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H BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 2, 2015



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VOLUME 111, NUMBER 353

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

One dead in Tuesday accident

One person was killed Tuesday night in a motorcycle accident off of Gregg and 17th Street.

Big Spring Police Department responded to a call around 6:21 p.m. advising them of a major accident involving a 2012 Ford Explorer and a 2002 Peugeot custom motorcycle.

According to a media release, the Explorer was stopped at a red light facing north when the motorcycle struck the Explorer from behind.

The driver of the motorcycle was taken to the emergency room and was pronounced dead. No one in the Explorer reported any injuries.

The identity of the deceased has not been released, pending notification of next of kin.

— Amanda Elston

A holly, jolly weekend on tap

BY LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Psst. If you hadn't noticed from all the Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales promotions, it's Christmas time. And if that hasn't caught your eye, well, wait until later this week when the Crossroads area gets hit with a blizzard of holiday activities.

Thursday

• Howard College will be lighting the way when it holds its annual Luminary on Thursday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the college campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Hundreds of luminaries will be lit around the campus and Santa will make an appearance in the Student Union Building. Hot coco and cookies will be provided.

• Later that same night, the Howard College Fine Arts Department will host the Madrigal Feast. There will only be one opportunity to be treated to a holiday meal and enjoying sundry entertainment by the royal court, wandering minstrels and troubadours. However, if you haven't purchased tickets for this unique event, sorry there are

See WEEKEND, Page 3



HERALD Photo/Julie Bass

Captain Missy Romack decorates a Salvation Army Angel tree in the lobby of the Big Spring Herald.

Search on for suspect in robbery

Police are looking for a suspect in connection with a Monday night robbery at a local business.

Big Spring Police Department officers responded to Kwik Kash, 1811 S. Gregg, in response to an armed robbery call around 8:43 pm, according to information released by the department.

The suspect was described as wearing red pants, a black hoodie and had a green bandana covering his face.

“Store employees advised that a black male entered the store, approached the counter and was holding a black handgun,” a BSPD news release stated. “The suspect demanded all the money and produced a bag for the clerk to put the money in. The clerk took an undetermined amount of money from the register and put it in the bag.”

The suspect then left the store and ran north from the business, witnesses told police.

The suspect was described as wearing red pants a black hoodie and had a green bandana covering his face.

Store employees declined a later request for an interview.

People with information regarding this incident are urged call CrimeStoppers at (432) 263-tips (8477). You can also leave an anonymous tip using the tipsoft mobile application or from the Big Spring Police Department website www.bigspringpd.net

— Steve Reagan



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Howard College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks, left, makes a Tuesday presentation during a public meeting concerning the upcoming tax rate rollback election.

Rollback election:

College making its case to voters

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Howard College is taking the personal approach in making the case for its tax rate.

In the run-up to January's tax rate rollback election, college officials are hosting a series of meetings with the public, the most recent of which was Tuesday night at St.

Thomas Catholic Church.

Voters will decide in January whether to accept the college's latest tax rate of 25 cents per \$100 valuation or "roll back" the rate to 23 cents per \$100 valuation.

College trustees left themselves open to the rollback election when they approved a tax rate increase of more than 8 percent earlier this

year. It was not a decision officials made lightly, HC President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said Tuesday.

“We understood this would put an added burden on the taxpayers,” Sparks said. “But we felt we needed to have the capacity within our budget to address things that needed to

See COLLEGE, Page 3

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John Roen



John left his friends and family on Nov. 30, 2015, while he was in ICU at Scenic Mountain Medical Center and was greeted by Jesus in his heavenly father's home. John's family will receive visitors at Myers and Smith Funeral Home on Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. John was a member of Trinity Baptist Church. Services will be Thursday, Dec. 3, at 2 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel,

with Brother Randy Cotton officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park with

John was born Dec. 23, 1940 in Rice Lake, Wisc. to John Roen and Millie Nelson Roen. He married Carol Stone on Feb. 25, 1961, in Amarillo, Texas and was pleased to tell everyone that he had been married 54 years.

John served four years in the U.S. Air Force at the rank of Airman First Class during the Vietnam War. He worked 25 years as a diesel mechanic and did his part in keeping the trucks of America traveling the highways to serve the American people.

Marti Hamblin



Marti Hamblin, 33, of Midland, passed away Saturday, Nov. 28, 2015. Memorial services will be held on Thursday, Dec. 3, 2015, at 2 p.m. at First Assembly of God in Midland.

Marti was born Aug. 17, 1982, in Midland, to George and Cynthia Hamblin. She grew up in Midland and attended Trinity High School. After graduation, she attended Howard College and obtained her LVN. She was currently working

as a bookkeeper assistant for Bailey Trucking. She loved being with the Bailey family and was grateful for all that they did for her. Marti attended First

Cindy Castaneda



Cindy Castaneda, 51, of Big Spring, died Monday, Nov. 30, 2015, at her residence. She will lie in state from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, 2015, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Service will begin at 6 p.m. at Myers & Smith Chapel.

She was born July 25, 1964, in Chickasha, Okla. to Betty Rae (Malone) Buck and Henry H. Buck Sr. She came to Big Spring in 1976 from Oklahoma. She was a graduate of Howard College and was a Licensed Vocational Nurse at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home until retiring due to ill health.

Mary Jones

Mary Jones, 84, of Big Spring, died Monday, Nov. 30, 2015, at her residence. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, 2015, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born to Eddie and Leona Thomas Sept. 22, 1931 in Granbury, Texas, and married Jack Harold Jones Sr. Jan. 1, 1955, in Stanton, Texas. He preceded her in death June 1, 1999.

Mary graduated from Stanton High School in 1947 and worked for Retail Merchants of Big Spring for 45 years, retiring in 2000.

Survivors include one daughter, Sherri Kinsey and husband, Terry; a daughter-in-law, Kenda Jones all of Big Spring; three grandchildren; and

He ended his working career as a correctional officer at Cornell Correctional Facilities. His passion included many private hours playing his saxophones and serenading Carol. He took great pride in maintaining his yard, continually striving to have a nice property and home.

John is survived by his wife, Carol; son, Steve Roen and daughter-in-law, Dacia; son, Mark Roen; grandson, Balin Roen; and faithful canine companion, Lumen.

John's multiple health issues were the result of smoking for 46 years and he wanted everyone to know about the hazards of smoking and to consider the ramifications of endangering a healthy life.

Pallbearers will be Steve Roen, Mark Roen, Rob Richardson, Jody Reid, Brodie Wash and TJ Lipham.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to Trinity Baptist Church Missionary Fund, 1701 East FM 700, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or favorite charity.

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

Paid obituary

Assembly of God, where she enjoyed ministering to others.

She is survived by her mom, Cindy Kellough, and her husband, Ron, of Midland; sister, Christina McMillian and her husband, Scott, of Midland; brother, Brandon Hamblin and his wife, Misty, of Midland; her grandmother, Martha Hamblin, of Midland; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her father, George Hamblin; grandfather, Clyde Hamblin; and grandparents, John and Helen Stanley of Big Spring, Texas.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

She is survived by her partner, Andy Martinez of Big Spring; three daughters, Mandy Cantu and husband, Jesse, Tamme Hilario and husband, Augie, and Tasha Rodriguez and husband, Jeffrey, all of Big Spring; one son, Eric Castaneda of Big Spring; three brothers, Henry Buck Jr. of Oklahoma, Michael Buck of Midland and Mark Buck and wife, Mary, of Dallas; two sisters, Janet Moran and husband Skip of San Angelo and Connie Carter Castaneda of Temple; 12 grandchildren; and several aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two daughters, Tammera Dawn Castaneda and Carla Michelle Castaneda.

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

six great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; one son, Jack Harold Jones Jr.; one grandson, Christopher Savell; three brothers, Roscoe Thomas, Bernard Thomas and Jack Thomas; and one sister, Emma Bickley.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 111 E. 7th St., Suite A, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or to the American Cancer Society Memorial Program, c/o Vicki Stewart, 6 Coachmans Circle, Big Spring, Texas.

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

Police, Sheriff reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **ROBERT CLYDE MCMILLEN**, 53, of 595 Woodland Heights Dr., Columbus, Miss. was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **CHRISTOPHER JERROD TURNER**, 22, of 511 N.W. 8th St. was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid - no insurance.
- **KEVIN LEE DUNLAP**, 38, of 912 Culp St., Coahoma was arrested on two warrants from other agencies.
- **ARTURO RAMIREZ-LOPEZ**, 56, of 205 E. Jeffie, Flydada, Texas was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 500 block of S. Birdwell, the 3600 block of W. Highway 80, the 3400 block of E. I-20 and the 1900 block of Neill Rd.
- **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of 4th St. and Scurry St. and in the 1700 block of S. Gregg St.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 2700 block of Wasson Dr. and the 600 block of E. 6th St.

