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Monday-Friday 9:30am - 5:30pm



THURSDAY

February 26, 2015



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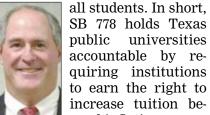
50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Seliger files tuition bill all students. In short, and I expect universities to per-

Special to the Herald

AUSTIN — Today, State Senator Kel Seliger (R-Amarillo) filed SB 778, which will curb rising tuition by tying any increases to performance-based metrics.

Seliger said the result of the new bill would be to raise the value of postsecondary education by incentivizing high graduation rates, persistence, and a shorter time to degree among



Seliger

public universities accountable by requiring institutions to earn the right to increase tuition beyond inflation. "This bill ensures

that tuition increases are justified by progress and production in rigorous standards form in exceptional fashion," said Seliger. Some of the performance met-

rics include four -and six-year graduation rates, first-to-second year persistence rates, first generation college graduates, and percent of lower division semester credit hours taught by tenured or tenure-track faculty members.

HC homecoming Howard College officials are hoping alumni will

be "back in black" for this year's homecoming cel-The college will celebrate Homecoming 2015 to-

night as as the college's basketball teams host Western Texas College.

Activities will take place in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on the college campus. Women tip off at 5:45 p.m. and the men will follow at 7:45 p.m.

Tonight will be "Black Out" night in the coliseum — fans wearing black get in free. Beginning at 5:45 with the women's game, the first 100 fans will receive a free rally towel.

ISD bands

heading to

UIL contest

It's show time for Big Spring ISD bands. Actually, showtime began at 8:30 a.m. today as head band director Rocky Harris and his in-

structors took six bands to University Interscholastic League Concert and Sightreading contest held in

At stake for the high school's top band is another sweepstakes trophy for the preverbal showcase. If the honor band earns Division I ratings for both the Concert and Sightread-

ing portions today, the program can claim yet another Sweepstakes.

tests held in the spring semester.

High school bands in Texas earn the Sweep-

stakes title if they earn both Division I ratings

in UIL district marching contests which is held

in the fall and in Concert and Sightreading con-

For Big Spring, the honor will end a stellar

year which included a trip to the state marching contest this past fall, the first in more than a decade, and having two members - Nick Con-

ner and Alex Rivera – earn a spot on the All

State Band playing with the best musicians in

Big Spring brings three bands to compete at

the high school level at contest today and three

Harris

BY LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Colorado City.

their class.



Heritage Musem will kick off its annual membership campaign with a casual come-and-go reception from 4-6 p.m. today.

Heritage launches membership drive with come-and-go reception tonight

BY LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

The Heritage Museum will kick off its 2015 membership campaign tonight with a casual come and go reception at the museum.

"We are very thankful for our members and major donors such as the generous grant we received from the Dora Roberts Foundation this year," said Tammy Schrecengost, museum curator. "Their continued support helps to preserve the history of Big Spring and Howard County for future generations."

Besides housing several permanent displays including an area dedicated to the history of the Big Spring Refinery, a large collection of longhorns and a display of pioneer every day life, the museum also offers temporary exhibitions in its down stairs lobby throughout the year from commemorating a period of local history to exhibitions of art work from area residents.

The come and go event will be held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and those attending can view the newest temporary display Greg's Texas, a photography exhibition of selected works by local photographers Greg and Toni Bodin. The display consists of nature shots and sites of well known – and some long-forgotten – historical places and stories

The museum offers several membership levels:

• Educator, \$20. This level includes 10 percent off gift shop

See **DRIVE**, Page 3

for the junior high level. It's going to get c-o-o-ld

Herald Staff Report

Hazardous road conditions may occur beginning today as the National Weather Service is forecasting a small chance of of snow and

According to a special weather bulletin by the National Weather Service, light snow will begin moving over parts of southeast New Mexico and the northern Permian Basin today. The forecast this morning for Howard County was around a 20 percent chance of snow and sleet sometime today increasing to 30 percent tonight. The expected high for today is 34 degrees and the expected low is 21. According to the National Weather Service,

See COLD, Page 3

Homeland Security bill moves in Senate U.S. against terrorism.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate is moving forward on legislation to fund the Homeland Security Department, but the House is in limbo two days away from a partial agency shutdown as conservatives angrily reject the Senate plan.



Many House Republicans say they aren't ready to admit defeat and approve spending for the department without demanding concessionsfromPresidentBarack Obama on immigration. They are pressuring House Speaker John Boehner to hold firm against that approach, even as Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell argues that it's the best way out of the GOP's dilemma. No other options are apparent,

aside from a partial shutdown of

the agency charged with protecting

Without congressional action, that will happen at midnight Friday – and polls show Republicans would likely take the political blame. Some conservatives

downplayed the implications of a partial shutdown, noting that of the department's 230,000 employees, some 200,000 would continue to report to work because they are deemed essential, although they would not get paid until the

See BILL, Page 3





TUESDAY-SATURDAY 10am - 6 pm

Obituaries

Richard Hodnett

Richard Guffee Hodnett, 77, hung up his spurs and saddle on Feb. 25, 2015, in the Vincent Community where he resided all his life.

Richard was born in Big Spring Jan. 7, 1938 to Loyd and Inez Hodnett.

He was of the Cowboy Church faith.

He is survived by his grandson, Jade Hodnett of California; granddaughter, Brandy Hodnett of Arizona; two brothers, Claude Hodnett and Keith Hodnett; and two sisters, Sue Elliott and Nancy

Graves.

He was preceded in death by his son, Tony Hodnett; a brother, David Hodnett; his parents, Loyd and Inez Hodnett; and grandparents, Guy and Sa-He was a lifetime cowboy and an avid reader.

A Western Casual memorial service will be held Friday, Feb. 27, at 1 p.m. at Vincent Baptist

Memorials may be made to Home Hospice of Big Spring or the Vincent Cemetery.

Paid obituary

Police/Sheriff

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

• JORDAN QUINN AGUILAR, 23, of 1505 Vines Ave. was arrested on warrants for disregarding a red light and failure to appear.

• AARON SCOTT COMBS, 28, of 1514 Vines Ave. was arrested on a warrant for another agency.

• JENNIFER LEANN MOLI-

NAR, 40, of 1504 Chickasaw St. was arrested on a warrant for another agency. • NOEL GARCIA II, 33, of 625

McEwen St. was arrested on a warrant for forgery financial in-THOMAS ALLEN YOUNG,

19, of 3403 Airport St. was arrested on warrants for two counts of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

• THEFT was reported in the

THURSDAY

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles,

open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's

meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking

closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a

faith-based support group for those who

need help finding and continuing to walk

down the path God has for each of us.

Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and

again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take

place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, lo-

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at

St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is

at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and

you don't have to talk if you don't want to.

• Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics

Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza

(inside the mall, across from the movie

box office, next to Sears). Open meeting

A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder sup-

port group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the

VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing

• 7 p.m. — The Stepping Stone Group of

Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring

Town Plaza (inside the mall, across from

AA open discussion meeting from

noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big

· Alcoholics Anonymous open discus-

sion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.

Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no

smoking meeting the last Saturday of

each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish sup-

· Alcoholics Anonymous closed meet-

VA Alcoholics Anonymous support

Reformers Unanimous International

is a faith-based addictions program help-

ing people find freedom from addiction.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trin-

ity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at

Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics

Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (next to Sears). Open meeting at 7 p.m.

the main entrance of the church.

group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

ing from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles.

Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

the movie box office, next to Sears).

cated at 1209 Wright St.

Flexible payment options.

at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

per at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

3600 block of W. Hwy 80, the 1500 block of E. 4th St. and the 100 block of E. FM 700

• THEFT OF A FIREARM was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80. • SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY was

reported in the 2000 block of Morrison, the intersection of Circle and Sunset, and the intersection of 16th St. and Cherokee. CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was re-

ported in the 2000 block of E. FM 700, the 1900 block of Hwy 176, and the 1500 block of Bluebird St. WARRANT SERVICE was re-

ported in the 300 block of S. Main • DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 900 block of

S. Runnels. • MINOR ACCIDENT was reported at the intersection of 4th St. and Lancaster.

• MAJOR ACCIDENT was re-

ported at the intersection of FM 700 and Goliad, in the 700 block of W. FM 700, and the intersection of Gregg St. and W. 4th St.

