOWER	ANTE
TEMPOS	DREAM	
	REF	RESPECT
COWBELLS	PURER	
OREO	LYING	FIDO
PENNE	SOREFEET	
ESTEEMS	DIG	
	CLAUS	DAKOTA
MYTH	PEARLDIVER	
AERIAL	MOO	LEAR
POUNCE	BBC	ORSO
SWEATS	ASK	STEW

## ON TV TONIGHT

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

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**HAWKS**

Continued from Page 9  
season, continued to press its advantage over the remaining 10 minutes of the first half. The Hawks reeled off a 20-13 spree in that span and went into the half holding a seemingly comfortable 13-point lead, at 37-24.

Western Texas found its advantage in the second half. The Westerners, after falling behind by 14 points early in the second, chipped away at the Hawks' double-digit lead over the first 16 minutes of the stanza, eventually cutting the HC lead to seven on two occasions.

Fortunately for the Hawks, Gray saved the Hawks both times. The sophomore, making his first start debut at the point guard position, knocked down clutch shots each time WTC moved to within seven to end runs.

"A couple of those baskets he jumped up and made really saved us. We were kind of teetering there and he got us going again. They were big shots," said Raines, who had guided HC to more than 40 wins since taking over the HC program at the start of last season.

Gray finished the game with a double-double, netting a game-high 24 points and 11 rebounds.

Sam Finley and Will Ferguson also played well for the Hawks in the win over WTC. Fin-



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

**Travis Charles and the Howard College men's and women's team swill travel to Midland on Thursday.**

**Western Junior College Athletic Conference Men**

Team	Season W-L	Conf. W-L
Howard	16-5	7-1
South Plains	17-4	7-1
New Mexico JC	16-6	5-3
NMMI	10-8	4-4
Odessa	16-7	4-4
Frank Phillips	14-8	3-5
Midland	13-10	3-6
Western Texas	11-9	2-6
Clarendon	4-17	1-7

Monday's Games - Howard 59, Western Texas 50; NMJC 93, Clarendon 63; NMMI 83, Frank Phillips 70; South Plains 107, Odessa 86.

ley knocked down eight points in the contest, while Ferguson and Lis Shoshi added six.

Although Shoshi was

**Western Junior College Athletic Conference Women**

Team	Season W-L	Conf. W-L
New Mexico JC	20-1	7-0
Midland	14-8	5-2
Odessa	19-4	5-2
Frank Phillips	17-4	4-3
Clarendon	13-10	3-4
South Plains	7-14	3-4
Western Texas	9-12	1-6
Howard	6-16	0-7

Monday's Games - NMJC 76, Clarendon 49; Western Texas 67, Howard 42; Odessa 64, South Plains 51.

from Greece, Angelidou led all HC players in scoring with 11, including seven that game in the second half.

Rits also played well, netting eight points.

**HOWARD**

Continued from Page 9  
away from us because of some turnovers," Diddle said. "Nothing takes away your energy like turnovers."

WTC, which improved to 8-12 for the season, continued to push its lead in the second. The Lady Westerners outscored HC by a 30-22 clip in the final 20 minutes to close out the contest.

Despite the loss, the Lady Hawks picked up a solid outing from Perez and Rafaella Angelidou. Perez came off the bench to pump in nine points in the contest.

A 5-foot-11 freshman

**BSJHS seventh grade teams survive busy week**

The Big Spring Junior High School Lady Steers have had a busy week since returning from the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday break. First up for the Lady Steers was a road game against San Angelo Lee on Jan. 20.

The BSJHS seventh grade A team lost a close one in overtime, 25-23.

The team was led offensively by Kynleigh Joy and Austyn Montgomery with six points each. Trinity Evans added four.

Defense kept the game close to the end. Amber Martinez had eight steals, Evans and Joy added five each, while Montgomery and Kayleigh Rodriguez both had seven rebounds. Mady McNeese added five rebounds and Trinity Galloway pulled down four rebounds.

The 7th A team then traveled to Andrews on Jan. 24 to compete in the A team tournament.

First up for the Lady Steers was Monahans, which netted a 35-22 win.

The Lady Steers then met up Levelland in the consolation game and stayed within 10 points of the Loboettes through the third quarter.