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

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 58 inmates at the time of this report.
- **DUSTIN TYLER BINGHAM**, 26, was booked by the DPS for deadly conduct.
 - **KEVIN LEE DUNLAP**, 38, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for driving while license invalid with previous convictions/suspensions and a charge of driving while license invalid with previous convictions/suspensions.
 - **ROBERT CLYDE MCMILLEN**, 53, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
 - **ARTURO RAMIREZ-LOPEZ**, 56, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
 - **CHRISTOPHER JERROD TURNER**, 22, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license suspended with previous convictions/suspensions.

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Dolores Viera

Dolores Viera, 59, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2015 at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Joyce Jones

Joyce "J.J." Jones, 75, of Big Spring died Tuesday, December 1, 2015 in a Midland hospital. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

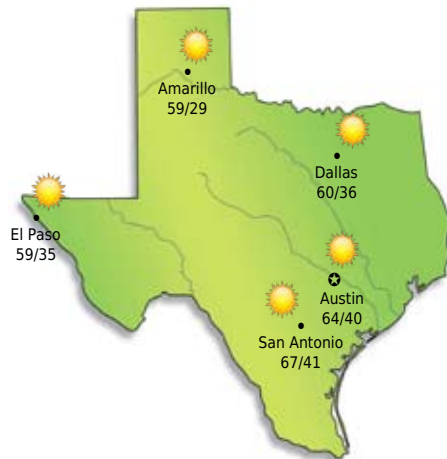
Mildred Callihan

Mildred Callihan, 93, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at her residence. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 12/3	Fri 12/4	Sat 12/5	Sun 12/6	Mon 12/7
60/33 Sunny. High around 60F. Winds SSW at 5 to 10 mph.	59/37 Sunshine. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 30s.	62/35 More sun than clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	57/31 Sunshine. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 30s.	59/34 Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:32 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:33 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:34 AM Sunset: 5:41 PM

Texas at a Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	59	34	Cloudy	Kingsville	69	42	Cloudy
Amarillo	56	27	Sunny	Livingston	62	39	Sunny
Austin	65	40	Sunny	Longview	57	35	Sunny
Beaumont	63	40	Cloudy	Lubbock	59	29	Sunny
Brownsville	66	54	Cloudy	Lufkin	60	36	M Cloudy
Brownwood	59	33	M Sunny	Midland	60	35	Sunny
Corpus Christi	67	46	Cloudy	Raymondville	67	48	Cloudy
Corsicana	59	37	Sunny	Rosenberg	66	42	Sunny
Dallas	58	36	Clear	San Antonio	67	42	Sunny
Del Rio	68	41	Sunny	San Marcos	65	40	Sunny
El Paso	57	30	Sunny	Sulphur Springs	54	38	Sunny
Fort Stockton	56	33	Sunny	Sweetwater	60	35	M Cloudy
Gainesville	54	35	Sunny	Tyler	56	36	Sunny

Fire/EMS reports

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

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block of 21st St. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to the SMMC.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported on I-20 near mile marker 176. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3900 block of Hamilton. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2600 block of Ent. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **CHIMNEY FIRE** was reported in the 2300 block of Brent. Fire extinguished.
- **UNINTENTIONAL TRANSMISSION OF ALARM** was reported in the 1600 block of 1st St. Incident investigated.
- **FALSE ALARM** was reported in the 1400 block of Baylor. Incident investigated.

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Happy Holidays!

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Take note

• Cub Scout Pack 305 is hosting a food, cloth and adoption drive on Saturday, Dec. 5, for the benefit of the Happy Days Humane Society at Tractor Supply in Big Spring, 1104 W Interstate 20, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Yellow Rose Animal Rescue will also be out with adoptable animals during the event.

• The Big Spring Chamber of Commerce will be accepting toy donations through Dec. 9. Call 432-263-7641 for more information.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

get done ... and provide the services people expect of Howard College.”

Sparks said the college's fiscal situation has tightened considerably over the past few years, mainly because of decreased biennial allocations — to the tune of almost \$4 million — from the state of Texas. Aside from less money

for instructional purposes, the state also decreased its contribution to employees health benefit and retirement packages by half, while still mandating community colleges to cover those costs.

While this was happening, student enrollment at HC's Big Spring campus began dropping, further decreasing the state's allocation, which is based in large part on how many hours students are in classes or labs.

The end result, Sparks said, was a “perfect storm” of bad economic news for the college.

In the past three years, the college has reduced its workforce by 55 and instituted a series of tuition increases in order to make ends meet. But even those steps weren't sufficient, Sparks said.

“The budget process became incredibly tight,” she said. “It got to the point where we needed to do something to ensure we had

the capacity to address the things that needed to be done.”

If the rollback is approved by voters, property owners within the college will realize a modest refund in their tax bills. Information released by the college states owners of a \$50,000 property will see a \$10 drop in their tax bills, while owners of a \$100,000 property will get a refund of \$20.

The college, mean-

while, would have to cut its operating budget by \$630,000. Sparks said she was not prepared to say where specific cuts would be made, but said the college would examine all areas of college programs, services and costs before making a decision.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

John Roen, 74, died Monday. The family will receive friends tonight from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Cindy Castaneda, 51, died Monday. She will lie in state Thursday, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM. Her service will begin at 6:00 PM Myers & Smith Chapel.

Dolores Viera, 59, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

WEEKEND

Continued from Page 1

no more left. This special holiday dinner theater will on at 6 p.m. at the Hall Center for Fine Arts.

Friday

• Adding to an already crowded holiday weekend, the Big Spring VA Medical Center hosts its annual tree lighting ceremony from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the medical center's main lobby, across from the flag poles. Shortly after the ceremony begins, officials will flip the switch, which will simultaneously light both the tree in the lobby and the medical center's outside lights as well. Santa Claus will be on hand to field children's Christmas gift requests, and refreshment and holiday music will be provided.

Saturday

Get some sleep Friday night as Saturday is a very busy day.

• The Heritage Museum will get things started with its annual Breakfast with Santa. For those who have made reservations, remember to bring camera for photo opportunities with Mr. and Mrs. Claus as well as Frosty. Activities include cookie decorating, face painting, and craft projects. Sessions begin at 8 a.m. and continue through noon. That evening, the

Museum encourages the public to return for the annual Big Spring Herald Christmas Parade watch which begins at 5 p.m. Free popcorn and hot chocolate will be provided for those who attend while the parade makes its way downtown. The Heritage Museum is located at 510 Scurry St.

• Cub Scout Pack 305 is hoping to making Christmas special for somefour-footedfriends. The pack will host a food, cloth and adoption drive on Saturday, Dec. 5, for the benefit of the Happy Days Humane Society at Tractor Supply in Big Spring, 1104 W Interstate 20, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Animals from Both the Humane Society and Yellow Rose Rescue will be on hand in case someone once to consider adding a new member to the family.

• The annual Forsan Christmas in Boomtown parade is set for 10 a.m. Saturday and organizers expect a larger turnout of entries than last year. The parade will begin at the Forsan High School parking lot near the cafeteria and tennis courts. From there, the parade will head down Avenue H and then turn left on FM 461 which is locally known as Three Mile Road. The route heads left on Rex Avenue and then turns left again on Main St. where it will end at the Forsan Baptist Church. The town of Forsan

is located near Howard County's southern border off of Highway 87.

• The Big Spring Herald annual lighted Community Christmas Parade float will begin at 5:30 p.m. This year's parade, themed “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” The parade, which lasts about an hour and a half and runs north on Scurry Street from 24th to Fourth St. Thousands are expected to line the streets so come early for a good watching spot or head to the Heritage Museum to enjoy hot chocolate and popcorn and watch from the facilities balcony.

• The 37th annual Living Christmas Tree is expected to be one of its biggest productions yet and both performances are free to the community, however, you still need a ticket to get in. Tickets are now available at the First United Methodist Church office, 400 Scurry St., between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. for the church's Living Christmas Tree production. Performances are set for Saturday and Sunday, at 8 p.m. both days

Sunday

•The Feast of Sharing will take place Sunday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum located on the Howard College campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Sponsored by HEB, the plan is to feed 5,000 people with a community wide dinner.