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

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

• NOEL GARCIA II, 33, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for manufacturing/forgery financial instrument.

• THOMAS ALLN YOUNG, 19, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for possession of a controlled substance less than 1

• JENNIFER LEANN IRISH, 40, was booked by the BSPD on a warrant for theft of property more than \$500 but less than \$1500.

Take Note

• In honor of Texas Independence Day, members of the Texas Nationalist Movement will read the Texas Declaration of Independence and William B. Travis' "Victory or Death" letter of appeal for the Alamo on the east lawn of the Howard County Courthouse by the War Monument. The event will be held Saturday, March 7, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Texas Independence Day is Monday, March 2.

• 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.

• 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

 Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday 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.

• Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 ½ Main St. All Masons are welcome.

• 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 handicappedaccessible. Cost is \$8 per person.

 Victim Services is a nonprofit 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

If you can commit to 30hour 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 quality 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 or www. casawtx.org.

 Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you 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.

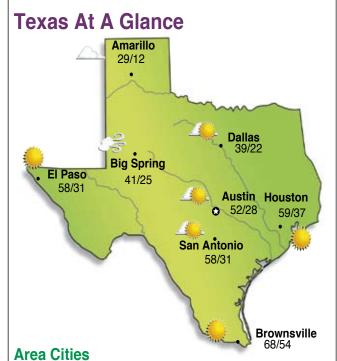
It's a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9-11 a.m. and get two for one, plus a rehab meeting.

Bobby Gene White

Bobby Gene White, 73, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2015, at his residence. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Local	5-Day F	orecas	t	
Fri 2/27	Sat 2/28	Sun 3/1	Mon 3/2	Tue 3/3
53	<u>A</u>	1/1/1/1/1/1/1		Thullall.
41/25 Partly cloudy. Windy. High 41F. Winds NE at 20 to 30 mph.	35/26 Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 30s and lows in the mid 20s.	51/44 Freezing rain and sleet early. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the mid 40s.	72/46 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 40s.	62/49 Chance of showers. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 40s.
Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 6:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 6:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 6:42 PM	Sunrise: 7:13 AM Sunset: 6:43 PM	Sunrise: 7:12 AM Sunset: 6:44 PM
	Amor	ricanI	Ovofilo	

// CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT/

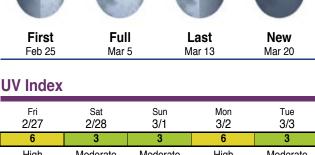


/ II ou oilioo							
City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	37	23	pt sunny	Kingsville	65	38	sunny
Amarillo	29	12	cloudy	Livingston	53	33	mst suni
Austin	52	28	mst sunny	Longview	42	19	pt sunny
Beaumont	57	33	pt sunny	Lubbock	35	16	cloudy
Brownsville	68	54	sunny	Lufkin	49	31	pt sunny
Brownwood	37	24	pt sunny	Midland	40	25	windy
Corpus Christi	64	37	sunny	Raymondville	68	51	sunny
Corsicana	39	23	pt sunny	Rosenberg	58	34	sunny
Dallas	39	22	mst sunny	San Antonio	58	31	mst suni
Del Rio	62	37	mst sunny	San Marcos	52	29	sunny
El Paso	58	31	sunny	Sulphur Springs	37	21	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	43	29	pt sunny	Sweetwater	37	23	windy
Gainesville	38	19	pt sunny	Tyler	41	22	pt sunny
Greenville	37	21	pt sunny	Weatherford	39	22	pt sunny
Houston	EΩ	27	ounny	Wichita Falls	30	21	windy

National Cities

		_					
City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	44	25	cloudy	Minneapolis	9	-3	pt sunny
Boston	23	9	sn shower	New York	29	16	cloudy
Chicago	14	-3	sn shower	Phoenix	72	48	sunny
Dallas	39	22	mst sunny	San Francisco	69	54	pt sunny
Denver	21	5	sn shower	Seattle	54	44	rain
Houston	59	37	sunny	St. Louis	26	5	sn shower
Los Angeles	68	52	sunny	Washington, DC	34	26	snow
Miami	87	65	pt sunny	-			

Moon Phases



High Moderate Moderate Moderate The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection. ©2010 American Profile Hometown Content Service

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 Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month.

TUESDAY

BILL

Continued from Page 1

situation is resolved. Front-line employees at agencies such as Customs and Border Patrol, the Secret Service and the Transportation Security Administration would continue to report to work. Airport security checkpoints would remain staffed, immigration agents would be on the job, air marshals would do their work and Coast Guard patrols would sail on.

Boehner met privately with McConnell on Wednesday afternoon, their first meeting in two weeks, but he gave no indication during the day of how he might resolve what has become a high-stakes leadership test two months into full Republican control of Congress.

"I'm waiting for the Senate to act. The House has done their job," Boehner said at a news conference where he repeatedly sidestepped questions about his plans.

Hours after Boehner spoke, the Senate did act, voting 98-2 to advance the Homeland Security funding bill over its first procedural hurdle. Several more votes will be required to bring the bill to final passage, but that outcome in the Senate is assured with lawmakers of both parties ready to put the fight behind them.

The \$40 billion legisla-

tion would fund the agency through Sept. 30, the end of the budget year. Gone would be the contentious immigration language from the House-passed version that repealed Obama executive actions as far back as 2012 granting work permits and deportation stays to millions of people in the country illegally, including immigrants brought here as kids.

McConnell

envisions a separate vote on a narrower immigration measure to undo just Obama's most recent directives, immigration from November. The measure would leave in place protections enacted in 2012 for younger immigrants, but even so Democrats are not likely to approve that bill, and it faces a certain Obama veto.

Instead.

The president repeated that threat Wednesday at a town hall style meeting in Miami designed to keep pressure on Republicans. "If Mr. McConnell, the

leader of the Senate, and the speaker of the House, John Boehner want to have a vote on whether what I'm doing is legal or not, they can have that vote," the president said. "I will veto that vote - because I'm absolutely confident that what we're doing is the right thing to do."

Facing united opposition from Democrats who blocked four GOP attempts to open debate on the House-passed bill, McConnell said he was offering the best plan he could.

But House conservatives called it a surrender and said they would not abandon their fight, even if no outcome looked possible except a partial Homeland Security shutdown.

"On one side, we're faced with dealing with the horrible prospect of a shutdown. If we do nothing and we just capitulate, we're dealing with an even more horrible prospect of a constitutional crisis," said Rep. Matt Salmon, R-Ariz. "It's a no-win situation."

A number of Republican lawmakers said the plan could potentially pass with Democratic votes, but conservatives warned that Boehner would face an intense backlash if he took that route, as he's done in

Congress could potentially pass a short-term extension of current funding levels, but that would only postpone the conflict. House lawmakers openly

chafed at the position they found themselves in after agreeing last fall to put off the fight over immigration until this year. The argument was that they would have more leverage once Republicans controlled the Senate and claimed larger numbers in the House.

That hasn't proven to be the case, mainly because the GOP commands only 54 votes in the Senate, short of the 60 needed to advance most legislation under the chamber's rules. And Obama's veto pen still gives him the ultimate leverage.

News in brief

Feds: 3 accused in plot to join Islamic State group were vocal about their beliefs, commitment NEW YORK (AP) — Two men

arrested on charges of plotting to help the Islamic State group were vocal both online and in personal conversations about their commitment and desire to join the extremists, with one of them speaking of shooting President Barack Obama to "strike fear in the hearts of infidels," federal authorities said.

The men were among three charged Wednesday with attempt and conspiracy to provide material support to a terrorist organi-Akhror Saidakhmetov, 19, was

arrested at Kennedy Airport, where he was attempting to board a flight to Istanbul, with plans to head to Syria, authorities said. Another man, 24-year-old Abdurasul Hasanovich Juraboev, had a ticket to travel to Istanbul next month and was arrested in Brooklyn, federal prosecutors said. The two were held without bail after a brief court appearance.

US moves forward with plans to take in Syrian refugees even as some raise security concerns WASHINGTON (AP) — The

Obama administration's commitment to take in potentially thousands of Syrian refugees is raising national security concerns among law enforcement officials and some congressional Repub-

licans who fear clandestine radicals could slip into the country among the displaced.

