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# BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 11, 2015



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## Testimony continues in murder trial

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer  
 The prosecution was expected to continue its case against Sean Thomas Smith when testimony resumed this morning in 118<sup>th</sup> District Court.  
 Smith, of Stanton, stands accused of murder in the Oct. 14, 2013, shooting death of

26-year-old Carlos Guerrero of Big Spring.  
 Most of Tuesday morning's testimony came from Big Spring Police Department officers who responded to the crime scene at 1009 Stadium St. and subsequently arrested Smith.  
 Testimony indicated that when officer responded to the scene in the early morning

hours of Oct. 14, they found Guerrero lying in the yard in front of the house, seriously wounded by an apparent gunshot wound to the chest. He was transported to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center emergency room, where he later died.  
 Among evidence recovered at the scene were a shell casing and a live round belong-

ing to a .17-caliber rifle.  
 Eyewitness testimony gathered by the officers at the scene identified Smith as a suspect. He was arrested that morning after being stopped for driving the wrong way on Fourth Street.  
 Afternoon testimony shifted to forensics, with a .17-caliber rifle recovered from Smith's vehicle being admitted into

evidence, along with the recovered shell casing and round. A BSPD crime scene technician also testified that the defendant tested positive for gunshot residue; the test is used to determine whether a person had recently fired a weapon.  
 Forensic pathologist Dr. See TRIAL, Page 3

## Chase ends in arrest

*Duo in custody after high-speed pursuit through west Big Spring*

Herald Staff Report

Two people led Howard County law enforcement on a vehicle pursuit through Big Spring Tuesday afternoon before abandoning their car to flee on foot and eventual captured by police.  
 According to a press release issued by the Big Spring Police Department, the driver of the vehicle Jessica Burden, 22, was arrested on charges of manufacturing/delivering of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram; and evading arrest with a vehicle. The passenger, 40-year-old Billy Mann Kirk, was arrested manufacturing/delivering of a controlled substance, less than 1 gram and on a warrant for forgery. The two face state jail felony charges.



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

Area law enforcement pursued a vehicle fleeing after the driver refused to stop for police Tuesday afternoon. The chase lead through parts of Big Spring before the driver, Jessica Burden, crashed the vehicle in front of a home in the 700 block of W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, striking a water meter housing.

The pursuit was the culmination of a multi-day investigation by the Big Spring Police Department which began with a traffic stop at 6 p.m. Sunday by the police department's Narcotics Division.

"A search of the vehicle revealed numerous forms of identification including checkbooks, driver's licenses, Social Security cards, tax forms etc. and a .22 caliber 9 shot revolver," said BSPD Sergeant Tony Everett.

Burden and Marshall Coker, 31, were arrested after being found in possession of marijuana.  
 On Monday, narcotics invest- See CHASE, Page 3



## Howard County at the Capitol

Area residents traveled to Austin Tuesday for Howard County Day at the Capitol. While there, people were able to meet with this area's representatives in the Texas Legislature — Rep. Drew Darby and Sen. Kel Seliger — to discuss issues of importance to Howard County. Shown here are, front row, left to right: Stacy Barr and Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Debbye ValVerde; second row, from left, Howard College Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. John Freeman and Forsan Mayor Steve Park; and third row, from left, Big Spring Independent School District Superintendent Chris Wigington and Darby.

Courtesy photo



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**Take note**

• Back in Motion Chiropractic will host a community blood drive Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Those who donate will be entered in a drawing for a two night stay and dinner at the Inn of Mountain Gods in Ruidoso, N.M.. Back in Motion is located at 1113 S. Scurry Street. To schedule a donation appointment, call Tessa or Mary Ellen at 267-2225. Donors will receive a custom T-shirt, entry for the drawing and a free cholesterol check.

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

• Big Spring High School cheerleaders are offering a night of babysitting Feb. 13, from 6-10 p.m. in Steer Gym. Children in grades kindergarten through fifth are eligible. Cost is \$25 per child. Cost includes pizza, water, snacks and entertainment. For more information, contact the high school at 264-3641.

• Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at

263-5300.

• A hungry child cannot learn. Food2Kids - Big Spring was created to provide nutrition for hundreds of children who do not get a substantial meal on the weekends. F2K began last November and this volunteer program now serves more than 300 children weekly. Once the need has been identified, F2K fills a sack of food to send home each Friday during the school year. You can help. Volunteers are needed and donations can be sent to Food2Kids - Big Spring, P.O. Box 1641, Big Spring 79721. Find us on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/Food2Kids](http://www.Facebook.com/Food2Kids)

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Thursday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Lodge meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Jimmy Ruth at 270-7263.

• The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

• The Big Spring Senior Center dance is open to all ages. No alcohol or smoking. Our parking lot is now well lit, and we are handicapped-accessible. Cost is \$8 per person.

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

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support qual-

ity volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit [www.BecomeaCASA.org](http://www.BecomeaCASA.org) or [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org).

• Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you can donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9-11 a.m. and get two for one, plus a rehab meeting.

• The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop mortgage foreclosure and are need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now.

**CHASE**

Continued from Page 1

Investigators followed up on the property located in the vehicle which led them to contact the Colorado City Police Department, the release states.

"It was then deter-

mined the majority of the items seized by the Investigators was stolen from Colorado City, Texas, in recent storage building burglaries," Everett said. "A Colorado City police investigator responded to Big Spring to assist with the investigation."

By that time, both

Burden and Coker had already bonded out of jail from the previous night, Everett said.

"Big Spring Police Department Narcotics investigators responded to the last known location of Burden and observed her leaving the location driving a 1999 Gray Mercury Cougar

two door," Everett said. "The investigators attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the vehicle for a traffic violation at which time Burden refused to stop."

A pursuit was initiated at 4:09 p.m. at the intersection of IH-20 and East Farm Rd. 700 and both Howard County

Sheriff's deputies and Department of Public Safety troopers assisted in the chase, the release said.

"The pursuit traveled throughout town and Burden eventually wrecked the vehicle in the 700 block of W. 7th St. at 4:22 p.m. striking a water meter housing

with the front left portion of the 1999 Mercury Cougar incapacitating the vehicle," Everett said. "Burden and the front right passenger identified as Billy Kirk fled the vehicle on foot. Both Burden and Kirk were apprehended.

Additional charges are pending with the Colorado City Police Department, Everett said.

**TRIAL**

Continued from Page 1

Thomas Parsons, who conducted the autopsy on Guerrero, then took the stand and testified that Guerrero's sternum, heart and diaphragm were punctured by a single gunshot wound to the chest. No other physical trauma, such as bruises from a fight, were noticeable, the pathologist added.

Parsons also noted Guerrero had high levels of alcohol and methamphetamines in his blood system at the time of his death — his blood alcohol level, for example, was more than twice the legal limit, while the amount of meth in his

system was described as "toxic" by the pathologist.

The most contentious part of Tuesday's testimony came when District Attorney Hardy L. Wilkerson presented the first of the eyewitnesses to the alleged crime — Devyn Jackman, a self-described close friend of the victim.

During Jackman's emotional testimony — at one point, she broke into loud sobs after being shown a photo of the victim with his daughter — indicated she was at the house on Stadium along with Guerrero and friends Adrian Carrillo and Joey Garcia when Carrillo asked Guerrero if it was OK if one of Carrillo's "homeboys"

could stop by for a beer.

Soon after that, a pickup parked in front of the house and a man identified by Jackman as the defendant got out. An argument between Smith and Guerrero ensued, Jackman testified, and the defendant was told to leave.

She then said that Smith went back to his pickup, pulled out a rifle and shot Guerrero.

In cross-examination, defense attorney Frank Sellers hammered away at apparent inconsistencies between Jackman's testimony and earlier

statements she made to police, especially concerning whether Jackman had told police that Carrillo and the mother of Guerrero's daughter were involved in illegal drug activity. Sellers also attempted to cast doubt on Jackman's

claim that Guerrero did not act overly aggressive during his confrontation with the defendant.

If convicted of murder, Smith faces a possible sentence of between 5 and 99 years, or life, in prison.



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# Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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

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- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to [editor@bigspringherald.com](mailto:editor@bigspringherald.com) or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

## DAILY PRAYER

May we remain diligent about reading Your word, Lord, for our life.

Amen

# Williams violated a basic trust

Far be it from me to pile on a guy who is already on the ground, but this Brian Williams debacle has created nothing less than a firestorm of debate about some very important issues, not the least of which is the credibility of someone trusted to be forthcoming and truthful. He has been forced to admit embellishing some of his reported experiences. Basically, he lied to the American people.