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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 writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

ADDRESSES

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Phone: 512-463-2000

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HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. We ask you to follow these guidelines:

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- 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 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

When I'm 65

In just a few days, assuming I continue to breathe, I will reach a monumental milestone. It's one of those "mixed emotions" life-events, something I am very thankful for and yet somewhat melancholic about. Frankly, it's that moment I never saw coming.

You have perhaps already guessed, based upon my "continuing-to-breathe-reference", that this coming Sunday will be my natal anniversary. My 65th consecutive one. Yes, that magical number most people from my generation looked forward to with great anticipation, and yet one which I approach with utter disbelief. How did it get here so fast? And why aren't I more ready for it?

Someone asked me recently if I was contemplating retirement. I stared at the questioner with stunned silence and did my best to remain composed and respectful toward this individual who obviously knows very little about me. For some, retirement may conjure up images of vacations abroad, spending time every day in pursuit of pleasure and entertainment, and spending lots of money on whatever whim sounds good at the moment. Those are not exactly the scenes playing on the silver screen of my inner visionary theater.

Actually, putting all humor aside, I honestly cannot even remotely comprehend that state of existence. Other than a couple of occasional muscle aches and joint pains, I basically feel as good as I did 30 years ago, take absolutely no medications, have plenty of energy, and have more vision for the future than I ever remember having. And, I also relate to what one of my teenagers, Genesis, posted on her Facebook wall recently that said, "I have all the money I'll ever need for the rest of my life; as long I die by Tuesday".

In contemplating this milestone of aging, it just seems appropriate to again quote the opening lyrics of my favorite James Taylor song which says, "The secret of life is enjoying the passage of time." I'm also

reminded of Andy Rooney's comment, "It's paradoxical that the idea of living a long life appeals to everyone, but the idea of getting old doesn't appeal to anyone." I think my favorite may still be Mark Twain's take on it, "Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter." Satchel Paige, the great baseball player showed insight into my feelings when he said, "How old would you be if you didn't know how old you was?"

Hawaiian-born author Nardi Reeder Champion (1917-2007) wrote an interesting essay on "The Good Old Days" that I found quite interesting. I share a portion of her thoughts as I come to grips with this sobering moment in my personal life journey.

She wrote, "We true prime-timers were here before the Pill, the population explosion and disposable diapers. We were here before we were called 'senior citizens.'

"We were here before TV, penicillin, polio shots, antibiotics and open-heart surgery. Before frozen food, nylon, Xerox, radar, fluorescent lights, credit cards, ballpoint pens, Frisbees and fiber optics.

"For us, time-sharing meant togetherness, not computers or condos. Coeds never wore jeans. Girls wore Peter Pan collars. We were here before panty hose and drip-dry clothes, before icemakers and dishwashers, clothes dryers, freezers and electric blankets. Before men wore long hair and earrings and before women wore tuxedos.

"We were here before Ann Landers, Grandma Moses and the Kinsey Report. We were here before facelifts, tummy tucks, liposuction and hair transplants. We thought cleavage was what butchers did. We were here before sex changes. Before Viagra. We just made do with what we had.

"We were here before computers. A mouse pad was where mice hung out. To log-on was to add wood to fire. A chip was a piece of wood. Hardware meant hardware, and software wasn't even a word. A hard drive was a long, grueling journey. A CD was something you invested in. Windows were for looking out of. A virus was a flu bug that people caught. Backing up was

what you hoped never happened to your toilet, especially when you had company.

"We were here before vitamins, Jeeps, pizza, Cheerios, instant coffee, decaffeinated anything, light anything and McDonald's. We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent. If we had been asked to explain VCR, CIA, NATO, UFO, PMS, GNP, MBA, BMW, SDI, NFL, PSA and ATM, we'd have said "alphabet soup."

"We prime-timers are a hardy bunch when you think of how our world has changed, all we have learned and the adjustments we have made.

"Let's keep in touch. Just e-mail me, send a fax, leave a message on my answering machine or call me on my cell phone. If I don't answer, tell my voicemail you called — after the beep, leave your name, your number and a brief message, and I'll get back to you as soon as I can. If you need me quickly, call my pager. If all else fails, come on over to my house, take a seat in one of the rockers on my porch and we'll visit the old-fashioned way — face to face and in person — and let the rest of the world go by."

I assure you, I don't plan to let the world pass me by while I sit in a rocking chair somewhere wishing I had something to do. Everyone knows that 60 is the new 40 anyway. I suppose that would make me, what, maybe 45? Ann Landers had one of the classic quotes of all time about growing older. She said, "At age 20, we worry about what others think of us. At age 40, we don't care what they think of us. At age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all."

Perhaps there's truth in that, but regardless of who is thinking about me this Sunday, I will be celebrating the fact that when I discovered America in Florida on Dec. 6, 1950, this milestone was already scheduled and I'm going to enjoy every minute, hour, day, month and year that is yet awaiting me.

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.

Last call for ethanol

A federal program, once launched, is impossible to kill. It doesn't matter if the scheme wastes money. It doesn't matter if the program doesn't work. It doesn't even matter if the program does the very opposite of what it is supposed to do. Every government program enters the world with an army of fairy godmothers prepared to fend off any effort to cut the cord — hence the staying power of ethanol.

When President George W. Bush signed legislation to expand a federal requirement to blend gasoline with ethanol in 2007, he could claim with some credibility that he was pushing a renewable alternative to fossil fuels, on which Americans were so dependent. Yes, there were skeptics. I was one of them. But the Bush Renewable Fuel Standard flowed with the mainstream of American politics. In the 2008 presidential election, Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., was a big booster of the ethanol mandate.

Every year since then, ethanol has been harder to defend. A 2008 study published in Science magazine found that corn-based ethanol increases greenhouse gas emissions instead of reducing them. A 2009 study concluded that plowing fields to grow corn for ethanol could release

more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere than ethanol offsets.

FactCheck.org looked at ethanol and found U.S. Department of Energy-sponsored research that concluded that ethanol reduces greenhouse gases. But it's hard to believe that the ethanol mandate is good for the environment when the Sierra Club, the Environmental Working Group and Friends of the Earth oppose the federal program. Ethanol has fallen out of favor largely because it eats up so much of the corn supply. Some 40 percent of the U.S. corn crop goes into gas tanks, not stomachs. As demand for corn has risen, so have food prices. As the cost of feed has risen, so have beef prices. ActionAid USA and other anti-poverty groups also oppose ethanol supports.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., has worked across the aisle to end ethanol supports, in part to spur the production of biofuels with smaller environmental footprints. This year, to her undying credit, she joined with Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., to sponsor the Corn Ethanol Mandate Elimination Act of 2015.

Matt Dempsey, a former staffer for Sen. Jim Inhofe, R-Okla., of climate skepticism fame, has watched the left and right come together against ethanol for a decade. Now in public relations for the pro-business Center for Regulatory Solutions, Dempsey has been busy alerting states about the high cost folks outside Iowa pay for ethanol. Ethanol gets fewer miles to the gallon than gasoline. Thus, his group

estimates that since 2005, the renewable standard has cost Californians an extra \$13 billion at the pump.

With such a political heavy-weight as Feinstein leading the opposition, you would expect California Democrats to support an effort that helps families keep groceries on the table. It says something about the political heft of the ethanol lobby, however, that House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi co-signed a letter with fellow Democrats that urged the Obama administration to "keep in mind the need to reduce carbon pollution" as the president heads to the United Nations climate conference in Paris. The Environmental Protection Agency must release three-year ethanol standards by the end of the month, and Pelosi supports "a robust renewable fuels rule." Read: more ethanol.

Dempsey described the Pelosi letter as "a head-scratcher." He said, "It really stands out as one of the more bizarre moments for Pelosi." The only way it makes sense, Dempsey added, is if Pelosi wants to provide cover for the Obama administration to uphold a mandate that bites into everyone's wallet but, it seems, does not decrease greenhouse gases. Pelosi has to know how bad Obama would look touting ethanol as a tool to combat climate change. To pull off that stunt, Obama should avoid the City of Light and instead head for Iowa.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To



EDDY PRINCE



DEBRA SAUNDERS



File photos
Among the Christmas holiday events planned for this weekend are, clockwise from top left, Heritage Museum's Breakfast with Santa, First United Methodist's Living Christmas Tree and the Big Spring Herald's Community Christmas Parade.

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Freight Movement Affects Ports-to-Plains

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of articles highlighting the Ports-to-Plains project.