The administration has vowed to help those who fled the civil war by providing homes, furniture, English classes and job training in the United States. It says they'll be subject to intensive screening before entering the country, and that the overwhelming majority are vulnerable women and chil-

"These are people I think that if most Americans met them, their instinct would immediately be, 'We have to help these people,'" Anne Richard, the assistant secretary of state for population, refugees and migration, said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Activists say number of **Christians abducted by** Islamic State group has risen to at least 220

BEIRUT (AP) — The number of Christians abducted by the Islamic State group in northeastern Syria has risen to 220, as militants have rounded up more hostages from a chain of villages along a strategic river in the past three days, activists said Thursday.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the militants have picked up dozens more Christian Assyrians from 11 communities near the town of Tal Tamr in Hassakeh province.

The province, which borders Turkey and Iraq, has become the latest battleground in the fight against the Islamic State group in Syria. It is predominantly Kurd-

COLD

Continued from Page 1

most accumulation is expected to occur tonight and into Friday morning as temperatures are below freezing. Most of the snow fall is expected across northern Lea County with a possibility of two inches or more. More than an inch may fall across central Lea County and the north-

expected to drop well

snow fall amounting to less than inch is forecasted further south across the rest of the Permian Basin to the lower trans Pecos and Northern areas of the Davis Mountain.

ern Permian Basin with

of the snow fall accumulation will be over with, according to the National Weather Service.

By Friday after, most

Crossroads residents certainly woke up to a windy and chilly morning compared to a rather

However, last Sunday an Arctic front moved

in bringing some small snow flurries and icy road conditions. Hazardous road conditions from ice was cited as playing a part in the

sunny day Wednesday.

Sunday nights. Several more vehicle

fatalities were reported across the Permain Basin during this time.

DRIVE

Continued from Page 1

purchases and yearlong, unlimited admission for the member and a guest to the museum. • Individual, \$30. The

- membership price includes 10 percent off gift shop purchases and year-long, unlimited admission for the member and a guest to the museum.
- Senior Family, \$50.

Those purchasing at 18 years of age and this level will receive 10 percent off gift shop purchases and yearlong, unlimited general admission for two adults age 60 and older and children or grandchildren, 18 years of age

• Family, \$60. This level includes 10 percent off gift shop purchases and year-long, unlimited general admission for two adults and children or grandchildren,

and younger.

younger. • Endowment, \$100.

- Members at this level receive a 15 percent discount at the gift shop and a year-long, unlimited general admission for two adults and guests.
- Benefactor, \$500. Included in this membership price is 15 percent off all purchases at the gift shop, a memorial brick and a year-long, unlimited general ad-

mission for two adults and guests.

- Founder, \$1,000. Those purchasing at this level will receive a 20 percent discount at the gift shop, an individual plaque or name on the memorial wall, a private tour of the museum and a year-long, unlimited general admission for two adults and guests.
- Pioneer, \$5,000. This level includes an individual plaque or name

memorial brick, and opportunity to host a private dinner and tour for a group, 20 percent discount at the gift shop, and a year-long, unlimited general admission for two adults and guests.

on the memorial wall, a

The Heritage Museum is located at 510 Scurry St. For more information, call 267-8255.

Contact Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234.

THE TRI-STATE AREA

FOR SPECIALTY SPRAYING. Prickly Pear & Chol

who where killed in vehicle crashes in Howard and Martin counties and Monday

death of three people

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Stanford Muse, 91, died Thursday. In state at Myers & Smith Funeral Home Wednesday and Thursday. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m., March 2, 2015, at Lincoln Memorial Park in Dallas.

Contrac

By Steve Becker

A Crucial Defensive Decision

North-South vulnerable. NORTH ♠Q742 **♦** K 6 **♥**763 ♦ A K 9 5 2 ♦83 ♣10962 **SOUTH** ♥KJ10982 ♦J1076 The bidding: East West North

East dealer.

Pass Pass Pass Opening lead — eight of diamonds. Assume you're East, defending against four hearts, and your partner leads the eight of diamonds. You win with the king, dummy playing the

four and South the six. The problem is what to do next. Actually, there's only one card you can play at this point that will stop the contract. If you do anything else, declarer will get home safely with perfectly normal play. The winning play is to return the

four of hearts at trick two! If you do, South goes down no matter how he proceeds. Let's say he wins your trump return with the eight and plays a dia-

mond or a trump next. In either case, you cash your red aces and give partner a diamond ruff to score the set-Declarer cannot alter the outcome by playing three rounds of

clubs after he wins the trump return at trick two. He simply cannot prevent West from getting a diamond ruff sooner or later. Given the bidding and partner's opening lead, you should conclude

that your best chance to defeat the contract lies in assuming that West is leading a doubleton diamond, and that he also has three hearts. The reason you gain so much by

returning the four of hearts instead of the ace at trick two is that this allows you to maintain control over the trump suit. If you were to play the ace first, you would lose control of trumps and the contract as well.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. ©2015 King Features Syndicate Inc

COWBOYS STEAKHOUSE AND RESTAURANT \$1.00 Off Adults

50¢ Off Children **Sunday Only** 11-3 Buffet or Any Entree \$9.00 or above 1 Coupon Per Person Must Be Presented For Discount Expires 2-28-2015

AURORA AGRONOMY

CODY NOWLAIN, RANGE & PASTURE SPECIALIST. (806) 407-8850, CNOWLAIN@AURORACOOP.COM

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

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every

265416

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

Applications now being accepted at the Big Spring Herald for

Full time Staff Writer

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Opinion

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- · By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
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Daily Prayer

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

Amen in her adult life before her hus-

Courting terror one teen at a time

Then I was 15, my mother let me take the bus to Lynn, a small city about five miles from our house and two blocks from my father's office. I was pretty pleased

with myself because otherwise my independence was limited entirely by my leg strength. This week, three

girls that age — Amira Abase, 15, Shamima Begum, 15, and Kadiza Sultana, 16 — allegedly took a



ESTRICH

different kind of odyssey, buying tickets from London to Istanbul in what appears to be a successful attempt to cross over into Syria and join the radical terror group ISIS. The governments are fighting with each other about how this could happen, who knew what when, and the like. My question is simple: Why? Babies aren't born to hate. If

anything, as a mother, I would say there is an inherent sweetness in babies that touches our souls. Kids can be rough, but that's the stuff of bruises and broken bones, not terrorism and mass destruction. How is it that these three young women, none of whom are from extremist homes, ended up on this perilous, dangerous journey? News reports, of course, say

it's the Internet. It's the Internet where young people gather to discuss ideas and presumably

Kids can be rough, but that's the stuff of bruises and broken bones, not terrorism and mass destruction.

spout ideology. But we all know that much of what appears on the Internet bears no relationship to truth.

That's where parents come in. When I was raising my kids, there was a popular ethos that anything a child had to say had "value," that it was meaningful, that it was worthy of discussion. You weren't supposed to just say "no"; you were supposed to discuss why "no" was a better answer.

I'm sure I made these mistakes many times myself.

With the advent of the Internet, it is possible to sit at a table of four people, none of whom ever speak to each other, all faces buried in their smartphones. Some families eat this way. If the Internet is going to scream lies, and it is, then parents have a responsibility to counter with truth.

Little kids, little problems; big kids, big problems. Changing a

diaper is easy. Getting your teenager to talk seriously is hard. I do not know these parents, and my sympathy goes out to them and to their family. But for the rest of us, it's a stark warning that even though your kids know more about how to operate within the Internet technically, that doesn't mean they have the mature judgment to discern what is worth listening to and what is rubbish.

The First Amendment, with limited exceptions, prohibits the government from blocking communications. We like to believe that in the marketplace of ideas. the good ideas will triumph. But that's an ideal, not an answer to ISIS.

Some estimates say that around 3,400 people from Western countries have left their homes in an attempt to join ISIS, and approximately 150 of them are from the United States. This week the focus is on three girls from England. Next week, who knows? In the meantime, every one of us should be as engaged with our own children about their political views, their angers and their frustrations as the clever and sophisticated ISIS recruiters they meet online are.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www. creators.com.

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Media's slimy assault on Gov. Walker band was elected president?

m not sure which is more absurd, for the media to be up in arms about former

New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani's statement that he doesn't believe that President Obama loves America or for them to mug Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker for declining to weigh in on the subject.