Many Americans have trusted Brian Williams to report the news without bias and with honesty since he became the anchor and managing editor of NBC Nightly News, the evening news program of the NBC television network, on Dec. 2, 2004. When Williams succeeded Tom Brokaw as anchor of NBC Nightly News, his annual salary was reported to be \$8 million and by October 2006, it had reportedly increased to \$10 million. According to Celebrity Net Worth, he made \$13 million in 2014. I guess when one makes that much money to dress up and read a news prompter for 30 minutes a day it must be easy to feel invincible.

For years I have personally refused to support NBC, and most especially MSNBC, because of their extreme bias against Christianity. And at the Peacock Network, the contempt and ridicule are on steroids. For instance, NBC removed the words “under God” from the Pledge of Allegiance during a produced video that aired during the U.S. Open.

NBC medical editor Nancy Snyderman infamously denounced the religious part of Christmas during an episode of Today. “I don’t like the religion part,” said Snyderman. “I think religion is what mucks the whole thing up.” The “religion” she was referring to is celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ.

The network has also produced religion-bashing shows like “The New Normal” and “The Book of Daniel.” That particular show as so offensive it led American Family Radio Chairman Donald Wildmon to declare, “We are tired of NBC’s anti-Christian bigotry.”

Throw in the continuous

mockery and blasphemy against anything holy on Saturday Night Live and you really start to get the picture of how vicious this network is willing to be to attempt to humiliate Christians.

From where I stand, the powers that be at NBC are either ideological bullies or religious bigots and I haven’t fed their anti-God attitude into my ears and mind for many years. So my faith and confidence in their news anchor wasn’t challenged at all because I personally don’t trust any of them.

MSNBC is the most blasphemous network on the air. Their “golden boy” Chris Matthews said in October of 2009, “One of the great ironies of American politics the group in this country that most resembles the Taliban ironically is the religious right.”

MSNBC host Lawrence O’Donnell said on March 17, 2011 “The Book of Revelation is a work of fiction describing how a truly vicious god would bring about the end of the world. No half smart religious person actually believes the Book of Revelation. They are certain that their god would never turn into a malicious torturer or mass murderer beyond Hitler’s wildest dream.”

Two MSNBC commentators, Mike Barnicle and Donny Deutsch, proclaim that the Department of Justice should consider prosecuting American pastor Terry Jones as an accessory to the U.S. ambassador’s assassination in Libya. Their reasoning was so absurd and bizarre that maybe those two birds are the ones that need investigating.

The MSNBC stable of talking heads includes other irreverent men and women such as Andrea Mitchell, Chris Matthews, Rachel Maddow, and several others (including the now-fired Keith Olberman) who speak against God and religion with so much venom that it is insulting to anyone with a belief in the Almighty.

My opinions of NBC and its affiliate networks aside, the big issue here is not Mr. Williams or any of his cohorts per se. He is just the latest celebrity whose transgressions became public knowledge and now the storm waves of public opinion are rising. Whether he ever returns to an anchor desk is anybody’s guess at this point. If he does, like anyone who fails, he will have to re-establish his integ-

rity. Repentance for wrongdoing and grace that changes us for the better is a cornerstone belief of Christianity and we have all needed it at some point in our lives. I know I certainly have and I thank God for it. I am not judging this man or anyone else, but people want to trust those who give them information.

Credibility gap is a term that came into wide use concerning journalism, political and public discourse in the United States during the 1960s and 1970s. At the time, it was most frequently used to describe public skepticism about the Lyndon B. Johnson administration’s statements and policies on the Vietnam War. It was used in journalism as a euphemism for recognized lies told to the public by politicians. Today, it is used more generally to describe almost any “gap” between the alleged reality of a situation and what politicians and government agencies, or in this case a news anchor, says about it.

Again, people want to trust their leaders. The United States has seen the rise and fall of many leaders in recent decades. Richard Nixon’s legacy was forever changed due to Watergate. Rather than being remembered for his foreign policy triumphs, he is forever remembered for the Watergate scandal instead, and it so destroyed his credibility as a leader that he lost all influence and resigned in disgrace.

According to leadership expert John C. Maxwell, integrity is the most crucial element of leadership. Without this vital element, leaders cannot influence those who follow them. For leaders to have integrity, their actions must match their words. In today’s culture, personal integrity is a quality that is crumbling into dust under the crushing weight of a society which glorifies personal pleasure and shortcuts to success.

If Brian Williams’ lies were meant to make him a hero, perhaps he should have been more committed to fellow journalist Howard Cosell’s philosophy to “tell it like it is”.

You may not agree with anything I’ve said, but I column as I see ‘em.

*Eddy Prince is senior pastor at Grace Fellowship Church of God in Big Spring. He can be reached by email at [pastorprince@msn.com](mailto:pastorprince@msn.com).*

# What makes Rand Paul strange

Sen. Rand Paul believes that vaccinating children should be up to the parents, an increasingly unpopular view after recent outbreaks of measles, mumps and other diseases. And throwing a newt’s eye of quack science into the vat, the Kentucky Republican promotes the myth that these shots put children at risk.

The political results have been toil and trouble.

It’s not easy being a politician and a principled libertarian. One who believes in the primacy of individual freedom often takes stances far from the mainstream. It is the true libertarian’s lot to be unconventional, to bravely accept unwanted consequences in the name of liberty. By not going that extra philosophical mile — and adding junk science to the mix — Paul comes off as merely weird.

He was already fighting blowback when he ventured into an interview with CNBC’s Kelly Evans.

“Well, I guess being for freedom would be really unusual,” he responded to a question about whether vaccinations should be voluntary. “I don’t understand ... why that would be controversial.”

Does he not? Then he again

gave credence to crazy talk of healthy children ending up with “profound mental disorders” after being vaccinated.

When the chat moved to taxes and Evans challenged some of his statements, he shushed her as though she were a little girl. “Calm down a bit here, Kelly,” he said.

Clearly, it wasn’t Kelly who needed calming.

By the end, Paul had accused Evans of being argumentative and blamed the media for distorting positions he had left purposely vague. Not his finest hour.

A real libertarian wanting his party’s presidential nomination has only two choices:

1) Come clean and acknowledge the cost side of your beliefs. If you think parents have the right not to vaccinate their children, agree that more Americans might come down with preventable diseases as a result.

Provocative, perhaps, but honest.

2) If you don’t want that controversy tied around your neck, say that you have changed your mind on vaccinations and now hold that they should be required. Not totally honest but at least coherent.

Paul does say that it’s a good idea to have one’s children vaccinated. Yes, and it’s a good idea to drive while sober.

Libertarian purity led Paul to question a key provision of the 1964 Civil Rights Act some years ago. He argued that the law in-

terferes with a private business owner’s right to discriminate.

Paul said he abhors racism, and we have no reason to doubt him. But his position, though principled, would have left the disaster of Jim Crow intact.

On MSNBC, Rachel Maddow asked Paul this: “Do you think that a private business has a right to say, ‘We don’t serve black people?’”

His answer meandered along a familiar path. Private individuals have a right to hold hateful views, Paul responded, but he resented the question because it implied that he shares them.

Actually, the question could not have been more straightforward.

Paul gets credit for letting the liberal Maddow interview him. And his libertarianism on other issues — for example, his opposition to the war on drugs — serves him well.

But he does himself no good by continually throwing smoke bombs at questioners trying to pin him down — changing the subject and accusing them of mischaracterizing his position. If Paul thinks the price of individual freedom is worth paying, he should concede what that price is.

Otherwise, he ends up where he is, stirring a boiling cauldron of weird politics.

*Froma Harrop can be reached at [fharrop@gmail.com](mailto:fharrop@gmail.com).*

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EDDY PRINCE



FROMA HARROP

## News in brief

### Death of former Guantanamo detainee turned IS recruiter complicates effort to close prison

WASHINGTON (AP) — During six years behind bars at Guantanamo Bay, Abdul Rauf insisted he was a lowly Taliban foot soldier who delivered bread and tea to combatants, even though he was really a corps commander. He was released in 2007 and sent home to Afghanistan. Until this week, he was working as the top recruiter in Afghanistan for Islamic State militants.

Rauf, who was killed along with seven others in a U.S. drone strike on Monday, and detainees like him who have returned to the battlefield are complicating President Barack Obama's hopes of closing the detention center for terrorism suspects on the U.S. Navy base in Cuba. The administration says the prison is costly, damages America's relationship with key allies and provides extremists a propaganda tool to woo recruits.

Obama has vowed since he was a presidential candidate to close the detention center, but members of Congress have thwarted that ambition, saying the detainees would return to the fight. They also have argued that governments where the detainees would be released in the region couldn't be expected to keep track of them and prevent them from becoming active again.