How many products have you purchased this week?

Groceries, consumer electronics, fuel, clothing?

It is probable that every one of those products involved delivery by one or more trucks. This is what Ports-to-Plains is really about. Over the upcoming weeks, the Ports-to-Plains Alliance will provide an overview of the mission of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance. The series will look at the safety opportunity and the potential economic benefits offered by the expanded corridor.

Freight movement drives the number of trucks that pass through our communities. Population and the economy drive freight movements. The U.S. economy is expected to double in size over the next 30 years. By 2045, the nation's population is projected to increase to 389 million people, compared to 321 million in 2015. Expect to see more trucks passing through our communities. Picture 65 percent more trucks on the highways you drive and which



Ports to Plains Alliance

your community relies upon to receive goods to purchase and send goods to markets. Expansion to a four-lane divided highway will make our highways and communities safer.

As populations grow consumers demand more and more goods and want "just in time" delivery. The result is a growing number of trucks on our highways. The goods available at your local retail outlet and the cost of these goods is directly impacted by highways connecting your community to the world.

The following excerpt is from the DRAFT National Freight Strategic Plan.

"Our freight system moves approximately 63 tons of goods per American each year. As our population grows and our economy expands, demand for freight will grow as well, placing additional strain on an already challenged transportation system. U.S. freight demand will be affected by several trends:

- Freight will grow across all

transportation modes.

- The changing nature of our economy and population will affect where and how freight moves.

- All else being equal, growth in overall freight demand will place increased pressure on infrastructure throughout the country, with particularly significant impacts concentrated in certain areas.

- Increasing domestic energy production will have profound implications for our transportation system."

With no question that freight movement will continue to increase, the expansion of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor is critical.

Stay tuned for regular updates that look at the Ports-to-Plains corridor from the viewpoint of safety, economic development and transportation funding.

Michael Reeves is the president of Ports-to-Plains.

Ports-to-Plains is a grassroots alliance of over 275 communities and businesses, including alliance partners Heartland Expressway, Theodore Roosevelt Expressway, and Eastern Alberta Trade Corridor

The Ports-to-Plains mission is to advocate for a robust international transportation infrastructure to promote economic security and prosperity throughout North America's energy and agricultural heartland including Mexico to Canada. Additional information on the Ports to Plains Alliance is available at www.portstoplains.com

News in brief

Late WWII US veteran is 1st soldier honored for saving Jews

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Nazi soldiers made their orders very clear: Jewish American prisoners of war were to be separated from their fellow brothers in arms and sent to an uncertain fate.

But Master Sgt. Roddie Edmonds would have none of that.

As the highest-ranking noncommissioned officer held in the German POW camp, he ordered more than 1,000 Americans captives to step forward with him and brazenly pronounced: "We are all Jews here."

He would not waver, even with a pistol to his head, and his captors eventually backed down.

Seventy years later, the Knoxville, Tennessee, native is being posthumously recognized with Israel's highest honor for non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during World War II. He's the first American serviceman to earn the honor.

"Master Sgt. Roddie Edmonds seemed like an ordinary American soldier, but he had an extraordinary sense of responsibility and dedication to his fellow human beings," said Avner Shalev, chairman of the Yad Vashem Holocaust museum and memorial. "The choices and actions of Master Sgt. Edmonds set an example for his fellow American soldiers as they stood united against the barbaric evil of the Nazis."

Kerry says NATO members ready to step up anti-IS fight

BRUSSELS (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Wednesday that NATO members stood ready to step up military efforts against the Islamic State and held out hope of broadening cooperation between the West and Russia to end Syria's protracted civil war.

After two days of meetings at NATO's headquarters in Brussels, Kerry said several alliance members were bringing more to the battle or would do soon. He didn't outline any fresh commitments specifically, saying plans would be announced only after foreign ministers first consult their governments at home.

Dallas surgeon meets liver transplant patient in Temple

BY JANICE GIBBS

Temple Daily Telegram

TEMPLE, Texas (AP) — Students in Brad Billeaudeau's Temple High theater arts class on Monday witnessed the power of words when Dr. Robert Goldstein, a transplant surgeon from Baylor Scott & White in Dallas, came to the class to meet Ashli Taylor.

Fourteen years ago, Goldstein removed part of Ashli's mother's liver, which was then transplanted into Ashli, who was less than a year old and had congenital cirrhosis of the liver.

The Temple Daily Telegram reports not long after Ashli was born, she began showing symptoms of liver disease and eventually a biopsy revealed the seriousness of the situation.

On June 21, 2001, she was placed on the National Organ Transplant List and her health continued to decline.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Ashli and her mother, Crystal Pope-Taylor, were on their way to Houston to see another physician. They received a call from "Nanna" telling them to turn around because the country was under attack.

Two other calls came in: Ashli needed to be hospitalized because of an infection and another announcing a liver for transplant was available. However, the organ was in another state and

needed to be flown in, but all flights were grounded after the terrorist attacks.

Pope-Taylor immediately began to pursue becoming a living donor to her daughter.

Ashli, 15, shared that story in her letter to Goldstein.

"You probably have no idea who I am, but you had a great impact in my life," she wrote to Goldstein. "I know you've had a lot of patients over the years and they appreciate your work. But my parents' lives would be totally different if it weren't for you, especially my mom."

The letter began as a class assignment from Billeaudeau to write about anything.

"All of you have incredible stories to tell and this class is a vehicle for that," Billeaudeau said. "Y'all have power in your words."

That's when Goldstein walked into the classroom, followed by Pope-Taylor.

"Ashli, I'm your mom's surgeon," he said. "You wrote me a letter and it was amazing."

The things you do and say have an effect, Goldstein told the class.

"It had been 14 years and out of the blue you get a letter like this and I can't tell you what this means," he said. "The words moved everybody in the office."

Goldstein has performed hundreds of surgeries and much of the time the surgeons are not aware of where that patient ends up.

Goldstein removed part of the left side of the Pope-Taylor's liver at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, which was then sent to Children's Medical Center of Dallas, where it was trans-

planted into Ashli.

"We made an impact on her, but Ashli made more of an impact on us," he said. "This is why we spend the hours doing what we do, because when you see something like this, it's incredible."

"I was not expecting this at all, but I'm really grateful," Ashli said of Goldstein's visit.

Sept. 11, 2001, was the worst day ever, Pope-Taylor said.

"Looking at what was going on in the country was awful, but when it hit me personally and could mean my child might not survive, it was a whole other ballgame," she said. "When it's your child, you do whatever is

needed."

Ashli's health is great and she has never shown any signs of organ rejection, her mother said.

Early on, Ashli's parents had been told their daughter might lag behind developmentally and physically because she had been ill for so long, but she caught up quickly and has excelled. Ashli is in all Advanced Placement classes and is active in the band, choir, theater arts and is considering pursuing a degree in music when she goes to college.

Information from: Temple (Texas) Daily Telegram, www.tdtnews.com

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Steers show improvement in 67-56 loss

By TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor
Head coach Nick Tyerman and his squad showed growth Tuesday night in a 67-56 loss to San Angelo Lake View.

The Steers (0-4) lost to Lake View 91-63 in their home opener two weeks ago, but last night the young squad kept pace with the Chiefs (2-2).

Big Spring started the game off on the wrong foot turning the ball over three times in their first four possessions. Despite the slow start offensively, they showed a much more controlled defensive intensity compared to last game when the Chiefs were in the bonus halfway through the first quarter.

"Halfcourt defense is where we saw a lot of improvement," Tyerman said.

Lake View guard Timothy Aguero, who proved to be a nuisance in their first matchup, continued to run the

Chiefs offense effectively. He made a buzzer-beater three pointer at the end of the first quarter to give the Chiefs a 17-9 lead.

After a quick timeout just a minute into the second quarter, Big Spring caught fire on offense. Chase Williams nailed a corner-three off a Chief turnover, and Israel O'Guin made another three pointer from the same spot.

The Steers defense helped create offense en route to their first lead of the game, 25-24. Unfortunately that would be their final lead of the game.

Lake View went on a 12-2 run in the final 4:24 of the first half. Big Spring kept things close the whole game, but were never able to get as close as they were during the second quarter.

"We're still having too many lapses and we can't take half-quarters off. That's what ended up being the difference in the game when we were lackadaisical on defense,"

Tyerman said. O'Guin led the team with 22 points from the point guard position. He also showed an ability to handle the Lake View press.