American idea.



LIMBAUGH

Many of us have been speculating for years about Obama's affinity for this country as founded. He promised to fundamentally transform this nation — something he wouldn't have done if he embraced the

There is so much evidence that Obama has a different feeling about America than all of our past presidents that it borders on disingenuous to pretend otherwise. What other president has ever denigrated the Founding Fathers as "men of property and wealth"? What POTUS has repeatedly apologized for the United States and its record? Obama has done so, often on foreign soil, complaining to Europe about America's arrogance, admitting to the Americas that we have sometimes dictated our terms, telling the Turkish Parliament that we have "our own darker periods in our history," sending a letter to the Afghan president apologizing for coalition forces inadvertently burning copies of the Quran but failing to object to the killing of U.S. troops in return, apologizing to Japan for our nuclear bombing of its cities, criticizing Americans for distrusting Islam, and even going so far as to blame America for the rampant gun violence in Mexico. What other president has belonged to a church whose pastor was openly racist and anti-American? What other president has scoffed at the idea of American exception-

What other president has bad-mouthed his own country's record on civil rights to the **United Nations Human Rights** Council and submitted U.S. laws and policies to that council for review? Has another POTUS married someone who admitted to never being proud of America

Even venerated conservative commentator Thomas Sowell has said, "I think this is a man who has enormous resentments toward this country, especially towards those people who have flourished and prospered here." Giuliani's statement was neither outrageous nor unique. Some of

the rest of us have been talking

and writing about it for years.

What about the media's hysteria over Walker's refusal to contradict Giuliani, saying that Giuliani was free to speak for himself and that he was not going to comment on whether Obama loves America.

What is wrong with that answer? Why should the media ask Walker about it? He didn't make the statement. The Washington Post's Dana Milbank skewered Walker for "avoiding anything that might resemble leadership," because Walker wouldn't condemn Giuliani and because he hadn't fallen for the media's loaded question on whether he believes in evolution.

How would either of those questions inform voters about Walker's presidential qualifications? His refusal to jump through their hoops, however, shows he is a strong and confident enough individual not to be manipulated by press vultures whose goal is not to inform the public but to discredit their ideological opponents by, for example, cornering them into revealing they are essentially Neanderthals for not believing we came from Neanderthals.

If mainstream reporters are so interested in such questions, why don't they ever ask Democratic candidates and public officials similarly uncomfortable questions?

Why don't they ask professed Catholics such as Vice President Joe Biden how they can square their pro-abortion rights stance with their faith? Why don't they ask Democratic presidential aspirants whether they believe that transgender "women" should be allowed to use public restrooms set apart for females? That the universe exploded out of nothing apart from supernatural causes? That the United States faces a serious threat of terrorism from any group other than Islamists? That President Obama was correct in depicting the 2009 Fort Hood, Texas, shoot-

ings as "workplace violence"?

That Islam has really been wo-

ven into America's national fabric? That we can defang the Islamic State group by finding jobs for its members? That Obama was justified in deceiving the country on Obamacare, as revealed by his adviser Jonathan Gruber, or in lying about his position on same-sex marriage, as admitted by his adviser David Axelrod? That it was OK for Obama to issue executive orders relaxing immigration enforcement mere weeks after he admitted he had no constitutional authority to do so? That Obama actually sat in the Rev. Jeremiah Wright's church for 17 years and didn't ever hear him slamming America and white people? That Republicans are waging a war on women because they oppose government subsidies of contraceptives? That it's wise for Obama to telegraph that he will not, under any circumstances, "put boots on the ground" to fight the Islamic State? That it's in America's interests for Obama to release terrorists from Guantanamo Bay back into the battlefield against us? That it's OK for environmental activists to fly their private jets around the world and increase their

"carbon footprint"? Why don't the media ask likely Democratic presidential aspirant Hillary Clinton whether she truly quarterbacked the squelching of husband Bill's "bimbo eruptions" and how she can reconcile that with her advocacy for women's rights and dignity? Was it OK for Bill's handlers to degrade Bill's paramours as

"trailer trash"? Or if the media really want to be relevant, why don't they ask Democrats what they plan to do about entitlement reform — seeing as in a matter of a few decades, our entitlement outlays will exceed all of our tax revenues.

The mainstream media won't ask any of those questions, because they are not interested in fair play or in bringing out relevant facts about the candidates positions. They are shameless advocates for President Obama and the Democratic Party. Pe-

Follow David Limbaugh on Twitter @davidlimbaugh and his website at www.davidlimbaugh.com.

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Courtesy photo/BSISD

The Marcy Elementary School Student Council delivered valentines to the residents at Parkview Nursing Home. They were able to visit with the residents and are pictured with Mrs. Erickson, a former teacher. Also pictured, from left, are Zoe Valenzuela, J.J. Ford, Celeste Martinez, Zander Bishop, Kate Hunter, Samuel Parsons, Javarious Ford, Mrs. Erickson, Mackenzie Chille-Davis, Hannah Peckenpaugh and Angelika Uribe.







Students in Ms. Kristy Magee's class at the Kentwood Early **Childhood Center got** to examine some real worms in the Science Center. Hands on learning is the best learning. Go Steers! **Courtesy photo**

TEA: Free online pre-k learning platform available

AUSTIN - The Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the Children's Learning Institute (CLI) at The University of Texas Health Science



Center at Houston (UTHealth) have launched a new online platform, known as CLI Engage. This online platform is now available at no cost to all Texas public school districts, charter schools, and Head Start programs.

School districts and Head Start programs that register for CLI Engage will be able to access Texas School Ready! child progress monitoring assessments that reliably identify children at risk for school failure. Based on the results of these assessments, participating prekindergarten and Head Start teachers will be directed to supplementary lessons that target improvement of children's least developed skill areas.

In addition, the platform houses professional development courses that feature expert commentary and video demonstrations filmed in real classrooms, as well as classroom observation tools to measure teacher interactions and the classroom environment. All of these resources are aimed at enhancing young children's learning environ-

"The task of closing the achievement gap among

our students begins early, but educators must have the tools in hand to accomplish that goal" said Commissioner of Education Michael Williams. "TEA is proud to partner with the Children's Learning Institute to offer these valuable resources to early education teachers across our state."

Funded by TEA, a pilot version of CLI Engage was launched in three major Texas independent school districts (Dallas, Fort Worth, and Houston) in October 2014. The pilot program has a total enrollment of more than 2,450 teachers and 48,000 children and is currently assessing students in important developmental milestones such as language and literacy, mathematics, and social and emotional development. The first sets of assessments, administered in both English and Spanish, were completed in November. The results of these assessments are now being used to help shape specialized instruction and to improve student skills.

"We know that the best thing we can do for at-risk children is to provide quality early learning experiences that target their least-developed skills areas," said Susan Landry, Ph.D., founder and director of the Children's Learning Institute at UTHealth. "CLI Engage provides the tools for teachers to incorporate these instructional strategies in their classrooms. Our goal is to disseminate these resources in a way that is cost effective for the state and for local districts."

Since 2003, CLI has implemented the Texas School Ready! Project (TSR) in local communities across Texas. Through its partnership with TEA, the research-based resources developed to improve preschool instruction in TSR classrooms will soon be available for free to all preschool teachers at Texas public schools, charter schools, and Head Start programs on the CLI Engage platform.

Texas school districts, charter schools and Head Start programs can begin registering for these free, validated, research-based resources. Teachers can receive access to the resources beginning in March 2015, including the online professional development and child progress monitoring tools.

To sign up, visit www.cliengage.org and click on the button that says "Sign Up for Access." Following the launch of the CLI Engage platform in public schools and Head Start programs, licensed child care programs participating in the Texas Rising Star program will gain access to these Texas School Ready! resources.

For more information on CLI Engage, visit cliengage.org or email cliengage@uth.tmc.edu.



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Page 6 Thursday, February 26, 2015

Steers gear up for area bout with Clint

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

How quickly things can change in high school basketball. Two days ago, the Big Spring High School Steers went into a playoff game as an under dog. Now, just 48 hours later, the same Steers that were expected to lose their opener to Bushland are heading into a playoff game as the favorite.

The Steers will kick off the second round of the Class 4A state playoffs Friday evening when they face the Clint Lions in the area round. The game is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Fort Stockton

High School gym.