Besides Rauf, one or more of the five Taliban detainees swapped for Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl may have already been in touch with members of the al-Qaida-linked Haqqani network. Qatari officials promised to monitor the five former Taliban officials' activities and keep them from traveling outside Qatar for a year. That year ends May 31 and lawmakers are wondering what will happen to them.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest has said the five are still in Qatar, but he says efforts to keep them from working with terror organizations "have been updated" to reflect concerns about their contacts. Qatari Foreign Minister Khalid bin Mohammed al-Attiyah said at an event in Washington last week that the five continue to be closely monitored.

### After Kobani victory over Islamic State group, Syrian Kurds seek alliance with moderate rebels

BEIRUT (AP) — For Kurdish fighters, last month's victory over Islamic State militants in the town of Kobani in northern Syria was only the beginning.

Their ambition is to build on an alliance with moderate rebels in Syria and become the chief force fighting the extremists in the country.

Its commanders say such an alliance could be just the partner that the West has been seeking all along in the battle against the Islamic State group, also known as ISIS or ISIL, which began its rise in 2013 and now holds a third of both Syria and neighboring Iraq.

The Kurds quickly emerged as a potent foe for the Islamic extremists. In August 2014, fighters of the YPG, the main Kurdish force, battled Islamic State militants to carve out an escape route for tens of thousands of members of Iraq's Yazidi minority who were trapped on a mountaintop.

The fight for Kobani, which is on the border between Syria and Turkey, began after rapid Islamic State advances in mid-September. It further thrust Syria's Kurds to the forefront of the anti-Islamic State groups.

### Fighting in Ukraine continues overnight ahead of crucial diplomatic push

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) — Shelling rocked a bus station in the rebel stronghold of Donetsk Wednesday as fighting continued to rage in eastern Ukraine ahead of crucial peace talks later in the day.

Rebel officials said that five people were killed and nine wounded at the scene of the attack, where an Associated Press reporter saw one body. Donetsk city officials said in a statement that three people had been killed in shelling overnight.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko posted a statement on his website saying that he had made an impromptu visit to the war-torn region early Wednesday. Poroshenko stopped in the city of

Kramatorsk, some 30 miles (50 kilometers) from the nearest front line, where nevertheless Kiev says 16 people were killed and 48 wounded in a rocket strike Tuesday.

"We demand an unconditional peace," Poroshenko said. "We demand a cease-fire, a withdrawal of all foreign troops, and closing of the border.... We will find a compromise within the country."

Officials in Kiev also said Wednesday that 19 troops had been killed and 78 wounded in a day of fighting in Debaltseve, a hotly contested transport hub in the region.

### GOP-led Congress set to pass bill approving Keystone XL oil pipeline despite likely Obama veto

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican-controlled Congress is set to send a bill approving the Keystone XL oil pipeline to President Barack Obama, who has vowed to veto it.

The House is expected to pass the bill easily Wednesday afternoon, capping weeks of debate over one of Republicans' top priorities — a bill authorizing the construction of the much-delayed pipeline. Yet support in both the Senate and House has not been enough to override a veto.

The pipeline has exposed larger divisions between environmentalists concerned about global warming and potential oil spills against supporters who argue that the \$8 billion project will create jobs and boost U.S. energy security. One of the measures added to the bill by the Senate states that climate change is not a hoax, which could make some conservative Republicans think twice.

The pipeline is the first of many standoffs expected between Obama and Republicans on energy and environment.

### Jon Stewart's exit as a phony newsman is a loss to real news and the audience that craved it

NEW YORK (AP) — Jon Stewart's fans were gobsmacked by the sad news he delivered on Tuesday's edition of "The Daily Show": He's leaving his phony anchor desk and ending his reign as phony newsman, and the loss is to real news.

"This show doesn't deserve an even slightly restless host and neither do you," he told his audience. He said he might depart in July, September or maybe December. He didn't say what he means to do next.

To appreciate the impact of his 16-year Comedy Central reign, and the loss his impending exit represents, the distraught viewer need only consider Monday's broadcast.

It was then that Stewart turned his attention to what was the biggest story in the journalism biosphere that night: the scandal surrounding NBC News' Brian Williams.

Wearing a woeful expression, he summed up everyone's befuddlement with crystalline efficiency: "Bri! Why? Why, Bri? Why lie? Sigh."

### Wanted: A host with wit, style and guts to keep Jon Stewart's 'Daily Show' legacy intact

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The question of who can replace Jon Stewart on "The Daily Show" seems roughly akin to asking his fans what might serve for the sun.

His passion, wit and boldness make for a magical combination that will be difficult to re-create when Stewart steps away as host sometime later this year.

"The X-factor here is Stewart's charisma. It's significant," said Sophia McClennen, a Penn State professor and author of "Is Satire Saving our Nation?: Mockery and American Politics."

The "Daily Show" boot camp has graduated a number of impressive talents who might prove to be worthy of the host chair, McClennen said, counting John Oliver first among a group including Aasif Mandvi, Samantha Bee and Jason Jones.

There are outsiders who certainly have the comedic chops. But do they have the star power and the backbone to speak punchlines to power, and on a nightly basis?

### Amid noise generated by Greek debt discussions, eurozone economy gaining momentum

BRUSSELS (AP) — With all the noise and uncertainty surrounding Greece over the past couple of weeks, it's been easy to overlook the growing signs of economic recovery in Europe.

A raft of indicators have pointed to a pick-up in activity that puts the 19-country eurozone economy in a position to outperform expectations this year — provided it doesn't stumble into a messy Greek exit from the euro or relations deteriorate between the West and Russia over the conflict in Ukraine.

Fourth quarter figures on Friday aren't expected to show a big improvement yet, with most economists predicting mild growth of 0.2 percent for the second quarter running.

Moving forward, though, most expect the pace of growth to accelerate for a number of reasons, including the sharp falls in the price of oil and the euro.

### NBC suspends Brian Williams as managing editor and anchor of 'Nightly News' for 6 months

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC announced Tuesday that it is suspending Brian Williams as "Nightly News" anchor and managing editor for six months without pay for misleading the public about his experiences covering the Iraq War.

NBC chief executive Steve Burke said Williams' actions were inexcusable and jeopardized the trust he has built up with viewers during his decade as the network's lead anchor. But he said Williams deserved a second chance.

Williams apologized last week for saying he was in a helicopter that was hit by a grenade while covering the Iraq War in 2003. Instead, another helicopter flying ahead of his was hit, and some veterans involved in the mission called him out on it. The swift public reaction had put NBC News on a crisis footing.

NBC News President Deborah Turness said in a memo that Williams "misrepresented" events.

### Man arrested after 3 people found shot to death in condominium in North Carolina

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — Police say three people have been shot to death at a condominium complex east of the University of North Carolina campus and a man has been arrested.

Chapel Hill police told local news outlets that Craig Stephen Hicks, 46, was arrested and has been charged with three counts of first-degree murder. He is being held at the Durham County Jail.

Police were responding to a report of gunshots around 5:15 p.m. Tuesday when they found three people who were pronounced dead at the scene. The dead were identified as Deah Shaddy Barakat, 23, of Chapel Hill; Yusor Mohammad, 21, of Chapel Hill; and Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, 19, of Raleigh.

### Animals on ice: Research at 'Frozen Zoo' gene bank aims to resurrect near extinct species

ESCONDIDO, Calif. (AP) — Whenever an endangered animal dies at the San Diego Zoo, researchers race out, regardless of the hour, to remove its sperm or eggs, maybe a bit of ear or eyeball, and carefully freeze the cells in liquid nitrogen.

Today, the survival of the northern white rhinoceros and dozens of other species could hinge on the collection amassed over nearly 40 years that has become the largest gene bank of its kind: The Frozen Zoo.

The icy vials may someday even be used in experiments to resurrect recently extinct animals, like the Hawaiian Po'ouli bird. The stainless steel tanks hold the genetic material of more than 10,000 individual animals.

The Frozen Zoo's work has taken on renewed urgency since the San Diego Safari Park lost 42-year-old Angalifu to cancer in December, leaving only five northern white rhinos left in the world — and all unable to reproduce.

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## News in brief

### Trial opens for ex-Marine accused in 'American Sniper' death

STEPHENVILLE, Texas (AP) — A Texas rodeo store has temporarily run out of baseball caps honoring Chris Kyle, the Navy SEAL depicted in the blockbuster movie "American Sniper." A roadside sign outside Grumps Burgers next door proclaims support for the families of Kyle and friend Chad Littlefield, who were slain two years ago at a gun range.