Eric Ortega, who is coming off a sprained ankle that sidelined him for two weeks, poured in 13 points. He also had multiple offensive boards and had great positioning on both ends of the court.

"He's [Ortega] doing a great job of fighting through. He's scrapping and using his size to his advantage and that's helping us a great deal," Tyerman said.

The Steers will look for their first win of the season and Tyerman's first as a head coach when they travel to the Lamesa tournament starting Thursday.

Junior Varsity
The Steers fell to San Ange-



lo Lake View 62-24. The Steers scored a team-high 10 points in the fourth quarter against the Chiefs. Big Spring trailed just 8-2 after the first quarter, but could not contain the Chief's offense.

Freshman
The ninth graders got the lone Big Spring victory of the evening, defeating San

Angelo Lake View 38-33. The Steers fought back from a 24-27 deficit at the start of the fourth quarter, doubling the Chief's point total in the final quarter.

Contact sports editor Taylor Ellis at sports@bigspringherald.com or 432.263.7331, ext 237

Bulldogettes fall to Grady 70-65

By TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor
COAHOMA — The Coahoma girls varsity basketball team lost 75-60 in a high scoring affair against Grady Tuesday night at home.

The Bulldogettes outscored Grady by seven in the final frame, but could not keep pace in the second and third quarters.

Senior Julia Castilaw had a team-high 22 points shooting 85 per-

cent from the field. She had a team-high nine rebounds, one shy of a double-double and tallied two steals.

Senior McClayne Holgeron tallied 13 points shooting 5-of-6 from the field. She was also a perfect 3-of-3 from beyond the arc. Sophomore Makayla Overton poured in 12 points.

Coahoma shot the ball at tremendous rates, shooting 74 percent from the field and a staggering 85 percent from

beyond the arc. Unfortunately, their defensive play was not at the same level.

The Bulldogettes had 28 turnovers, putting themselves in several precarious fastbreak situations.

Coahoma will play at Post High School next Tuesday night.

Contact sports editor Taylor Ellis at sports@bigspringherald.com or 432.263.7331, ext 237

Lady Steers earn win against Pecos

By TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor
The Big Spring girls basketball team earned a road win against Pecos Tuesday night 54-46.

Junior Kiana Ramsey led the team with 12 points shooting 5-of-9 from the field.

Two different Lady Steers came up just

short of a double-double. Senior Tiffani Ruiz had 10 points and eight rebounds, while fellow senior Diamonique Mayes had nine points and a team-high 11 rebounds.

"We started really strong, but played sloppy in the second and fourth quarters," head coach Stacy Smalley said. "We gave up way

too many second chance points. We are going to hit defense hard in practice as we get ready for Monahans and Lake View in the Monahans tournament Thursday."

Contact sports editor Taylor Ellis at sports@bigspringherald.com or 432.263.7331, ext 237

Britton Heath of Coahoma selected to All District

By TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor
COAHOMA — First-year head coach Fred Dietz announced this morning that senior Britton Heath was named as the Utility

Player for District 3-3A DI.

Heath started the year as one of the top wide receivers for the Bulldogs.

After quarterback Kody Barber and running back Kyler Franks

went down in the same quarter, Dietz called upon Heath to lead the offense.

Contact sports editor Taylor Ellis at sports@bigspringherald.com or 432.263.7331, ext 237

Forsan falls 66-41 to Midland Classic

By TAYLOR ELLIS

Sports Editor
FORSAN — The Forsan boys basketball team lost 66-41 to Midland Classic Tuesday night.

"Midland is playing very well and we are still trying to find our groove," head coach Gary Huckabee said.

Jacob Valdez led the team with eight points. "We are really focusing on building our team chemistry and growing

together. I'm very proud of these guys," Huckabee said.

Lady Buffs
The girls lost to #7 Midland Classic in an overtime thriller 53-46. Kendall Phillips led the charge with 12 points, followed by Kaylee Kemper with nine.

"I certainly can't say that the girls didn't bring effort and excitement," head coach Lindsey Schmidt said.

The team has been

playing highly ranked teams early in the season, and the Lady Buffs have held their own.

"These girls realize that I've made the decision to put an extremely difficult schedule together, and they are getting better and better each week because of it," Schmidt said.

Contact sports editor Taylor Ellis at sports@bigspringherald.com or 432.263.7331, ext 237

Scoreboard

NBA Monday's Games
Boston 105, Miami 95
Detroit 116, Houston 105
Chicago 92, San Antonio 89
Milwaukee 102, Denver 74
Atlanta 106, Oklahoma City 100
Golden State 106, Utah 103
Sacramento 112, Dallas 98
L.A. Clippers 102, Portland 87
Tuesday's Games
Washington at Cleveland, 8 p.m.
Washington 97, Cleveland 85
Philadelphia 103, L.A. Lakers 91
Brooklyn 94, Phoenix 91
Orlando 96, Minnesota 93
Memphis 113, New Orleans 104
Dallas 115, Portland 112, OT
Wednesday's Games
L.A. Lakers at Washington, 7 p.m.
Golden State at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Chicago, 8 p.m.
New Orleans at Houston, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Atlanta, 8 p.m.
Milwaukee at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Oklahoma City at Miami, 7 p.m.
Denver at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Utah, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Memphis, 9:30 p.m.
Indiana at Portland, 10 p.m.
Boston vs. Sacramento at Mexico City, Mexico, 10 p.m.
NHL Monday's Games
N.Y. Islanders 5, Colorado 3
N.Y. Rangers 4, Carolina 3

Toronto 3, Edmonton 0
Anaheim 4, Vancouver 0
Tuesday's Games
Detroit 5, Buffalo 4, SO
Calgary 2, Dallas 3, SO
Colorado 2, New Jersey 1
Montreal 2, Columbus 1
Philadelphia 4, Ottawa 2
Florida 3, St. Louis 1
Nashville 5, Arizona 2
Minnesota 2, Chicago 1
Los Angeles 2, Vancouver 1, OT
Pittsburgh 5, San Jose 1
Wednesday's Games
Toronto at Winnipeg, 7:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 8 p.m.
Boston at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Colorado at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Washington at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Arizona at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Florida at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
TRANSACTIONS BASEBALL
American League
BOSTON RED SOX — Assigned 2B Josh Rutledge outright to Pawtucket (IL).
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with RHP Joba Chamberlain on a minor league contract.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Agreed to terms with OF Rafael Ortega on a one-year contract.
MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to terms with 1B/DH Byung Ho Park on a four-year contract. Named Stu Cliburn pitching coach, Chad Allen hitting coach and Dax

Fiore strength and conditioning coach of Rochester (IL); Ivan Arteaga pitching coach, Tommy Watkins hitting coach and Coty Greene strength and conditioning coach of Chattanooga (SL); Henry Bonilla pitching coach of Fort Myers (FSL); J.P. Martinez pitching coach, Brian Dinkelmann coach and Steve Taylor trainer of Cedar Rapids (MWW); and Cibney Bello pitching coach of the GCL Twins.
National League
ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jim Johnson on a one-year contract.
CINCINNATI REDS — Agreed to terms with RHPs Tim Lincecum, Dayan Diaz and J.C. Ramirez and 1B/OF Brandon Allen on minor league contracts.
COLORADO ROCKIES — Assigned 1B Wilin Rosario outright to Albuquerque (PCL).
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Joe Wieland on a one-year contract.
MIAMI MARLINS — Agreed to terms with OF Justin Maxwell on a minor league contract.
American Association
GARY SOUTHSHORE RAILCATS — Signed RHP Fernando Gonzalez.
WINNIPEG GOLDEYES — Signed OF Josh Romanski.
Can-Am League
NEW JERSEY JACKALS — Traded OF Leandro Castro to Laredo (AA) for RHP Matt Loosen.
Frontier League
FLORENCE FREEDOM — Signed OFs Zach Burling and Andrew Godbold, 2B Daniel Fraga, INFs Mason Salazar and Travis Weaver and C Isaac Wenrich to contract extensions.
NORMAL CORNBELTERS — Signed RHP Michael Sch-