To say the Steers enter the game as a favorite would be a huge understatement. Clint enters the game with just six wins this season, including a stunning 57-56 overtime win over Monahans on Tuesday.

Big Spring head coach Ian Ritchey isn't worried about the Lions' record. He said his team will prepare for a tough

"We have to get ready for whatever they throw at us," said Ritchey, who has guided Big Spring to the second round of the state playoffs in each of his two seasons at the



CLASS 4A AREA PLAYOFF

Who: Big Spring Steers (19-11) vs. Clint Lions (6-18).

When: 7:30 p.m., Friday. Where: Fort Stockton High School.

The Steers come into Friday game with plenty of confidence. Backed by a stellar shooting performance from

guard Kei'Shawn Broussard, Big Spring upset Bushland in the bi-district round of the playoffs by a 68-65 margin. Bushland had entered Tuesday's first-round game as the favorite after winning the District 1-4A race.

Big Spring, which had finished as the fourth-place team in the District 2-4A race, outscored Bushland by a 19-15 clip in the first quarter and then hit several clutch free throws down the stretch to claim the victory.

In Clint, the Steers face a completely different scenario. The Lions struggled to find wins this season. Clint enters Friday's showdown with a 6-18 record, including a third-place finish in the District 3-4A standings.

The Lions, who have averages just over 45 points per game this season, are led into the game by a junior-laden cast that features guards Luis Pargas and Daniel Cordoba Both averaged double figures early this season.

Luis Maciel is the team's top rebounder, averaging just over eight per game.

Big Spring is led into the contest by the inside tandem of Tyl Sealy and Tyler Bryan. Both are averaging more than 10 points per game.



Bria McCullough and the Howard College Lady Hawks will close out their 2014-15 season tonight when they host Western Texas College in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, beginning at 5:45 p.m. Tonight's games will be part of HC's homecoming activities.

HC looks to wrap up WJCAC crown on Homecoming night

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

The Howard College Hawks are 40 minutes away from hanging another banner from the rafters of the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. And what better way to add a piece of history to the Hawks' impressive history than to do it in front of a large crowd on Homecoming night when Howard College honors its graduating players and faces off with one of its biggest

Make no mistake about it, tonight's showdown with the Western Texas College Westerners could be historic as the Hawks can wrap up a share of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference crown with a victory.

The opportunity to play for the title at home is a special treat for the HC player, said coach Scott Raines.

"This is what we played for, and to be able to play for a conference championship at home on Homecoming night and Sophomore Night on makes it that much better," he said.

The Hawks, who have already clinched a berth in the

WJCAC Standings

Man

MEH		
Team	Conf.	Overall
South Plains	12-3	22-6
Howard	12-3	21-7
New Mexico JC	10-5	21-8
NMMI	9-6	15-10
Odessa	8-7	20-8
Midland	7-9	17-13
Frank Phillips	5-10	16-13
Western Texas	3-12	12-15
Clarendon	2-13	5-23

Women	
New Mexico JC 12-1	25-2
Midland 10-4	19-10
Odessa 9-4	23-6
Frank Phillips 6-8	20-9
Western Texas 5-8	13-13
South Plains 5-8	9-18
Clarendon 4-9	14-15
Howard2-11	9-20
Tonight's Games - W	/actar

Texas at Howard, NMJC at Clarendon, NMMI at Frank Phillips, South Plains at Odessa.

Region V Basketball Tournament, enter the contest as one of the nation's hottest teams. Howard College is 21-7 overall the WJCAC lead.

and tied with South Plains for Western Texas comes into the game looking to finish its

season on a high note. The

Westerners, 12-15 overall, are eighth in the WJCAC standings at 3-12, one game ahead on Clarendon.

As part of tonight's homecoming activities, HC officials are urging local residents to help the team "Black Out" the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Fans attending the game in black clothing will be admitted free of charge. Also, the first 100 fans will receive a free rally

The 2014-15 HC homecoming court will be recognized at the half of the men's game. The sophomore athletes for the HC men's and women's teams will be recognized following the men's game.

The HC women will also be playing an important game. The Lady Hawks can play the spoiler role by dealing the WTC women a loss. The Lady Westerners are in a battle with Frank Phillips for the No. 4 seed in the upcoming Region V tournament. Western Texas, 13-13 overall, trails FPC, 20-9, for the final postseason berth by one game.

The HC women, 9-20 and 2-11, have won three of their last five games.



Big Spring first baseman Makenzie Roberts stretches for a catch during the Lady Steers' game with Wylie on Wednesday.

Soliz, Oliva power BS girls by Wylie, 10-6

By TOMMY WELLS

Sports Editor

Yzzy Soliz and Mia Oliva gave the Big Spring High School Lady Steers everything they needed on Wednesday noon.

Well, almost everything.

Soliz hurled a five-hitter and Oliva cranked out two crucial hits, including a two-run home run, that powered the Lady Steers to an impressive 10-6 victory over the Abilene Wylie Lady Bulldogs at the BSHS Softball Complex. The two teams played on Wednesday to make up a game that was postponed a day earlier by

inclement weather. Soliz starred for the Lady Steers inside the pitching circle. The BSHS standout picked up her second win of the year with a complete game. In addition to holding Wylie to just five hits, she also fanned

Oliva wasn't the only offensive star helping power Big Spring to its second win in their first three outings. Mariah Sarmiento, Ashley Gonzales and Mercedes Ruiz all turned in solid efforts by hammering out two apiece.

Oliva also helped Big Spring with her glove. The Lady Steers' catcher made a diving catch of a pop-up to end a Wylie rally in the six inning.

Jaci Aguilar also played well for the BSHS squad offensively. She finished with a double and scored a run.

The Big Spring junior varsity also emerged victorious on Wednesday. The Lady Steers' sub-varsity squad improved to 2-0 with a 5-4

The Lady Steers' will return to action on Tuesday when they face Comanche, beginning at 4:30 p.m. in Clyde.

Weather forces schools to scratch track, tennis meets

Big Spring High School junior varsity meet earand Forsan High School officials both announced that cold weather conditions had forced meets slated for today to be cancelled.

In Forsan, the Forsan varsity tennis meet that was slated for today was scratched. The FHS and Big Spring tennis teams were slated to compete in the event.

lier this week.

BSHS also announced that two other events, including the track opener and the Lady Steers' softball tournament in Midland, were cancelled.

The BSHS track track team was set to compete in the Long Sleeve Relays on Friday in Hamlin. Big Spring's next Weather also forced meet is scheduled for the cancellation of the March 6 in Monahans.

Powerlifters headed to Midland

The Big Spring High to compete in the Midpowerlifting teams will be traveling to Midland on Saturday

land Invitational. The meet will be held at Midland High School.

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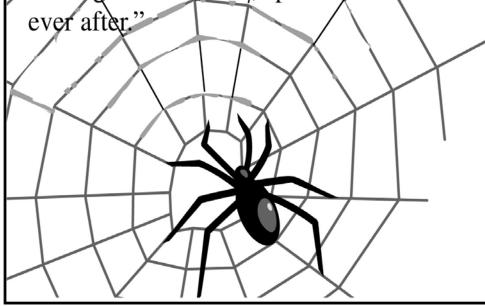
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let everyone know how important they are. Even if you're only the leader of your desk, social media page or other relatively limited domain, the Gemini moon of communication suggests you carefully consider the

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Don't waste time worrying about whether your teammates are strong enough. Focus instead on communicating well. You can do a fantastic job with an average team if you're all on the same

image you post.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll witness amateur social moves: walking into the glass door, conversations dominated by detailed descriptions of a television show, epic drink spills, etc. If you don't laugh, you'll win loyalty and friendship.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You could be socially impeccable if you wanted to be, but what's the fun

in that? Take risks. If you're not making any weird mistakes, you're not forming the bonds you could be.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The tyrannosaurus rex is a strange mystery. So ferocious, but why such tiny arms? And did it have feathers or scales? You may never know, but with a little digging, you may find answers to a different powerful mystery today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). At your heart, you want them to like you. But today it's so important that certain people respect you first and foremost. You might have to change your mode from "friendly" to "slightly intimidating.'