With opening statements set to begin Wednesday in the trial of the former Marine accused of capital murder in their deaths, many residents in this small community have been captivated by the case.

"It's been a big deal around here," said Cory Flores, 25, who didn't know Kyle but said he hoped to get a seat to witness the trial. He was among the dozens of people, including members of the media, waiting early Wednesday outside the Donald R. Jones Justice Center in Stephenville, about 50 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

The Oscar-nominated film has brought national attention too, prompting lawyers for defendant Eddie Ray Routh to unsuccessfully argue that the trial should be moved or put on hold until the publicity fades.

The defense team is hoping to convince a jury that Routh was insane when he gunned down Kyle and Littlefield at the rural shooting range. His family members say he suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Prosecutors aim to paint a much darker picture. They describe Routh in recent court filings as a heavy drinker and marijuana user with a history of killing animals and threatening women with knives.

While the judge has not decided how much of that information can be shared with the jury, prosecutors have lined up what promises to be an emotional first day of testimony when they call Kyle's widow Taya to the stand.

### Texas senators offer disease response bills after Ebola case

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Members of a top Texas Senate health panel are unveiling proposals to bolster the state's infectious disease response in the wake of the first U.S. case of Ebola diagnosed in Dallas last summer.

Republican Sen. Charles Schwertner of Georgetown chairs the Senate Health and Human Services Committee and is to detail the proposal at a Wednesday news conference.

The legislation grew from recommendations by a special Texas infectious disease task force created after Liberian visitor Thomas Duncan was diagnosed with Ebola.

Duncan was treated at a Dallas hospital but died Oct. 8.

In a final report in December, the task force recommended creating a bio-containment unit to specialize in the care of children and identifying quarantine facilities for animals. It also rebuked federal officials over information provided on experimental drugs.

### Texas lieutenant governor: National Guard not leaving border

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — National Guard troops sent to the Texas-Mexico border last summer are now in line to stay indefinitely and not come home in March as originally planned, Republican Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said Tuesday.

The shift comes only four weeks after Rick Perry, who ordered 1,000 armed guard troops to the Rio Grande Valley in one of his last major acts as Texas governor, was replaced by a successor who has promised an even tougher line on border security.

Gov. Greg Abbott did not attend the announcement and no plans have been formalized. But an extended guard deployment is the latest signal that Texas' new conservative leadership is planning record state spending on border security, even while acknowledging that illegal crossings have slowed dramatically.

Patrick, who also took office in January, would not say how many guard troops would remain. He said maintaining the mission through May would cost an extra \$12 million, and that he expects Abbott to call for emergency spending to keep the guard on the border through August.

"We cannot pull back now," Patrick said. "Under no circumstance should we have a complete pull-out of the National Guard next month."

The guard had been gradually pulling back ahead of the March deadline and scaled down to 200 troops on the border last month.

Perry had ordered the deployment during what President Barack Obama called a "humanitarian crisis" of tens and thousands of unaccompanied children coming into the U.S. from Central America. Perry said the extra muscle was necessary to combat criminals who were exploiting Border Patrol agents being overwhelmed and distracted by the surge of children.

Patrick said that new intelligence indicates that drug cartels have been "ramping up" in anticipation of the guard leaving. He also made a point, however, to say he disagreed with the decision made by his predecessor in November to wind down the mission.

Democrats and immigrant groups panned the new course of action as hostile to Hispanics.

It also comes after state budget analysts noted in a report last month that "the state has neither established a legal definition of border security nor clearly defined a border region for purposes of border security funding." The report urged lawmakers

to require better tracking of border funding.

### Rick Perry returns to New Hampshire eyeing 2016 bid

BEDFORD, N.H. (AP) — Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry is returning to New Hampshire as he prepares for a possible presidential campaign.

Perry, who dropped out of the 2012 race shortly after finishing sixth in New Hampshire's Republican primary, is speaking at a business gathering in Bedford on Wednesday afternoon. He's also the keynote speaker at Republican dinners Wednesday night in Portsmouth and Thursday night in Dover.

Perry last visited the state in November, outlining three areas where he thinks Republicans should focus their attention: Energy, tax policy and securing the border. He also criticized Obama's foreign policy and spoke about the need to rebuild the U.S. military.

He said he won't make a decision about a 2016 campaign until at least May.

### University of Texas investigates fraternity party

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A University of Texas fraternity is under investigation following complaints about how Hispanics were portrayed during a weekend party, university officials said Tuesday.

At least nine complaints about the Phi Gamma Delta party's "culture, costumes and construction-worker scenario" were filed with the university's division of diversity and community engagement, said Erica Saenz, the office's associate vice president.

The Office of the Dean of Students also is investigating. The dean, Soncia Reagins-Lilly, said the office is looking into "whether or not it was freedom of speech, whether or not it was hate, whether or not it was a violation (of school rules)." If a violation of school rules did occur, the fraternity could face sanctions, she said.

The university newspaper, the Daily Texan, reported that guests wore sombreros, ponchos, construction worker outfits and military gear. Texas Fiji was established in Texas in 1883, making it one of the oldest fraternities at the school. The party took place Saturday at the fraternity's house on the north end of campus.

In an email Tuesday to The Associated Press, fraternity President Andrew Campbell apologized for "any offensive behavior or attire." The party was intended to have a western theme, Campbell said, but "there were elements and dress that were insensitive and inappropriate. We understand why people were and are offended."

Saenz said that parties like the one under investigation "go against the work we do in this area, and certainly go against the university."

Complaints filed with Saenz's office will be investigated by the Campus Climate Response Team, which is not a disciplinary body but provides education, conducts outreach and offers support for campus organizations.

### 2 women plead guilty in \$800K South Texas bank checks scam

LAREDO, Texas (AP) — A former banker and another South Texas woman face up to 30-year prison terms in a check-cashing scheme.

Anita Arredondo pleaded guilty Tuesday to bank fraud in the scam involving about \$800,000 in bogus construction company checks.

Prosecutors in Laredo say Petra Del Bosque earlier pleaded guilty to the same federal count.

Both women from Zapata (zuh-PAH'-tuh) were arrested last October.

Del Bosque formerly worked at Zapata National Bank. Arredondo was an accounts payable clerk for a construction company.

Investigators say Arredondo issued and endorsed more than 300 company checks made payable to contractors for work that was never done.

## Sudoku Answer on Page 11

# 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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Del Bosque told tellers that she was cashing the checks on behalf of contractors and would deliver the money.

The two women also face possible \$1 million fines.

### Woman arrested for having nearly 400 pounds of marijuana

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — A South Texas woman has been arrested and charged after authorities say they found nearly 400 pounds of marijuana in the vehicle she was driving.

The Laredo Morning Times reports 20-year-old Jessica Navarro of Rio Bravo is charged with second-degree felony possession of marijuana.

Deputies with the Webb County Sheriff's Office pulled over a vehicle Navarro was driving Monday for a traffic stop.

They searched the vehicle after noticing several packages in the back and found the drugs, which have an estimated street value of more than \$476,000.

Navarro is being held without bond in the Webb County Jail. It wasn't immediately clear if she has an attorney.

The county's sheriff says the office's investigators are working to determine where the drugs came from and were going.

### Toddler dies after being hit by vehicle in Dimmitt driveway

DIMMITT, Texas (AP) — North Texas police are investigating after a 14-month-old girl died after being run over by a vehicle in a driveway.

Dimmitt police say the driver didn't see the toddler, who left a residence without being noticed Monday night. Castro County Judge Carol Gerber pronounced the girl dead in the driveway.

Police aren't releasing the driver's name. The Amarillo Globe-News reports no arrests or charges have been filed in the incident.

### 2 former housing workers in South Texas accused of bribery

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — Two former officials with a South Texas public housing authority have been accused of accepting bribes to let applicants jump to the head of the line.

Susana Munguia and Lubina Pedraza remain in custody pending a detention hearing Friday in McAllen.

The women from Hidalgo (hah-DAL'-goh) were arrested Tuesday and charged with conspiracy to commit bribery, bribery and embezzlement.

Prosecutors say Munguia was executive director of the Hidalgo Housing Authority. Pedraza was a secretary. They worked with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide vouchers to people needing rental assistance.

An indictment says Munguia and Pedraza since 2011 solicited bribes to let individuals bypass a waiting list, plus stole \$5,000 from HUD.

A housing authority official declined comment.

### 2 charged after deer slain within New Braunfels city limits

NEW BRAUNFELS, Texas (AP) — Police investigating reports of gunfire near downtown New Braunfels have arrested two men who had three dead deer in their truck.