weiss to a contract extension.
TRAVERSE CITY BEACH BUMS — Signed C Jake Rhodes to a contract extension.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
DETROIT RED WINGS — Fined Detroit G Reggie Jackson \$25,000 for directing inappropriate language toward a fan.
Football
National Football League
ARIZONA CARDINALS — Placed RB Chris Johnson on injured reserve/designated for return. Released CB Robert Nelson Jr. Signed CB Corey White. Released TE Brandon Bostick from the practice squad. Signed RB Kerwynn Williams from the practice squad and S D.J. Swearinger to the practice squad.
BALTIMORE RAVENS — Waived WR Chuck Jacobs. Placed TE Chase Ford on injured reserve. Signed WR Daniel Brown and G Kaleb Johnson from the practice squad.
BUFFALO BILLS — Placed DT Kyle Williams on injured reserve. Signed DT T.J. Barnes, DE Lavar Edwards and LB Kevin Reddick. Signed LBA.J. Tarpley to the practice squad.
CAROLINA PANTHERS — Released LS Danny Aiken. Signed DB Cortland Finnegan.
DALLAS COWBOYS — Released S Tim Scott from the practice squad.
DENVER BRONCOS — Waived TE Richard Gordon. Signed S Josh Bush.
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Signed C Daniel Munyer to the practice squad.
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Waived-injured DT C.J. Mosley. Waived LB James-Michael Johnson. Re-signed OL Jacques McClendon.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Released LB Terrance Plum-

mer from the practice squad. Signed S John Lowdermilk to the practice squad.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Placed DL Trey Flowers on injured reserve. Claimed RB Trey Williams off waivers from Dallas. Signed WR Damaris Johnson. Re-signed WR Austin Hill to the practice squad.
NEW YORK GIANTS — Placed G Geoff Schwartz on injured reserve. Signed G Adam Gettis from Oakland's practice squad.
NEW YORK JETS — Signed LB Julian Stanford to the practice squad.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Released DE Drew Nowak. Released CE Julius Wamsley from the practice squad. Signed TE Chase Coffman. Signed WR Deshon Fox and DT Justin Hamilton to the practice squad.
Arena Football League
ORLANDO PREDATORS — Agreed to terms with DL Darryl Cato-Bishop.
Canadian Football League
WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed LB John Rush and PK Billy Pavlopoulos.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
FLORIDA PANTHERS — Recalled D Josh Brown from Manchester (ECHL) to Portland (AHL).
NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Recalled F Cody Bass from Milwaukee (AHL).
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Reassigned LW Ben Johnson from Albany (AHL) to Adirondack (ECHL).
NEW YORK RANGERS — Assigned F Jayson Megna to Hartford (AHL).
American Hockey League
IOWA WILD — Returned F Andrew Yogan to Cincinnati (ECHL).
LEHIGH VALLEY PHANTOMS — Recalled F Geoff Walker from Reading (ECHL).

MILWAUKEE ADMIRALS — Signed F Vinny Saponaro to a professional trout agreement.
PROVIDENCE BRUINS — Returned F Rob Bordon to Adirondack (ECHL).
SPRINGFIELD FALCONS — Recalled G Tyler Beskowitz from Norfolk (ECHL).
WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON PENGUINS — Assigned G Brian Roster to Wheeling (ECHL).
ECHL
ALASKA ACES — Added G Drew O'Connell as emergency backup. Traded F Dean Chelios and D Landon Oslanski to Wichita for F Anthony Deluca and F Daniel Johnston.
ATLANTA GLADIATORS — Signed D Matt Register. Traded D Zach Yuen to Idaho for D Cole Martin.
BRAMPTON BEAST — Loaned F Luke Pither to St. John's (AHL).
ELMIRA JACKALS — Released F Matt Harlow.
GREENVILLE SWAMP RABBITS — Loaned F Darian Dziurzynski to Binghamton (AHL).
MANCHESTER MONARCHS — Loaned D/F Tony Turgeon to Portland (AHL).
NORFOLK ADMIRALS — Released F Peter MacIntyre. Signed F Quinn Smith.
ORLANDO SOLAR BEARS — Traded F Scott Tanski to Reading for future considerations.
COLLEGE
TEXAS TECH — Fired co-defensive coordinator and defensive line coach Mike Smith, secondary coach Kevin Curtis and outside linebackers coach Trey Haverty.
UCF — Named Scott Frost football coach.

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Parkview Nursing and Rehab is currently hiring for the following positions: Non-Certified/ Certified Nurse Aides We offer **Competitive Pay, Benefits and a Great Family working environment!** Please apply on line at www.parkviewnursing.net or in person at 3200 Parkway

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Looking for experienced roustabout with a valid driver's license. Must pass a drug test. Apply @ 2000 N. Birdwell Lane.

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Two Hearts Home Health/Dos Corazonos is hiring personal care attendants to work in the home with the elderly. Must have a phone and car. Please call Two Hearts Home Health at 432-685-1705 to apply.

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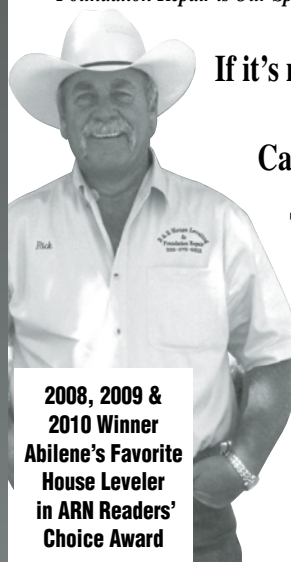
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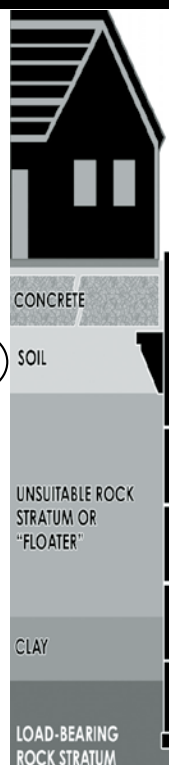
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HERALD

Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

Vitamin Moon

Some people can become addicted to hearing stories

of misfortune and dysfunction. They get a sense of superiority and relief from knowing they are not the ones who are down this time. Uplifting stories can also become addictive, like vitamins that feed deficiencies. The Virgo moon suggests we try to get hooked.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). In the day's competition, the prize won't go to the one who is more naturally skilled.

Rather, it will go to the one who chooses to develop her skill to the best of her ability.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). For all the times you've wondered if a relationship has more potential than you've already mined, this is the day to find out. Business relationships will be especially lucky for investigating.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You

are one of the most flexible signs of the zodiac, and one of the reasons why is that you regularly stretch yourself into unknown territory. Like a dancer, this keeps you emotionally lithe and limber.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The next three days are for setting a precedent, so make sure you're doing something you'd like to repeat. If it's not moving the way you want, turn it around now while things are still fresh.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Closure is more important than you think. So is the ritual of de-cluttering, which is not just about possessions; it extends to your emotional world, too. Nothing new can come in until you make more room.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Conversation, investigation, research -- it's all part of moving a relationship forward. It's good to know more about a person before you decide what role he or she will play in your life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Let others

handle the technical problems today, because your talent is best applied to helping people feel better on an emotional level. The human-interest angle is wide open and you're the one best suited to take it on.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You want to do your part. Don't do more than that. You could, easily. In fact, you'd prefer to step in and take over, but you know that it won't help things. The team will be stronger when everyone learns to participate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There is something you've been a little afraid to talk about even though you know that the conversation needs to happen. It can't be put off any longer. Pass on the message.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Today you'll wear your confidence smooth and tucked away. You don't need to tell people about your accomplishments, because your attitude will say it all.

AQUARIUS (Jan.

20-Feb. 18). It was hard to get up to speed but finally you're no longer a novice. Now that you know what you're doing it will take a lot less effort to get results. This leaves you with extra reserves of energy to apply to something new.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's a fine art to ignoring what you can't do anything about. It starts with recognizing the things that fall into that category. You may have made a few errors as you were categorizing. Reassess.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 2). Your solar return has put your social savvy in overdrive. The next three months will feature exciting, nuanced interactions and quiet attention from one who finds you attractive. January shows you learning about a different culture. Act quickly to make the most of a financial opportunity in February. Virgo and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 5, 20, 15 and 32.

ASTROLOGICAL

QUESTIONS: "I've never gone out with a Pisces man before, but I think I'm falling for one. So what can you tell me about him as a romantic prospect?"

The Pisces man has a way of making his lover feel like the most precious and cherished person in the universe. This he accomplishes by applying his amazing powers of empathy. When he is interested in someone he will align himself with that person so that he can experience what she is all about. It's as though he can truly walk in her shoes, even if those shoes happen to be stilettos. He can transform at will into the caring, sensitive creature that women long to be loved by.