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). No matter what you do, there are certain people in this world who think of you as a freshfaced vouth. That can be wonderful, even though there are times when you really want to be taken seriously as an adult.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You suspect what the truth is, though part of your mind is busy spinning alternative versions that favor your worldview and the reality you wish for. Face facts later -- now is for living in the possibilities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's like you are standing at the intersection of life

pushing the "walk" button with no results. Keep pushing until that light comes on, and you can influence the traffic pattern to let you cross this one safely.

Tomorrow's Horoscope

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your ruling planet, Jupiter, with its massive gravitational pull, sucks many asteroids into its orbit that otherwise might have been a danger to Earth. There's a person who will protect you in much the same way today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You can never go back. You can physically put yourself there, but it's just not the same, and so you're not really back. Today's gift is being as close to "back" as possible.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Everyone is discussing a new topic, and you won't have much to say on the matter until after you've given yourself time alone to think about what you've heard. In other words, your best thinking will happen after the fact.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). An interesting and very beneficial person will come into your mix. This is someone you'll get to know best on a one-onone basis, so arrange to meet outside of the group setting.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 16). Your head and

heart are in the right place now, so take action. The rewards will be delayed just enough to make them sweet for you. In April, you'll accept the responsibilities that go along with your goal and get someone's love as a bonus. You'll win a contest in June. September brings a career breakthrough. Capricorn and Cancer people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 22, 38 and 50.

STRANGE FORTUNETELLING METHODS: If you think it's a little strange to look to the stars for answers, how do you feel about looking at your own bellybutton? Those who practice omphalomancy feel that the navel is as fine a place as any to go looking for psychic insight. Predictions that may come from that little button include how many children you'll have, how long you'll live and your personality type.

If looking at your navel doesn't tell you much, you could always try lecanomancy, a method of fortunetelling even older than astrology whereby the ripples of water are the main tools for divination. Methods of lecanomancy vary with times and cultures. Some include the use of oil or flour dropped into the water. The soothsayer then determines fate based on an interpretation of the shapes made by the combination of

ingredients. There are records of the practice being used in Babylonia and Europe and by the Catawba Indians of North America.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: More than a decade after his passing, Johnny Cash remains a revered, celebrated and widely imitated musical influence. The legendary Pisces is another example of an old soul who found his calling early in life. The Man in Black began

singing as a small boy on his family's cotton farm. His sun. Mercury and Mars were all in Pisces at Cash's time of birth, and lucky Jupiter was in entertaining Leo. If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to 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.

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sudoku ANSWERS 8 3 1 4 6 2 6 4 2 5 4 3

9 6 3

9

1

3 8 2

Annie's Mailbox ®

Dear Annie: I am currently in a two-year relationship with "Alison." Both of us are recently divorced. During Alison's marriage, she became a confidante to "Will." They have

KATHY MITCHELL remained friends, and

she insists nothing of a sexual nature ever happened.

When we first got together, Will was in a new relationship and had limited contact with Alison. However, eight months ago, that relationship ended. Now he and Alison text each other multiple times a day, all day long. He lives with his parents, and Alison stops by a couple of times a month to visit with his family.

Will has made it very clear that he doesn't want to be around me at all. Every time he gets into trouble, Alison is right there to help. At least once every few weeks, he drives 15 miles to eat at the restaurant where she works.

I am not sure how to handle this friendship. I trust Alison, or I would have left already. Any advice, or am I foolish? --

Dear N.: There is nothing wrong with having friendships, even those that include confidences. The problem is when one person's significant other is unwelcome and entirely excluded from these relationships and the confidences shared are intimate and interfere with the primary relationship.

Will is a bit possessive of Alison, but that shouldn't alarm you. Does Alison show you his texts? She should (but you do not need to comment on

them). If you

trust her and

she is not

hiding

We think

anything from you, we'd let this run its course. It is important, however, that Alison understands the boundaries of this friendship so she isn't leading Will on or damaging her relationship with you.

Dear Annie: I take both Pilates and yoga classes. One student loves to chew gum during class. It was ingrained in me by my father that loudly chewing gum is considered bad manners. It drives me crazy.

I find it hard to concentrate when she is popping and chomping away on her gum, and I know I'm not the only one in class who feels this way. Any suggestions on how to get her to stop? -- Cringing in **Exercise Class**

Dear Cringing: People do a lot of boorish things during exercise classes. Perhaps the gum helps her concentrate or keeps her from having a dry mouth. She probably isn't aware of how loud and annoying it is. Unfortunately, you cannot eliminate all behaviors that drive you crazy. You can, however, register a complaint with the instructor, move into a different class or ask the woman nicely

the gum chewing less noisy.

Dear Annie: I'm responding to "Outvoted," who is caring for her abusive mother and arguing with her siblings about replacing the batteries in Mom's pacemaker.

I. too, have been a caregiver for a person with dementia who became verbally abusive. Another option is to seek the assistance of a geriatric psychiatric professional. He or she can prescribe medication that will calm the abusive tendencies and allow the siblings to care for their mother in her home with much less stress. -- Been There

Dear Been There: Putting Mom on medication that will calm her down could help. It's quite possible that she should have been on some type of antidepressant for most of her life. After all, her abusive personality isn't recent or due to dementia. She has always been this way, and the dementia simply makes it worse. Medication may not completely resolve the issue of replacing Mom's pacemaker batteries, but it could make the siblings less

To our Baha'i readers: Happy Ayyam-i-Ha.

stressed when working

on these decisions.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to

anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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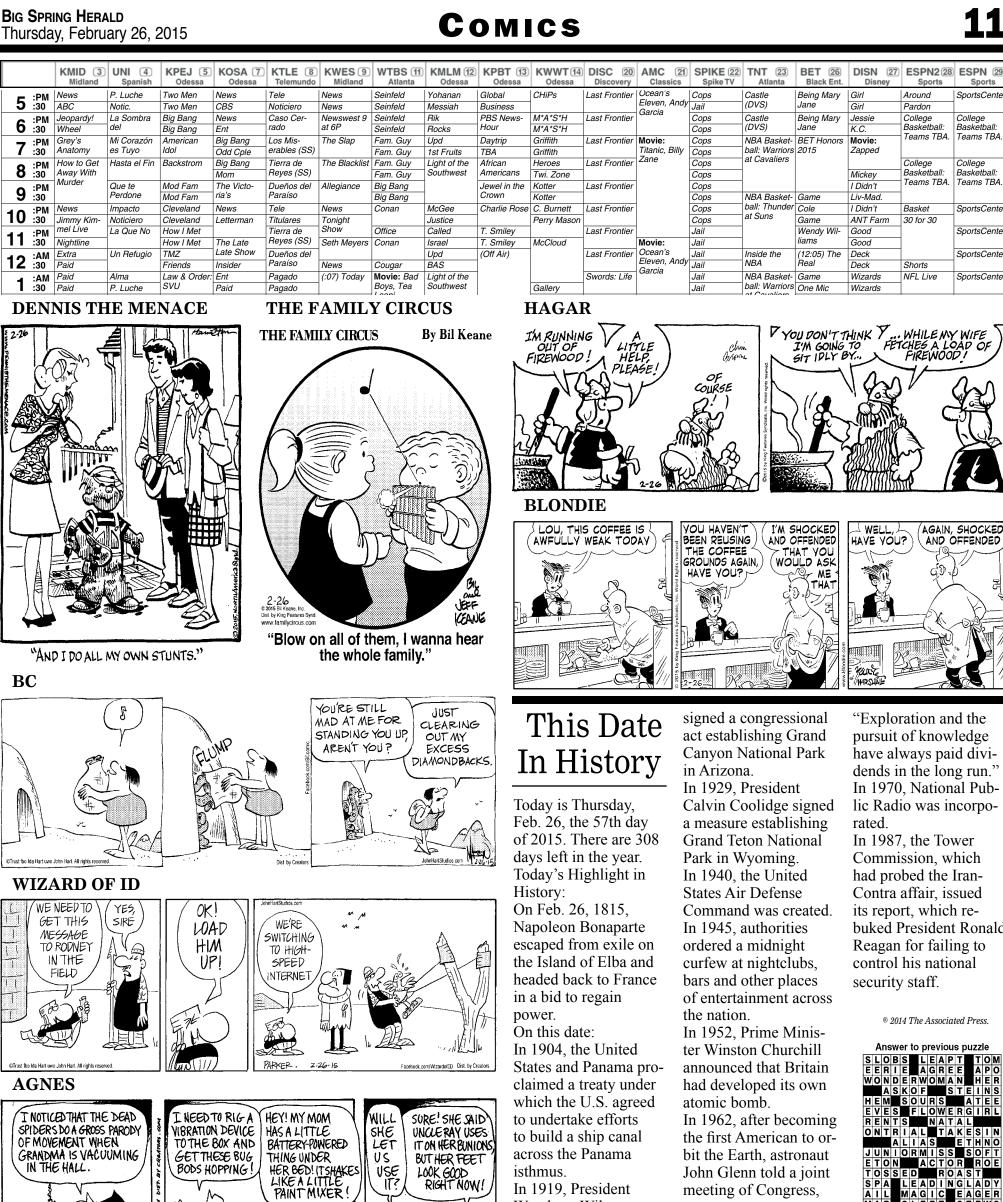
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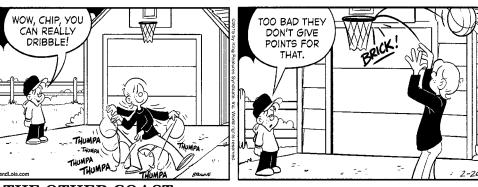
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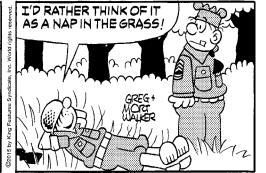
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37 Was overly anxious