Comal (KOH'-mal) County jail records show 25-year-old Eric Johnston and 39-year-old Anthony Castillo were being held Wednesday. Both are charged with misdemeanor hunting deer at night and hunting from a vehicle on a public roadway.

Online records don't list attorneys for the men.

## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### High-Level Thinking

East dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.  
NORTH  
♠ A 10 6  
♥ 10 7 2  
♦ A 5 4 3  
♣ K 10 8

WEST  
♠ 8 7 4  
♥ K Q J  
♦ 10 7 6 2  
♣ 9 5 3

EAST  
♠ K 5 2  
♥ 8 5 4 3  
♦ Q J 9  
♣ Q 7 4

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

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — king of hearts.  
Point count is often just as helpful during the play as it is during the bidding. Take this case where East made an intelligent use of point count to defeat three notrump.

West led the K-Q-J of hearts, East playing the 4-3-8 in that order. Declarer won the third heart with the ace, led the queen of spades and finessed. East took the king and returned a spade, intentionally not cashing his last heart. He was trying

to convince declarer that West had the missing five of hearts.

South had eight sure tricks at this point and had to decide which way to take the two-way club finesse for his ninth trick. Convinced by East's play that West had the missing heart, he won the spade return with the jack and led a club to the ten. This approach would have assured the contract, even if the finesse lost, had West held the 13th heart.

But when East showed up with the queen of clubs and the missing heart, South went down one. True, he might have gone down anyway had East cashed his heart earlier, but East's subtle defense virtually guaranteed South would misguess the club finesse.

East's play was well-founded. He knew, after West had shown up with the K-Q-J of hearts, that South had every missing high card for his 15- to 17-point one-notrump opening. West had six points, dummy 11 and East eight to account for 25 points, leaving South with 15 points, which had to include the A-J of clubs.

Luring declarer into taking the club finesse the wrong way involved high-level thinking by East — and it paid off very well indeed.

Tomorrow: Fortune favors Ffired.

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## Homers lead HC to sweep of Ranger

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Jaelyn Young and Juliet Eaton smashed back-to-back home runs in the bottom of the fourth inning on Tuesday and powered the Howard College Lady Hawks to a two-game sweep of the Ranger College Lady Rangers at Foundation Field.

"I think we did really well today," said freshman pitcher Arielle Charuk, who held Ranger to just two hits in a 10-0 romp in the second game of the double-header. "We had two home runs and they didn't score on us in the last game, so I think it went well."

The Lady Hawks, now 5-1 overall, made easy work of the Lady Rangers in the first game of the twinbill, winning 7-4.

After scoring once in the first, Howard all but put the game away with a four-run outburst in the second. Ashley Lopez, Tatiana Sorokina, Courtnee Laughlin and Corinna Liscano all raced home with HC's lead to 5-1.

Ranger staged a late threat, however. After pulling to within 7-3, the Lady Rangers loaded the bases in the seventh before sophomore Jessica Elder put down the uprising.

The Lady Hawks had an easy time in Game 2. Howard scored six runs in the second and then cruised to its first shutout of the year.

Young and Eaton both scored three runs in the contest.

## Christoval deals Forsan tough losses

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

The Christoval boys' and girls' basketball teams can officially consider themselves off the Forsan High School Christmas list as of Tuesday after dealing the Forsan Buffaloes and Lady Buffaloes a pair of tough losses in District 8-2A action.

Christoval weathered a fourth-quarter rally from the Buffaloes to hand Forsan a tough 46-40 road loss.

With the loss, Forsan fell to 12-12 for the year and to 6-6 in district play.

Jesse Cervantes led all FHS scorers in the game with 12 points. Dalton Ogle and Ian Park added eight each.

The state-ranked Christoval girls had their hands full en route to escaping with a 26-21 win.

The Lady Buffs finished the season fourth in the district standings.

## Odessa tennis meet is scratched

The Big Spring High School Steers will have to wait a little longer to swing into action, thanks to the decision by Ector County ISD officials to cancel the Feb. 13-14 tennis meet in Odessa.

Big Spring will make its next outing on Feb. 19 at the Tall City Invitational in Midland.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Diamonique Mayes scrambles for a loose ball during the Lady Steers' 63-38 victory over the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs on Tuesday. With the win, Big Spring moved into a tie with Lubbock Estacado for second place in the final District 2-4A standings. The two teams will hold a one-game district playoff later this week to determine the district's No. 2 and No. 3 playoff seeds.

# Playoff tickets get punched

## Lady Steers force playoff for 2nd in 2-4A race

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

With apologies to Mark Twain, but the rumored demise of the Big Spring High School Lady Steers' offense may have been untrue.

In fact, if you ask the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs ... it was a bold face lie.

Big Spring garnered double-digit offensive performances from three players on Tuesday night and rolled to an easy 63-38 rout of Sweetwater in a District 2-4A matchup with key playoff implications.

With the victory, Big Spring moved into a tie with Lubbock Estacado for second in the final district standings. The two teams, who both finished at 6-4 in the 2-4A standings, will likely meet in one-game district playoff later this week to determine the No. 2 and No. 3 seeds.

"We needed this," said Lady Steers' head coach Stacy Smalley. "We needed this for our confidence going into the playoffs. I'm extremely happy to see this."

The Lady Steers didn't lack for confidence in the first

See **GIRLS**, Page 13



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Ty Sealy goes up between two Sweetwater defenders for a basket during the Steers' District 2-4A win over the Mustangs in Sweetwater on Tuesday.

## Steers clinch playoff berth with 56-32 win over SHS

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School Steers went into Tuesday's District 2-4A showdown with rival Sweetwater with one main goal: Clinch a playoff berth.

They can consider that mission accomplished following a 56-32 victory in front of a small crowd in the Sweetwater High School gym.

"That was our main goal coming here," said BSHS head coach Ian Ritchey. "We crossed one goal off our list. Now we're going to move on and try and accomplish our next one."

Defensively, the Steers dominated Sweetwater throughout the contest. Big Spring limited the Mustangs to just 23 percent from the floor in the game, and held Sweetwater to less than 10 points in each of the first three quarters.

"We came in and played very well, especially defensively," said Ritchey. "That was one of our best defensive games of the year."

Big Spring, now 17-9 and

See **STEERS**, Page 13

## Wildcats wrap up District 11-A title with 90-40 victory

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

ACKERLY - The No. 4-ranked Grady High School Wildcats assured themselves of two things on Tuesday night.

First, they earned a trip to the postseason with a 90-40

victory over rival Sands and, secondly, they made sure that ticket was stamped District 11-A champions.

The Wildcats, sparked by a 35-point effort from Beau Lucas, dominated the first two quarters of play. The Wildcats outscored Sands by a 51-25 margin.

They closed out the affair with a 44-15 spree in the second half, including an 18-2 clip in the final eight minutes.

With the win, Grady improved to 25-2 for the season, more importantly, clinched the district title by moving to 9-0 in District 11-A action.

Grady also benefitted from 18 points from Kyle Garza and 15 more from E.J. Rodriguez.

Sands, which will enter the postseason as the district runner-up, fell to 7-2 in district.

The Mustangs were led by Dayton Eddleman's team-high 15 points. Dyllan Tindol added 11.

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Howard County Appraisal District is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Office Clerk. The successful applicant will do office work associated with the appraisal of property in HCAD. Candidates must have organizational skills, along with the effective communication and people skills. Ability to work with Microsoft word and Excel is required. A high school diploma is the minimum educational requirement. Applicant must have a clean criminal record. Applicant must be able to multi-task. Salary will be commensurate with experience. The Appraisal District provides excellent Health Benefits packets. Howard County Appraisal District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Resumes will be accepted until position is filled. Mail resume to:  
Ronny Babcock, RPA, RTA/C Chief Appraiser  
Howard County Appraisal District  
PO Box 1151  
Big Spring, TX 79720

**THE COLORADO** River Municipal Water District is accepting applications for the following position:  
Information Technology System Administrator- Responsible for overall planning, organization, and execution of Information Technology functions for the District, including maintaining computer hardware, software, and networks. For additional information visit [www.crmwd.org](http://www.crmwd.org)

**PERSONAL ASSISTANT/HELPER** Needed Immediately: Duties will include but not be limited to: Personal care, reading, light cooking, housekeeping and errands. Requirements: Dependable transportation, clean background, no criminal history, clean drug screen, excellent references. An ideal candidate should possess the following: Excellent driving skills with a valid driver's license, auto insurance, health insurance, have a warm and caring personality. 432-816-2576

**COUNTER & SALES** person needed for local Furniture and Appliance Store. Bilingual and outgoing personality a plus. All inquires are to be made in person at 1611 South Gregg, Big Spring. Starting pay \$10.50 a hour.