However, make no mistake -- he is still a man, with the thought processes and priorities that men share. And though he might soften his approach in order to better understand her, he can become strong and virile -- even macho -- when he decides that will be a more effective

approach. His versatility is one of his greatest strengths. If you want to attract a Pisces man, it helps if you are an expert at communicating without words. Cultivate a burning desire to know him. If you have a passionate intention to build a tight bond with him he will feel it. He's quite psychic.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: The fiery solar return happening for Britney Spears will bring luck to the new album she's working on -- not that the Sagittarian pop princess needs any! The sun, Mercury, Uranus and Neptune in Sagittarius point to a passionate free-thinker. The moon in Aquarius rolls with the times and has an ever-current attitude. Venus in Capricorn promises innate business savvy.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie:

Please help settle a dispute between my wife and me. I have been an avid golf player for the past 20 years. After every Sunday game, I come home and wash the golf balls in the kitchen sink. We live in a very modest house, and other than the bathroom, the kitchen has the only other sink.

I refuse to wash my golf balls in the bathroom because I use the same sink to brush my teeth. For what feels like forever now, my wife has argued that the kitchen is no place to wash things from the outside world. While I understand that it may not be the most ideal place, it is really the only option I have.

My wife has now reached the point where she doesn't even want me to play golf on Sunday anymore. I really love golfing and would hate to see it come to this. How should I approach this with my wife? -- Between a Golf Ball and a Hard Place

Dear Between:

Your golf balls don't belong in the kitchen sink. You may object to washing them where you brush your teeth, but it's hardly an improvement to wash them where you prepare your

food.

If you want to continue golfing without annoying your wife, we recommend a compromise. Many golf courses have ball-cleaning machines. If so, use them. If not, when you get home, soak them in a bucket of hot water. (A golfer we know first throws in a tablet of denture cleaner to really get the grit out.) It's a small inconvenience to you, and it will make your wife happy.

Dear Annie: I've been traveling a lot, but now I'm home for a couple of months. Right before I left for my last trip, I met "Alec" and we clicked immediately. The problem is, we come from very different cultures and are looking for different things from a relationship. Alec also is dealing with various personal issues that I don't want to take on. Since I've been home, I've seen Alec twice. I know I'm leading him on, but selfishly I don't want to stop seeing him. We always have such an amazing time together. I've never had this sort of relationship. Should I just go with it and enjoy a new and exciting experience, or should I put an end to our budding relationship

before one of us gets hurt? -- On the Fence

Dear Fence: As long as you are honest, you are not leading him on. Make sure Alec knows that you don't anticipate the relationship lasting for the long haul. That way, if he still wants to continue seeing you, it's up to him. You cannot avoid someone getting hurt in spite of your upfront warnings. But keep in mind that some of the most unexpected relationships can turn into long-term, loving commitments. If the things that are "amazing" with Alec include good conversations, shared values, a similar sense of humor,

warmth and affection, they could make up for cultural differences and other issues. Only time will tell.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@creators.com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. You can also find Annie on Facebook at Facebook.com/AskAnnie. 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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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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Isolating a Menace

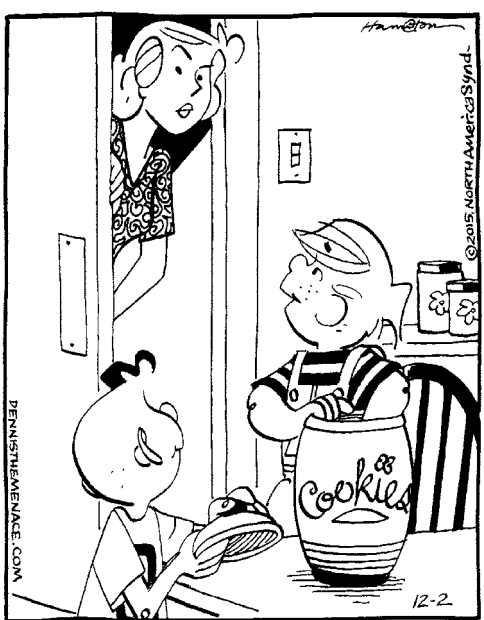
West dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 10 5
♥ A Q 7 4
♦ A K Q
♣ Q J 8 2
WEST
♠ A Q 9 7 3 2
♥ K 10 9 6
♦ 4
♣ A 6
SOUTH
♠ 6
♥ 8
♦ J 9 8 3 2
♣ K 10 9 7 5 4
The bidding:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dble 2 ♠ 4 ♠
4 ♠ 5 ♣ Pass Pass
Dble
Opening lead — four of diamonds.

lead in order to get a diamond return. Accordingly, West led a low spade at trick three, refraining from cashing the ace first (which would have handed South the contract). As West hoped, East won with the king and had no trouble diagnosing the reason for his partner's underlead of the ace. He returned a diamond at trick four for West to ruff, and declarer went down one. South clearly did not give enough consideration to the bidding and the opening lead. West's opening bid and rebid, combined with his double of five clubs, indicated that he had virtually all the missing high cards. It was also practically certain that the opening diamond lead was a singleton. With all these clues pointing in one direction, declarer should have concentrated all his efforts on making sure that East could not gain the lead to give his partner a diamond ruff. To achieve that goal, South should have cashed the ace of hearts at trick two and led the queen of hearts at trick three. After East follows low, declarer discards his spade loser. West wins with the king, but there is no longer any way for him to reach East for a diamond ruff. The only other trick the defenders can score is the ace of clubs, and South winds up making the doubled game.

Tomorrow: Stop, look and listen.
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Table with 30 columns representing different TV channels and their programming schedules for the day.

DENNIS THE MENACE



WHAT? I WAS JUST GONNA SHOW JOEY WHAT A GREAT COOK YOU ARE.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

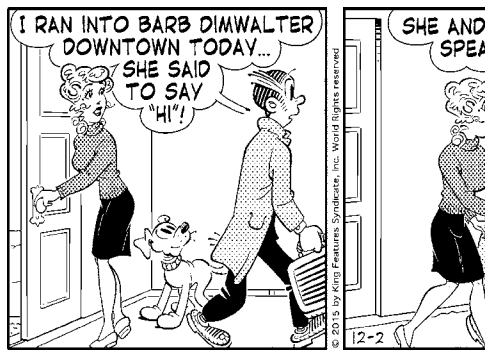


That quote came from Santa Claus. Right, Mommy?

HAGAR



BLONDIE



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Chicago landed at one minute past midnight. In 1942, an artificially created, self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction was demonstrated for the first time at the University of Chicago.

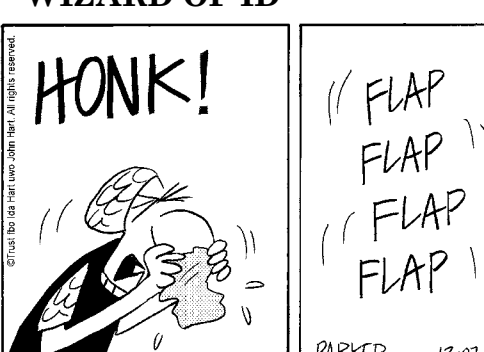
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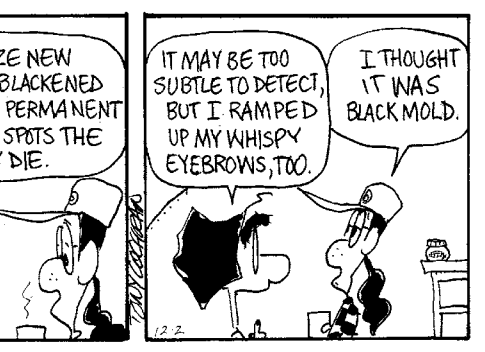
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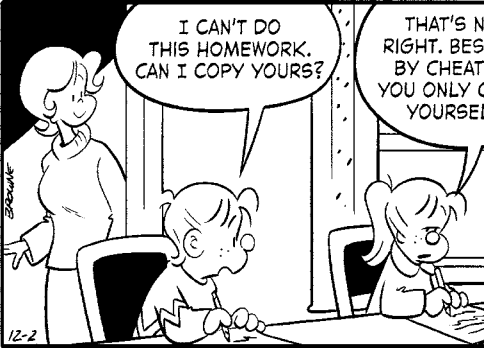
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Hot tub 4 Soothing ointment 8 Mown path 13 Thailand's former name 14 On vacation 15 Spine-tingling 16 FOR AUTO-GRAPHING 19 Opinion pieces 20 Grandfather clock sound 21 Make amends 22 Reverend Jackson 23 Bake sale org. 26 Published, as an article 27 Ruckus 29 Moving ahead 31 "Laughing" African beasts 34 Has regrets about 35 FOR STREET ART 39 Scheduled dr. visit 40 Minor blunder 41 Tropical fruits 44 CD-drive 45 Write down quickly 48 Cease 49 Luau, for instance 52 Trumpet sound 54 Trade-show site 55 Ascends 56 FOR STANDARDIZED TESTS 60 French diarist Nin 61 Sicilian volcano

Thought for Today

"When your work speaks for itself, don't interrupt." Henry J. Kaiser American industrialist (1882-1967)

Answer to previous puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with letters filled in.