42 QVC rival

43 Three-hour film.

often

44 Watered down

45 Religious belief 46 Be empathetic

48 "About time!"

51 "Geese a-laying"

count

53 Spoke, as at a

52 Bobblehead doll movement

meeting 57 Mandolin kin

AROUND THE ROOM by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman

10 Lose momentarily

miserably

22 Acquired kin

13 Bartender's tool

12 Played

21 Liable

mishaps 63 Otello opener 11 Prank

64 As compared to 65 Spy's collection,

for short

58 Neutral shade

59 Origami

66 Unrepairable

67 Medley part

68 Broken in

DOWN

1 Karate uniforms 2 Aesopian insect

3 Psychoanalytic self

guardian

6 Cybermoney

4 Protracted

7 One in charge

5 Sailors'

8 Legislative group

23 From Brno 24 Wooded

> valleys 25 Astronaut's

quarters

29 _ it (flee) 30 From Gouda

31 Hardwood tree

34 Dustless

35 Student of

Socrates

36 "Since

you

www.stanxwords.com 38 Savage one 9 Riskless region

39 Nicknames

40 Morse "E" 41 Saddlery tool

45 Improvise

46 South Atlantic port, for short

47 Uniquely new

48 Almanac

section 49 Smidgen

50 State-run game

51 Catapulted **54** Recording effect

55 Actress

Drescher 56 Clinton cabinet

member

60 Casino convenience

61 Penalty caller 62 Shifty

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Scoreboard

Atlantic Division

BASKETBALL National Basketball Association Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
	W	L	Pct	GB		
Toronto	37	20	.649	_		
Brooklyn	23	32	.418	13		
Boston	22	33	.400	14		
Philadelphia	12	45	.211	25		
New York	10	46	.179	261/2		
South	neast l	Divis	ion			
	W	L	Pct	GB		
Atlanta	45	12	.789	_		
Nashington	33	25	569	121/2		

Washington	33	25	.569	121/			
Miami	25	31	.446	191/2			
Charlotte	23	32	.418	21			
Orlando	19	40	.322	27			
Central Division							
	W	L	Pct	GE			
Cleveland	36	22	.621	_			
Chicago	36	22	.621	_			
Milwaukee	32	25	.561	31/3			
Detroit	23	34	.404	121/2			
Indiana	23	34	.404	121/2			
Wester	n Co	nfere	nce				
South	vest	Divis	ion				

		٠.		/ -				
Wester	n Co	nfere	nce					
Southwest Division								
	W	L	Pct	GB				
Memphis	41	15	.732	_				
Houston	39	18	.684	21/2				
Dallas	39	21	.650	4				
San Antonio	34	23	.596	71/2				
New Orleans	30	27	.526	11½				
Northy	vest l	Divis	ion					
	W	L	Pct	GB				
Portland	37	19	.661	_				
Oklahoma City	32	25	.561	5½				
Utah	21	35	.375	16				
Denver	20	37	.351	171/2				

Denver	20	37	.351	17		
Minnesota	13	43	.232	2		
Pacific Division						
	W	L	Pct	G		
Golden State	44	10	.815	-		
L.A. Clippers	37	21	.638			
Phoenix	30	28	.517	1		
Sacramento	20	35	.364	241		
L.A. Lakers	15	41	.268	3		
Wedne	sday'	s Ga	mes			
Miami 93, Orlar	ndo 90), OT				
Atlanta 104, Da	llas 8	7				
Boston 115, Ne	w Yor	k 94				
New Orleans 10	02, Br	ookly	n 96			

Charlotte 98, Chicago 86 Milwaukee 104, Philadelphia 88 Minnesota 97, Washington 77 Houston 110, L.A. Clippers 105 Phoenix 110. Denver 96 L.A. Lakers 100, Utah 97 Sacramento 102, Memphis 90 Portland 111, San Antonio 95 Thursday's Games Golden State at Cleveland, 8 p.m.

Oklahoma City at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m

NBA Leaders Scoring G FG FT PTS AVG

Harden, HOU	57	463	470	1549	27.				
Westbrook, OKC	43	380	312	1115	25.				
James, CLE	48	437	281	1232	25.				
Anthony, NYK	40	358	189	966	24.				
Davis, NOR	48	443	261	1148	23.				
Curry, GOL	53	437	216	1260	23.				
Cousins, SAC	43	358	301	1018	23.				
Aldridge, POR	49	445	218	1133	23.				
Griffin, LAC	51	448	245	1149	22.				
Thompson, GOL	53	423	170	1180	22.				
R	Rebounds								
	G	OFF	DE	FTOT	AV(
Jordan, LAC	58	268	546	814	14.				

Jordan, LAC	58	268	546	814	14.
Drummond, DET	57	285	454	739	13.
Cousins, SAC	43	128	398	526	12.
Gasol, CHI	55	160	504	664	12.
Chandler, DAL	56	226	431	657	11.
Randolph, MEM	47	173	378	551	11.
Vucevic, ORL	53	171	429	600	11.
Monroe, DET	55	189	387	576	10.
Love, CLE	55	113	457	570	10.
Aldridge, POR	49	126	381	507	10.
	Ass	ists			
			G	AST	AV(
Wall, WAS			58	588	10.
Lawson, DEN			54	534	9.

Assi	sts								
	G	AST	AVG						
Wall, WAS	58	588	10.1						
Lawson, DEN	54	534	9.9						
Paul, LAC	58	573	9.9						
Rondo, DAL	47	391	8.3						
Westbrook, OKC	43	344	8.0						
Curry, GOL	53	421	7.9						
Carter-Williams, MIL	42	310	7.4						
James, CLE	48	352	7.3						
Teague, ATL	53	386	7.3						
Lowry, TOR	57	406	7.1						
BIG 12 CONFERENCE									
	Men's Standings								
	PCT								
Vanaga 11 1	722	22 6	706						

BIG 12 CONFERENCE										
Men's Standings										
	W	L	PCT	W	L PCT					
Kansas	11	4	.733	22	6 .786					
West Virginia	10	5	.667	22	6 .786					
owa St.	10	5	.667	20	7 .741					
Oklahoma	10	5	.667	19	8 .704					
Baylor	9	6	.600	21	7 .750					
Oklahoma St.	7	8	.467	17	10.630					
Kansas St.	7	9	.438	14	15.483					
Гехаѕ	6	9	.400	17	11.607					
ΓCU	4	11	.267	17	11.607					
Texas Tech	2	14	.125	12	17.414					
Wednesday's Games										
TCU 71. Texas	: Te	сĥ	54							