**BIG SPRING** Country Club Looking for Part time Salad Prep. Apply in person 2401 Driver Road. No phone calls



The Colorado River Municipal Water District is accepting applications for following position:

**Administrative Assistant** - Responsible for the day-to-day administration of the district's general administrative functions. Successful candidate must be a self starter, a team player, and possess the ability to multi-task.

For additional information visit [www.crmwd.org](http://www.crmwd.org)

**BLUE BELL** Creameries is seeking a responsible, dependable Full Time Shipping Clerk. Position involves physically working with ice cream products in a cold environment. Must be 18 years old and have reliable transportation. No experience necessary, we will train. We offer competitive pay and great benefits. Apply in person at: 401 East Interstate 20, Big Spring, Texas 79720

**BUFFALO COUNTRY** Now Hiring for Cooks/Cashiers Must apply in person 4911 South Hwy. 87 ask for Salitta. No Phone Calls.

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\$75,000 annual avg. annual with some making over \$100,000 annually. Late-Model Equipment Great Benefits Owner Operators Also Welcome!!  
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**EXPERIENCE FARM** Hand Wanted! Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

**EXPERIENCED HOUSE-KEEPERS** needed. Full-time \$9.00/hour. Applicants must apply in person at Super 8 2900 East I-20 Big Spring Texas 79720 or contact Priya at 432-599-1778 .

**HELENA CHEMICAL** has 3 openings for Applicator driver, Mechanic, and CDL Driver, requires high school diploma or equivalent. We offer excellent compensation and benefits. Please apply at Helena, 100 S. St. Peter, Stanton. Pre-employment drug screen required. E O E M/F/V/H

**IMMEDIATE OPENING** for Mature Person Laundry attendant. Work 14 days- 7 days off. Good people skills a must. Apply 1208 Gregg Street.

**MANAGEMENT POSITION** available at Jack & Jill Child Care Please mail resume to PO Box 1320, Sweetwater, TX 79556

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Domino's Pizza needs YOU!  
**Delivery Drivers**  
•Make cash everyday.  
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Apply at Domino's Pizza in Big Spring.

If you're not sure about applying, email your questions to [dominos@clearwire.net](mailto:dominos@clearwire.net)  
**Senior citizens & Veterans encouraged to apply! EOE**

**NOW HIRING** full time/ part time employees at WEST-GO. Apply in person, 1800 Gregg.

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**NOW HIRING** Part Time Attendant \$9/Hr. Plus Tips Apply @ Culligan 1509 E FM 700

Experienced maintenance, call 432-599-1778 or apply direct at Super 8, 2900 E I-20, Big Spring TX.

**RECEPTIONIST NEEDED** for busy Urgent Care Center. Must have High School diploma or GED, be dependable and some knowledge of insurance/referrals. Please come by 710 S Gregg 1st Floor for an application or email resume to: [affordacare\\_bigspring@yahoo.com](mailto:affordacare_bigspring@yahoo.com)  
NO Phone calls, please.

**RETAIL MERCHANDISER** AMERICAN GREETINGS is looking for Retail Merchandisers in Big Spring. As a member of our team, you will ensure the greeting card department is merchandised and maintained to provide customers the best selection of cards and product to celebrate life's events. Apply at: [WorkatAG.com](http://WorkatAG.com).  
Questions? Call 1.888.323.4192



**SCENIC MOUNTAIN Medical Center** Maintenance Mechanic 3 and Certified Pharmacy Technician Full-Time Days Please Call 432-268-4958 or Apply On-Line @ [www.smmccares.com](http://www.smmccares.com)  
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**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR INJECTION WELL PERMIT**  
SHERIDAN PRODUCTION COMPANY, LLC, 200 N. LORAIN, SUITE 530, MIDLAND, TEXAS is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is production of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Siluro-Devonian formation, in the Mittie Walters Lease Well Number 5. The well is located 5 miles West from Big Spring, TX in the Buckwheat (Siluro-Devonian) Field in Howard County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 38710' to 7085'  
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil & Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711-2967 (Telephone (512) 463-6792). #8616 February 11, 2015

**Mercury Direct**

If you've experienced more than your share of technical difficulty of late, that should change with Mercury's change of direction in the Aquarian stretch of sky. Since Aquarius is the sign of the future as well as technology and philanthropy, our efforts in these areas will now receive a cosmic thumbs up.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You'll become an expert at expressing the love in your heart so others can really feel it. As a result, your relationships will be uplifting, surprising and fulfilling

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Your passion will be renewed. Those who resisted your efforts in the past will have reason to agree with you and even sponsor your future efforts. Thanks to you, a family member will soon reach an important milestone.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). If you try cramming activities into a short span of time, you won't enjoy any of it. Do less, to leave room for exploration. Give yourself time to complete things at a leisurely pace.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). You were given a gift you didn't want. It was weird. But now you are open to a different direction. You feel free to change and grow. Trade it in for something new.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22).

**Tomorrow's Horoscope**

In order for you to have the thing you desire, you must first convince others that they will profit, too. If you can make them believe this (and hopefully it is the truth) they will badly want the same results you do.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Attention is like water, always moving and flowing and easily susceptible to influence. You'll like the powerful feeling you get when you walk into a room and control the way attention changes it.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A lot of people like the thing that you don't. So? It's not a problem unless you make it a problem. Dig deep. Is this enough of an issue to make a stink over? Probably not.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are 100-percent accountable for the things you do. Someone will remind you -- maybe a dog -- and that being is as important as anybody. Anyway, you will recognize the significance of a witness.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your financial picture is looking up, and you'll have some new choices about what to do with your money. The afternoon brings the fulfillment of a promise.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The experience of being your friend is special. That's why there are so many people around you trying to get closer. You don't give your attention indiscriminately, though.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You don't live to work; you work to live. That's why you have to say "no" to someone's

professional request of you. It's simply going to be more trouble than it's worth.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Many stressed people cope by shopping, but that usually only makes for more stress, as owning things (and paying too much for them!) comes with its own set of problems. You'll find a better way to soothe yourself.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 11). You give others the support and space they need to be themselves, and for this they will be truly grateful. Money comes easily to you in the next six weeks -- all you have to do is ask. April ends a conflict and begins a new professional chapter. Health improvements in May add to your overall mood and appeal. Aquarius and Aries people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 2, 14, 39 and 45.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "My grandfather, a physicist, recently passed. Before he died, he was questioning his choice to devote his life to scientific pursuits, telling me he's not sure his work wouldn't be used for evil in the end. I am now in medical school, shaken by grandfather's regrets and doubting my scientific path. Do you have any advice for a Pisces?"

Yours is one of the healing signs, and it is also the sign of wisdom. You can avoid having the same regrets as your grandfather if you seek wisdom first and foremost with knowledge in second place or even further down.

Knowledge is power. Power isn't inherently good or bad. It can be creative or destructive.

You won't know how to use it well unless you are also wise. When you seek wisdom, you will gain knowledge along the way, and it will be just the knowledge you need to do the right thing.

Of course, there is no university of wisdom. And though it takes time to grow wise, age alone does not a wise man make. The only way to become wise is through experience, an open mind and heart, and a sincere desire to live in a way that will bring about the highest good for all.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Jennifer Aniston's family prospects have been a matter of public interest to rival presidential elections, wartime events and asteroid collisions with Earth. If she were actually pregnant as many times as rumored, she would have more children than the old lady in the shoe. Aniston was born when the sun and Mercury were both in Aquarius and the moon was in outgoing, passionate Sagittarius.