THE WRITE STUFF

Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com 12 That lady's 13 Pickle piece 17 Assent for 8 Down 18 Japanese soup 22 Dr. Salk 23 Artist Klee 24 Long haul 25 Web pop-ups 28 Morning condensation 30 Sandwich cousin 31 Den device: Abbr. 32 Totally 33 Part of a Girl Scout uniform 35 Whirled 36 Apple's tablet 37 8 Down's superior: Abbr.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting positions.

Big Spring Junior High basketball falls to Levelland

By **TAYLOR ELLIS**

Sports Editor
Last night the 7th and 8th grade Lady Steers hosted the ladies of Levelland.
8th grade A lost 56-41. Amber Martinez led the way with 14 points followed by Trinity Galloway with nine points. Madison Kuykendall and

Madison McNeese were the leading rebounders. Marisa Salazar played well on defense.
8th grade B lost 53-13. Autumn Golden was the high scorer with seven points. Kayleigh Rodriguez had three points, followed by Kristiana Gutierrez with two points. Bethany Saiz added a point and played excel-

lent defense.
Obri Guzman played aggressive defense and did well rebounding. The girls were a little sluggish coming off the Thanksgiving break, but they are looking forward to another chance this week.
7th grade A had a rough night coming back from the holiday break, losing 71-16.

Cylei Burton led the team with five points. Followed by Olivia Bancroft with four points. Jacqueline Belew had three points and three rebounds. Jocelyn Gonzales was injured early in the 1st quarter but managed to come back in the 4th quarter to add four points and one rebound.

7th grade B lost 24-12. Jenae Caldwell led the team with ten points, six rebounds and two blocks. While S h a w n t r e o n i a Washington had two points.
Next up for the Lady Steers is an A team tour-

namment in Kermit that will take place on Friday at 5:15 pm. Here at home, the B team will host their annual tournament that will begin on Saturday at 9:45 am.
Contact sports editor Taylor Ellis at sports@bigspringherald.com.

Wesley Matthews returns to Portland with Mavericks

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Wesley Matthews didn't know what to expect in his return to Portland.

Back in the city Tuesday night with the Dallas Mavericks for the first time since he left the Trail Blazers as a free agent last summer, the popular guard was greeted with a standing ovation.

"I can't say enough about these fans and these people here," Matthews said. "They've been amazing to me for five years and it was amazing to feel that love every time I walked on the court."

Matthews was the center of attention during the Mavericks' 115-112 overtime victory. He finished with 18 points, including consecutive 3-pointers in the fourth quarter.

Asked before the game if there was anything he missed about Portland, Matthews said the familiarity.

"The community was always awesome to me, the fans were awesome to me, the organization. And just how weird you guys are," Matthews said, drawing laughs from the crowd of re-

porters surrounding him.

Last season the Blazers appeared to be a team that could make a run in the playoffs, with a talented starting five that included Matthews, Damian Lillard, Robin Lopez, Nicolas Batum and LaMarcus Aldridge.

But late in the season — during a game against the Mavericks — Matthews crumpled to the court with a torn Achilles tendon. The Blazers not only missed his defense and perimeter shooting, they also missed his spirit and ability to bring the team together.

Portland was ousted in the first round of the playoffs by the Memphis Grizzlies, and ev-

See **MAVS**, Page 14

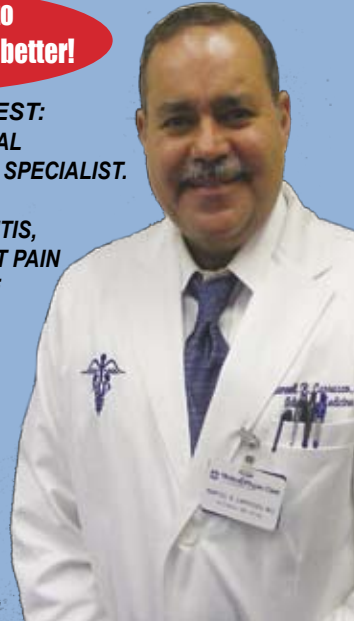
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The Big Spring High School Band will be hosting several events in December. Please come out and support our music program, band directors including Rocky Harris, Samuel Hale, Emily Andrews and Olivia Caldwell and our students by attending one of the following scheduled events:

- The BSBS Pride Drive will be marching in the Christmas Parade on December 5th
- The BSBS Band will be hosting their annual Christmas concert and final performance of this year's marching show featuring Andrew Lloyd Weber's Superstar in surround sound on Sunday, December 6th, BSBS Auditorium @ 2:30 p.m.
- The BSBS Honor Band will have a Christmas concert at St. Mary's Episcopal Church at noon on December 9th featuring "Carol of the Bells" and a world premiere of Fantasy on "In Dulci Jubilo" by Donald Grantham commissioned by the BSBS Band for band and organ and written especially for the St. Mary's organ and Linda Hill, organist at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

The Big Spring Band Booster Club greatly appreciates the support shown to the band program.

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MAVS

Continued from Page 13

ery one of the starters, except for Lillard, went elsewhere in the offseason. Matthews signed a four-year, \$70 million deal with the Mavericks. Hereceived a max-

imum contract after DeAndre Jordan suddenly changed his mind and returned to the Los Angeles Clippers, the team that drafted him, after agreeing to terms with Dallas. The Mavericks also brought in Zaza Pachulia and Deron Williams in the offseason. Both are starting along with Matthews, who has worked his way back quickly from

the Achilles injury. "People that know him know that he's a beat-the-odds kind of guy," Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. But Matthews isn't where he'd like to be yet. He began the night averaging 11.1 points, 2.6 rebounds and 1.8 assists, down from the 16.1 points, 3.7 rebounds and 2.3 assists he averaged last sea-

son with the Blazers. "I almost forget what I went through. I almost forget that it's a process. I almost forget that it's a blessing that I'm playing as early as I was," he said. "Sometimes I take that for granted and I press and I press. And that may be part of the reason why I'm shooting the way I'm shooting."

Matthews didn't have any trepidation about passing the spot on the court where he fell last spring. "I think one of the best things about me in this whole process coming back, I never second-guessed. I never thought, what if? I never thought, oh my God, this could have happened," he said. "I just kept going."

Monahan, Flames beat Stars in shootout

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Third-period rallies were common place for Calgary one year ago, so it was a return to form for the Flames on Tuesday night. Sean Monahan had the clinching goal in the shootout and two assists in regulation, helping Calgary to an unlikely 4-3 victory over the Dallas Stars. Monahan's shoot-out goal was the last of three on Antti Niemi, with Joe Colborne and Johnny Gaudreau also finding the net. The Flames trailed 3-0 after two periods. "Games like this, it brings back the taste of last year, of those comebacks," coach Bob Hartley said. "The boys were having fun in the room. The music and everything. For me, that's the best part of coaching and the best part of being in a team sport. You see those emotions, you see finally the rewards for hard work."

Patrick Sharp scored in the shootout for the Stars, who were eliminated on Monahan's goal because Tyler Seguin hit the post on Dallas' initial shot. Bolstered by a team-record 10 third-period comebacks, the Flames were a feel-good story a year ago, unexpectedly making the playoffs and then reaching the second round. But this season, Calgary entered the night ranked 29th in the NHL, even in points with the last-place Edmonton Oilers. "Great team effort tonight," Gaudreau said. "It was another one of those comebacks like last season where guys were showing a ton of effort until the final buzzer." Dallas coach Lindy Ruff said he could feel Calgary taking over the game in the second period. "Give them full marks. The last 30 minutes, they

were all over us," Ruff said. "We got caught playing in our own end, dumping it out and they just kept coming at us. "We didn't skate well, we didn't execute well and a couple of our reads on our last couple goals against weren't very good." Gaudreau, Mikael Backlund and Dougie Hamilton scored in regulation for Calgary, which kicked off a five-

game homestand with its fifth win in a row at the Scotiabank Saddledome.

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