Baylor 79, Iowa St. 70 Thursday's Games No games scheduled

HOCKEY National Hockey League

		٧v		U	IFU	SGГ	GA		
	Montreal	39	16	5	83	162	133		
	Tampa Bay	37	19	6	80	203	167		
	Detroit	33	15	11	77	173	154		
	Boston	29	22	9	67	158	158		
	Florida	26	21	13	65	145	169		
	Ottawa	25	23	10	60	166	161		
	Toronto	24	31	5	53	167	183		
	Buffalo	18	38	5	41	114	204		
Metropolitan Division									
		W	L	ОТ	Pts	GF	G٨		
	NIX Lile calcus	40	20	0	00	200	470		

	W	L	ОТ	Pts	GF	G			
N.Y. Islanders	40	20	2	82	200	17			
N.Y. Rangers	37	16	6	80	186	14			
Pittsburgh					176				
Washington	33	19	10	76	184	15			
Philadelphia	26	24	11	63	162	17			
New Jersey	25	27	9	59	137	16			
Columbus	26	29	4	56	155	18			
Carolina	22	30	7	51	134	15			
Western Conference									
Cantual Division									

Central Division

		W	L	OT	Pts	GF	G٨			
	Nashville	41	13	7	89	186	143			
	St. Louis	38	18	4	80	188	151			
	Chicago	36	20	5	77	180	146			
	Winnipeg	31	20	11	73	173	168			
	Minnesota	31	22	7	69	169	158			
	Dallas	27	25	9	63	191	202			
	Colorado	26	24	11	63	161	175			
Pacific Division										
		W	L	ОТ	Pts	GF	GΑ			
	Anaheim	38	17	7	83	182	174			

	٧v	_	Oi	rıs	GГ	G
Anaheim	38	17	7	83	182	17
Vancouver	35	22	3	73	171	15
Los Angeles	29	18	12	70	162	15
Calgary	33	24	4	70	174	15
San Jose	30	23	8	68	171	17
Arizona	20	34	7	47	134	20
Edmonton	18	34	10	46	142	20
NOTE: Tw	οр	oint	s fo	or a	win,	on
noint for overti	me	loss				

Wednesday's Games Calgary 3, New Jersey 1 Pittsburgh 4, Washington 3 Ottawa 3, Anaheim 0

Thursday's Games Vancouver at Buffalo, 7 p.m. Arizona at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m. Montreal at Columbus, 7 p.m. Philadelphia at Toronto, 7:30 p.m Chicago at Florida, 7:30 p.m. St. Louis at Winnipeg, 8 p.m. Minnesota at Nashville, 8:30 p.m Ottawa at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m. Detroit at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS BASEBALL American League

BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Agreed to terms with SS Everth Cabrera on a one-year contract. Designated OF Alex Hassan for assignment.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS to terms with C Erik Kratz, INFs Cheslor Cuthbert and Rvan Jackson, OFs Lane Adams and Jorge Bonifacio, RHPs Aaron Brooks and Michael Mariot and LHPs Brandon Finnegan, Brian Flynn and John Lamb on one-year contracts. National League

LOS ANGELES DODGERS Agreed to terms with RHP Chad Gaudin on a minor league contract. American Association

AMARILLO THUNDERHEADS — Traded OF Johnny Bladel to Sussex County (Can-Am) for future consider-

SIOUX CITY EXPLORERS Signed INF Brock Kieldgaard. BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association DALLAS MAVERICKS — Suspended G Raion Rondo one game for conduct detrimental to the team.

FOOTBALL National Football League ATLANTA FALCONS - Signed PK

Matt Bryant to a contract extension. BALTIMORE RAVENS — Terminated the contract of WR/KR Jacoby

CHICAGO BEARS — Signed CB Demontre Hurst to a two-year contract

DETROIT LIONS — Released RB Reggie Bush.

GREEN BAY PACKERS - Re-

leased LB A.J. Hawk. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Named Fitz Ollison senior director of football communications.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Released RB Peyton Hillis.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS Signed WR Nick Williams Canadian Football League

MONTREAL ALOUETTES Signed QB Dan LeFevour to a onevear contract.



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vvinniPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed LB TraShaun Nixon and OL Tommy Griffiths Tommy Griffiths HOCKEY National Hockey League

 Fined Buffalo G Michal Neuvirth \$2,000 for diving/embellishment. ARIZONA COYOTES — Recalled

Henrik Samuelsson from Portland (AHL). Assigned F Jordan Martinook to Portland. CAROLINA HURRICANES — Trad-

ed F Jiri Tlusty to Winnipeg for a conditional 2015 sixth-round draft pick and a 2016 third-round draft pick. CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS - Recalled F Teuvo Teravainen from Rock-

ford (AHL). Assigned D Trevor van Riemsdyk to Rockford. Placed F Patrick Kane on injured reserve. COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS -Recalled G Oscar Dansk from Spring-

field (AHL). Assigned G Anton Forsberg to Springfield. FLORIDA PANTHERS — Assigned F Steven Hodges from San Antonio

(AHL) to Cincinnati (ECHL).

LÓS ANGELES KINGS

F Kyle Clifford to a five-year contract extension. Traded D Ronald McKeown and a first-round draft pick to Carolina for D Andrej Sekera. MINNESOTA WILD - Named Mat-

thew Hulsizer vice chairman of the board of directors. Announced Philip Falcone is vacating his minority ownership stake.

MONTREAL CANADIENS — Reassigned D Dalton Thrower from Brampton (ECHL) to Hamilton (AHL).

NEW YORK RANGERS - Reassigned F Oscar Lindberg to Hartford ST. LOUIS BLUES — Assigned F

Niklas Lundstrom from Chicago (AHL) to Alaska (ECHL). TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING -

signed D Artem Sergeev from Syracuse (AHL) to Florida (ECHL). TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS ed F Daniel Winnick to Pittsburgh for F

Zach Sill, a 2015 fourth-round draft pick and a 2016 second-round pick. WINNIPEG JETS - Placed F Blake Wheeler on injured reserve

COLLEGE

BAYLOR - Announced RB Silas Nacita is no longer on the football

ARKANSAS - Named Jemal Singleton running backs coach and spe-

Prep coaches suspended for encouraging teams to lose game

Tenn. (AP) — Two Tennessee girls basketball high school coaches have been suspended for trying to get their teams to lose a game in an attempt to avoid the top-ranked squad and improve their chances of advancing in the state tournament. Rutherford County

Director of Schools Don Odom announced Wednesday that Smyrna's Shawn Middleton and Riverdale's Cory Barnett wouldn't be permitted to coach at their schools or at any other Rutherford County Schools athletic program during the 2015-16 school year.

Odom said Smyrna principal Rick Powell already had decided to remove Middleton as

In a statement, Odom also said the school district "apologizes to the Riverdale and Smyrna High basketball players and parents for the lack of leadership" exhibited by the coaches. He also apologized to the citizens of Rutherford County "because of the embarrassment generated locally and nationally for teams motivated to throw a game." "Good athletic coach-

es possess skills that maximize the players' skills, strategize winning game plans, instill self-discipline, and impart the value of teamwork to reach a common goal," Odom "Players also learn skills that build integrity and character, primarily by how their coach models before them. In these last two areas, we failed last

Saturday evening." Odom also said the two coaches wouldn't be eligible for the coach stipend pay during the 2015-16 year, which totals \$8,393 each.

Smyrna and Riverdale were banned from the playoffs Monday.

Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association executive director Bernard Childress wrote that the teams "made a mockery" of Saturday's game with intentional turnovers off various violations and missed free throws. The game's referee reported he stopped play ordering the coaches not to make a travesty of the game with a Smyrna player about to shoot at the wrong basket.

Mohegan Sun to host WNBA All-Star Game

The best players in this year's All-Star the WNBA and the league's rookies will be back at Mohegan Sun for the All-Star Game and the draft. The home of the Con-

necticut Sun will host

Game on July 25 and the rookie draft on April 16, and the Connecticut SIt will be the fourth time the casinohotel has hosted the All-Star contest. The

arena held the game in 2005, 2009 and 2013.

In 2010, the arena also hosted an exhibition game between the WNBA All-Stars and USA Basketball.



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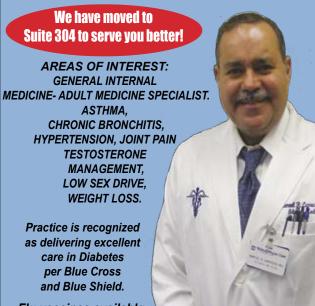
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