*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).*

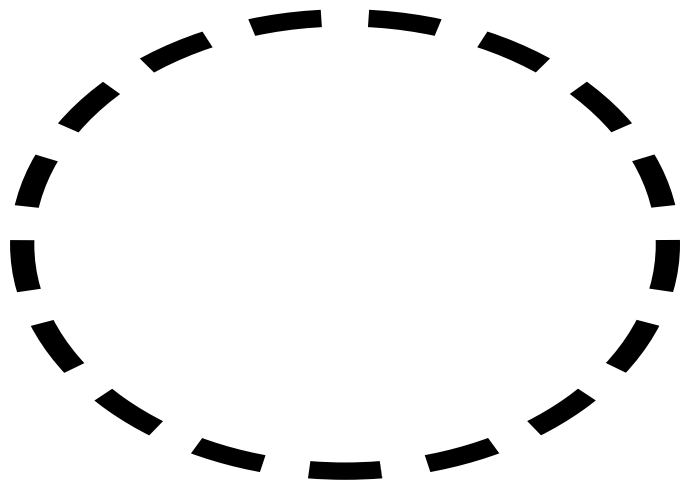
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**sudoku**  
ANSWERS

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

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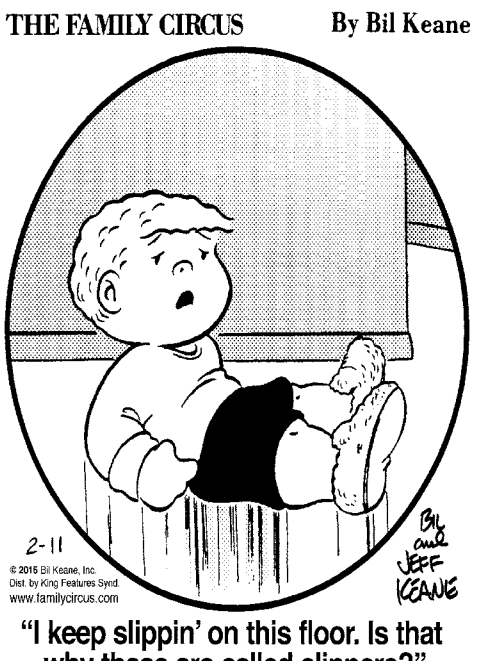
|       | KMID (3)<br>Midland | UNI (4)<br>Spanish | KPEJ (5)<br>Odessa  | KOSA (7)<br>Odessa | KTLE (8)<br>Telemundo | KWES (9)<br>Midland | WTBS (11)<br>Atlanta      | KMLM (12)<br>Odessa    | KPBT (13)<br>Odessa | KWWT (14)<br>Odessa | DISC (20)<br>Discovery | AMC (21)<br>Classics                 | SPIKE (22)<br>Spike TV | TNT (23)<br>Atlanta | BET (26)<br>Black Ent.             | DISN (27)<br>Disney       | ESPN2 (28)<br>Sports               | ESPN (29)<br>Sports                                |
|-------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 5:PM  | News ABC            | P. Luche           | Two Men             | News CBS           | Tele Noticias         | News                | Seinfeld                  | With Scholars          | Scully Business     | CHiPs               | Dual Survival          |                                      | Cops                   | Supernatural        | Movie: Cinderella, Whoopi Goldberg | Dog                       | Around Pardon                      | SportsCenter                                       |
| 6:PM  | Jeopardy!           | La Gata (SS)       | Big Bang            | News               | Caso Cerrado          | News                | Seinfeld                  | Mani                   | PBS News-Hour       | M*A*S*H             | To Be Announced        |                                      | Cops                   | Supernatural        |                                    | Jessie                    | College Basketball                 | NBA  |
| 7:PM  | Middle Wheel        | Mi corazón es tuyo | American Idol       | The Mentalist      | Los Miserables (SS)   | Myst-Laura          | Fam. Guy                  | Upd Dollars            | Nature (DVS)        | Griffith            | Dual Survival          | Movie: Braveheart, Patrick McGooohan | Cops                   | Grimm (DVS)         | Being Mary Jane                    | How to Build a Better Boy |                                    | NBA Basketball: Miami Heat at Cleveland Cavaliers. |
| 8:PM  | Mod Fam blackish    | Hasta el Fin       | (01) Empire         | Criminal Minds     | Tierra de Reyes (SS)  | Law & Order: SVU    | Big Bang                  | Light of the Southwest | NOVA (DVS)          | Heroes              | Dual Survival          |                                      | Cops                   | Grimm (DVS)         | It's a Mann's World                | Mickey                    | College Basketball: Oregon at USC. | NBA Basketball: Rockets at Clippers                |
| 9:PM  | Nashville           | Que te Perdona     | Mod Fam             | Stalker            | Dueños del Paraíso    | Chicago PD          | Big Bang                  | Conan                  | Earth: A New Wild   | Cheers              | Fire in the Hole       |                                      | Cops                   | Grimm (DVS)         | It's a Mann's World                | Jessie                    |                                    |  |
| 10:PM | News                | Impacto            | Cleveland           | News               | Tele Noticias         | News                | Conan                     | HaYesod                | Charlie Rose        | C. Burnett          | Dual Survival          |                                      | Cops                   | Grimm               | Game                               | Dog                       |                                    |  |
| 11:PM | Jimmy Kimmel Live   | La Que No          | How I Met How I Met | Letterman          | Tierra de Reyes (SS)  | Seth Meyers         | Cougar                    | Chevalme               | T. Smiley           | T. Smiley           | Fire in the Hole       | Better Call Saul                     | Cops                   | Supernatural        | Wendy Williams                     | So Raven                  | SportsCenter                       |  |
| 12:AM | Extra               | Un Refugio         | TMZ                 | The Late Late Show | Dueños del Paraíso    | News                | Cougar                    | Zola Lev.              | McMillan and Wife   | McMillan and Wife   | To Be Announced        | (12:15) Better Call Saul             | Jail                   | Supernatural        | The Real                           | Lizzie                    | NBA                                | SportsCenter                                       |
| 1:AM  | Paid                | Alma               | Law & Order: SVU    | Ent                | Paid                  | (07) Today          | Movie: Life as We Know It | Light of the Southwest | Gallery             |                     |                        | (:20) Movie: Jail                    | Jail                   | Smallville          | Game One Mic                       | Cory                      | NFL Live                           | SportsCenter                                       |

DENNIS THE MENACE



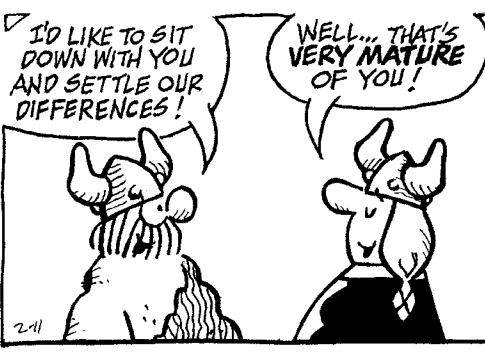
"BUT I WANT TO RUIN MY APPETITE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

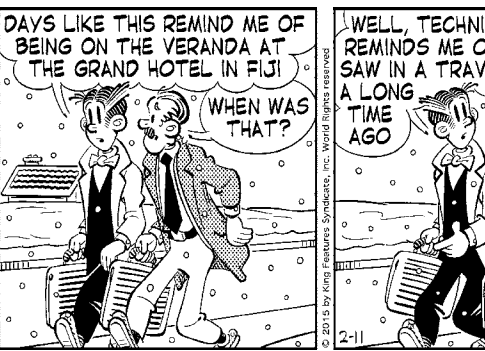


"I keep slippin' on this floor. Is that why these are called slippers?"

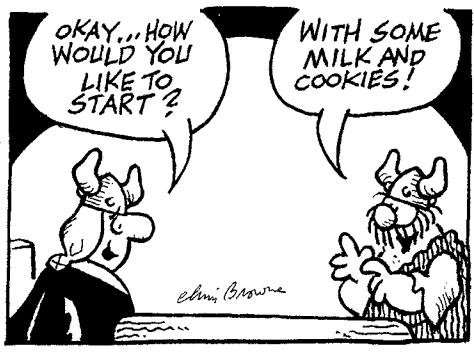
HAGAR



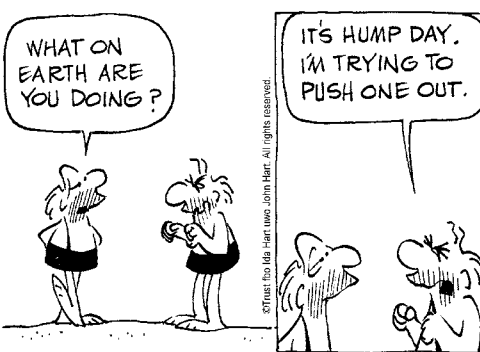
BLONDIE



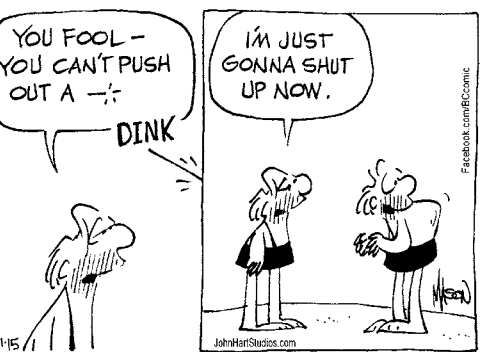
HAGAR



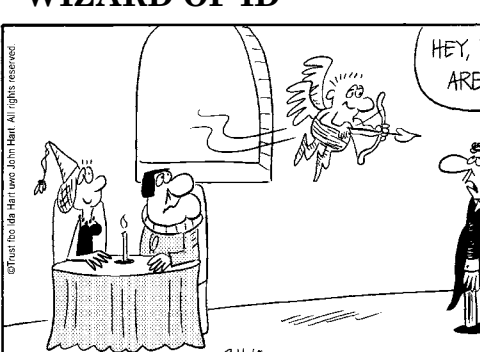
BC



WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 11, the 42nd day of 2015. There are 323 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 11, 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin signed the Yalta Agreement, in which Stalin agreed to declare war against Imperial Germany's capitulation (in return, the Soviet Union would acquire territories lost to Japan