Levelland dominated the fourth and won 47-17. BSJHS was led by McNeese and Montgomery in all facets of the game.

The Lady Steers would meet up again with the Loboettes here at home. It was a tough night, offensively and defensively. The Lady Steers were defeated by a score of 53-15.

Despite playing with a fractured nose, Robyn Evans led the way for the Lady Steers with four points, six rebounds and a steal.

The seventh grade B team played a good game against San Angelo Lee, winning by a score of 26-14.

Offensively, Obri Guzman led the way with 10 points. She also had six steals and 10 rebounds.

Diondra Villalobos contributed six points and seven rebounds. Madison Kuykendall had four points and 11 rebounds, while Marisa Salazar led the defense with five steals, 10 rebounds and four blocks.

The Lady Steers then traveled to Midland to take part in the Midland Trinity Invitational B team tournament on Jan.

24. First up for the Lady Steers was the Rankin Red Devils. Rankin pulled away in the end winning by a score of 19-15.

Leading the offense was Salazar, who was 5-for-6 from the free throw line. Hope Cook and Jazzmin Allen also contributed with their free throws, while Obri Guzman, Bethany Saiz, and Marian Chavarraia had four and two points, respectively.

The Lady Steers met up with Midland Christian for a shot at a third. The game the team played was a complete turnaround from their previous match up. The entire team played well in a 30-10 win.

Leading scorers were Salazar with 10 points, Villalobos with eight points. Guzman finished with six points, while Madison Kuykendall added four.

Lastly, the Lady Steers hosted the Levelland Loboettes on Monday and suffered a 38-11 loss.

Leading the team was Salazar and Mackenzie Rodriques with four points each.

**STEERS**

Continued from Page 9  
Teammate Bianca Correa was fourth in her division.

As a team, the Lady Steers finished ninth in the girls' overall standings.

The BSHS team competed in the C-City Invitational without several key athletes, including Nathan Schneider and

Karina Alvarado. A 242-pound football standout, Schneider missed the meet after agreeing to help the Steers swim team field a relay team at the district swim meet on Saturday in Monahans.

Schneider, along with linebacker Garrett Wington, were among eight BSHS male swimmers to qualify for the regional swim meet in February.

Alvarado, who qualified for the regional powerlifting meet last year, was unable to compete for the Lady Steers as she was part of the Big Spring cheerleading squad that competed at a National competition over the weekend.

The BSHS powerlifting team will return to action this Saturday when they travel to Coahoma.

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# HELD OVER BY POPULAR DEMAND!

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# NEW challenge?

## 2015 BEST LOSER FAT TO FITNESS Spring Challenge!



We are seeking teams (of 4 people any age) ready to take part and lose weight in January, February, March and April competing to claim **“The Best Loser” Spring Title and A Grand Prize Worth \$500 - \$1,000\*!**

If you are ready to start losing weight, sign up for **The Best Loser Spring Challenge!**

We are seeking teams (of 4 people any age) ready to take part in this fitness/lifestyle change, and compete for Grand Prize! Team fee \$60 (Only \$15.00 per person).

• Team photos and updates will be published. Here you'll be able to follow along with the progress of each team, and see how your team measures up. These specials will be published January 30, March 15, April 29th.

• We will only provide your team's **total percentage** of weight loss, not individuals.

• At the end of the 3-month program, the winning team will be determined by the highest percentage of weight lost, and receive the “Grand Prize”.

• Contest prizes determined on number of teams.

• To join the **Best Loser Spring Challenge**, fill out the form below and return to us with your \$60 entry fee, Cash Only, No later than **January 28, 2015**.



**1st • 2nd • 3rd  
Prizes  
\$500 to \$1,000\***

and Massages provided by  
**backinmotion  
CHIROPRACTIC**



**Sign-Up  
Deadline  
Wednesday, January 28th**



**Sign us up for the Best Loser Challenge!**

Team Name (Be Creative) \_\_\_\_\_  
 email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Captain 1: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Member 3: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Team Member 4: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE  
JANUARY 28, 2015**

**(TEAM PHOTO MUST BE TAKEN, ENTRY FEE MUST BE TURNED IN AND YOU MUST WEIGH IN BY THIS DATE TO QUALIFY FOR CHALLENGE)**

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