in the Russo-Japanese War). On this date: In 1812, Massachusetts Gov. Elbridge Gerry signed a redistricting law favoring his Democratic-Republican Party (giving rise to the term "gerrymandering.") In 1858, a French girl, Bernadette Soubirous (soo-bee-ROO'), reported the first of 18 visions of a lady dressed in white in a grotto near Lourdes. (The Catholic Church later accepted that the visions were of the Virgin Mary.) In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Fort Donelson began in Tennessee. (Union forces led by Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant captured the fort

five days later.) In 1929, the Lateran Treaty was signed, with Italy recognizing the independence and sovereignty of Vatican City. In 1937, a six-week-old sit-down strike against General Motors ended, with the company agreeing to recognize the United Automobile Workers Union.

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Answer to previous puzzle

|            |         |            |
|------------|---------|------------|
| HASAT      | SOAR    | CRIB       |
| ACUTE      | PARE    | LODE       |
| BULLMARKET | OVEN    | IRK        |
| PLY        | NOSWEAT | TASSEL     |
| BARON      | AROMA   | TRAGIC     |
| WELD       | WARP    | TRADE      |
| ACID       | SIREN   | OGLE       |
| SHELL      | LORE    | USES       |
| POSEAS     | OPTIN   | STEAM      |
| ANDHOW     | GOAHEAD | NIL        |
| ECO        | UNTO    | ROPELADDER |
| SUGAR      | ACME    | ERAS       |
| TEENY      | MESS    | DENT       |

Newsday Crossword

COMPUTER QUARTET by David W. Cromer

- Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com
- ACROSS
  - 1 Smartphone predecessor: Abbr.
  - 4 Aladdin's magic pal
  - 9 Oil cartel
  - 13 European Union predecessor: Abbr.
  - 14 Clownish behavior
  - 15 "Gimme a break!"
  - 17 Lobbying org.
  - 18 Disneyland meetable character
  - 20 Put up a fuss
  - 22 Ousted
  - 23 Raison d'\_\_
  - 24 Rowboat tool
  - 26 "Steady as \_\_ goes"
  - 27 Beverly Hills shopping venue
  - 30 Christmas season
  - 34 Actress Hathaway
  - 35 Performing group
  - 37 Scratch up
  - 38 Capital of Belarus
  - 40 Start of many work wks.
  - 41 Public persona
  - 43 Supermarket ID
  - 44 Exam for HS juniors
  - 46 Proofreader's "leave it" mark
  - 47 Performs
  - 49 Salty snack
  - 53 Bi- + 1
  - 55 Urban rd.
  - 56 Havana's land
  - 57 They're on the team
  - 61 Clothing
  - 63 Grade-school volunteer
  - 65 Rocky III villain
  - 66 Architect from China
  - 67 Silly
  - 68 Make public
  - 69 Whispered attention-getter
  - 70 Trims back
  - 71 Thumbs-down vote
  - 9 Get-up-and-go
  - 10 "Rats!"
  - 11 Australian flightless birds
  - 12 Detective's gig
  - 16 Neighbor of the Simpsons
  - 19 Thumbs-up votes
  - 21 Typical high-schoolers
  - 25 Lasagna cheese
  - 28 Working in a mess hall
  - 29 Movers' vehicle
  - 31 Pulp Fiction actress
  - 32 Fall behind
  - 33 Before, in poetry
  - 36 Mambo bandleader
  - 38 Wet dirt
  - 39 Stock mkt. premiere
  - 40 Longtime Chinese leader
  - 42 Tourist draw
  - 45 Prefix meaning "coil"
  - 46 Instructions starter
  - 48 Modes of fashion
  - 50 Video-game face
  - 51 Portugal + Spain
  - 52 Ridiculously small
  - 54 Send payment
  - 57 \_\_ Beta Kappa
  - 58 4 Across' home
  - 59 Swiss mountains
  - 60 Sound of scissors
  - 62 Possible other title for a CEO
  - 64 \_\_ manner of speaking

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   | 69 |    |    |    |    | 71 |

**STEERS**

Continued from Page 7  
tied with Lamesa and Levelland for second in the District 2-4A race, didn't have too many offensive issues either. The Steers scored 17 points in the first quarter and never looked back.

After pounding out a 17-8 run in the first quarter, Big Spring shifted into high gear and raced to a huge 29-15 halftime lead.

The BSHS defense salted the win away in the third. Big Spring held Sweetwater to just four points in the first eight minutes of the second half. That, combined with a 14-point offensive effort by the Steers, sent BSHS into the fourth holding a 43-19 lead.

Sweetwater managed to score into double digits in the fourth, matching Big Spring point-for-point in the frame with 13.

Tyler Bryan led a balanced scoring attack for the Steers. The 6-foot-4 senior pushed in a team-high 12 points.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

**Tyler Bryan puts up a shot during the first half of the Steers' 56-32 win over Sweetwater on Tuesday. The win clinched a playoff berth for the Steers.**

Senior Ty Sealy also finished in double figures for Big Spring by throwing in 11. Tobyn Tannehill, Matt Yanez and Will Green also played well. All three contributed seven

points. Colton Knudson and Dee Parker added five and four, respectively.

Big Spring will make its final road outing of the regular season on Friday in Lamesa.

**GIRLS**

Continued from Page 7  
quarter – or for a lack of precision from behind the three-point arc. The Lady Steers knocked down five treys in the first eight minutes and rolled to a huge 23-8 lead.

Julianna Rodriguez ignited a 9-2 start by the Lady Steers early in the opening frame by sinking a three-point shot just moments into the contest. Tiffani Ruiz followed moments later with a basket that staked BSHS to a 5-0 advantage.

The dam broke on Sweetwater seconds later.

After the Lady Mustangs had notched the first of their four first-half baskets to pull to within 5-2, Castillo ignited a 18-6 run by throwing in a pair of treys. Moments later, Stefanie Diaz added fuel to the fire by sinking two more.

The second quarter didn't start any better for Sweetwater. After

Rodriguez had reeled off five quick points to open the period, Sydney Patterson pushed home Big Spring's seventh three-point shot of the first half at the 5:11 mark and upped BSHS' lead to 31-8.

The Lady Steers carried a commanding 34-12 lead into the half.

Big Spring extended its lead to 48-16 at the start of the second half. The Lady Steers outscored Sweetwater by a 14-4 clip in the first eight minutes of the half and never looked back.

Rodriguez led a balanced scoring attack by the Lady Steers by pumping in a game-high 13 points. Diaz and August Alexander also finished in double figures

with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Jackie Castillo and Diamonique Mayes also played well in the victory. Castillo scored eight in the contest, while Mayes pumped in six.

Big Spring, which finished the regular season at 14-13 overall, played well over the last two district games en route to forcing a tie for second.

Smalley said the team's efforts have her feeling good about the squad as it heads into the postseason.

"It's like a puzzle," she said. "We have pieces that work one night, and some that work on other nights and we're trying to get them to all to fit together."

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A beautiful venue located on the bank of the Comanche Trail Lake making it a perfect location to host a wedding, engagement party, rehearsal dinner, or bridal shower.

There are several options to choose for your event. There are rooms available to accommodate parties from 20 to 300.

We boast the perfect outdoor location with our pavilion that is right on the shoreline.

We assist in your day by renting linens as well to enhance your decorations.

To reserve please contact:  
Community Services  
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# VALENTINE'S DAY

## GIFT GUIDE



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Unique Gifts & Home Decor

Will Deliver Friday & Saturday  
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Choice of Potato  
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Choice of Beverage  
Cheesecake for Dessert  
**\$29.99**

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Saturday, February 14  
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While Supplies Last

*Happy Valentine's Day!*

**Paul's Custom PC**  
1911 Scurry St.  
On The Corner of 20th & Scurry

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