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H BIG SPRING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2016

HERALD



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GOP hopefuls now eye Super Tuesday

Trump cements front-runner status with win in Nevada caucuses

The Associated Press □ Related story, Page 14.

AUSTIN, Texas — In their efforts to derail Donald Trump from the Republican presidential nomination, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Ohio Gov. John Kasich are all facing enormous pressure in their home state primaries, which account for about a fourth of the delegates up for grabs in the next three weeks.

Failure to defend their turf could leave each explaining what states they can win going forward — and make the New York billionaire look all the more inevitable.

After Trump's impressive win in Nevada, the presidential race now shifts to Super Tuesday, featuring 11 largely Southern states, including Texas, with 155 GOP delegates. Those delegates will be awarded proportionally. On March 15 will come primaries in Florida, with 99 delegates, and Ohio with 66, and they are winner take all.

If no one can dent Trump's advantage by then, the race for the nomination may be all but over. But home states have buoyed candidates in the past. Four years ago, eventual GOP nominee Mitt Romney used his native Michigan to quash a surprisingly stout challenge from Rick Santorum. Newt Gingrich won his home state of Georgia and

See **GOP**, Page 3

Council greenlights clinic sale

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

In the very near future, the Malone & Hogan Clinic building will find itself under new management.

Big Spring city officials took the final steps toward getting out of the clinic business Tuesday when the city council approved a series of steps transferring ownership of the building to Greystone Brokerage & Development.

Tuesday's actions clear the way for Greystone to begin a multi-million dollar renovation of the clinic, which sits adjacent to Scenic Mountain Medical Center. But city officials have bigger goals in mind than simply sprucing up the building.

"I believe this a home run for our city," Mayor Larry McLellan said. "When I moved here in 1984, we had a lot of doctors available to our citizens, and hopefully, we can get back to that. I feel a lot of good things are coming out of this action."



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Big Spring Mayor Larry McLellan, left, and Councilman Steve Waggoner listen to discussion during Tuesday's city council meeting.

Greystone President Ken Birdsong said the company plans to spend more than \$4 million renovating the clinic building. Renovation should begin within the next 45 days and take between nine and 10 months, he added.

"We're hoping to use the building as a recruitment tool for the hospital to bring in more doctors and other medical professionals," Birdsong said. "Some of the existing tenants will remain in the building and the hospital will remain a significant tenant in the building. Also, the hospital has a recruitment schedule to bring in more doctors to the clinic."

Although the council vote to transfer the clinic to Greystone was unanimous, at least one member wasn't in a celebratory mood after the vote.

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

City mulls demolition process

About 20 dilapidated homes could face wrecking ball

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Some old, dilapidated houses in Big Spring are facing the wrecking ball — the only question is when.

City officials are eyeing several properties within the city for demolition — all of which are residential houses which have been severely dilapidated by fire or other issues — but it promises to be a long, drawn-out process.

Public Works Director Johnny Womack discussed demolition procedures with city council members during their Tuesday night meeting, saying there are approximately 20 properties in the city that have been identified as demolition targets. Only residential homes are being considered in this project, Womack said.

However, only one home, located in east Big Spring, is expected to be torn down in the very near future.

One of the major hold-ups, as might be expected, is money. The more of it the city has earmarked for demolition, the more dilapidated houses can be demolished.

See **CITY**, Page 3

A dodge-y fundraiser

DRA-hosted tournament to raise money for annual Funtastic Fourth

By **AMANDA ELSTON**
 Managing Editor

Dodge, duck, dip, dive and dodge!

This Saturday, the Downtown Revitalization Association hosts a dodgeball tournament in order to raise funds for its annual Funtastic Fourth event, this year scheduled for June 24-25.

"We have seen other communities put on dodgeball tournaments and everyone seemed to have a blast," said DRA member Allen Johnson. "This will be both a fun time for people and a great way to raise money."

The tournament, coordinated by DRA member Shanan Saverance, will be held in the Big Spring Junior High Gym and everyone is invited to participate.

See **DRA**, Page 3



\$1,000 winner

Amanda Deanda, left, was a recent winner in H&R Block's "1,000 Win \$1,000 Daily" contest.

HERALD photo/Julie Bass



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Obituaries

Donnie Vaughn



Donnie Vaughn, 79, of Big Spring, died Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016. The family will receive friends Thursday, Feb. 25, 2016, from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Mount Olive Memorial Park, with Chaplain Clay Porter of Compass Hospice, officiating.

She was born Feb. 6, 1937 to Carrie Estella (Raney) and William Walter Spears in Roaring Springs, Texas.

She was a lifelong resident of Big Spring. She was a member of Berea Baptist Church. She enjoyed reading, playing golf and traveling.

She is survived by her daughter, Pat Mahan and husband, Mike, of Midland; and two sons, Billy Vaughn Jr. and Lacy Vaughn and wife, Natalie, all of Big Spring. She is also survived by one brother, Billy Wayne Spears of San Angelo; one grandson; and two great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, Billy Vaughn, she was preceded in death by two brothers and three sisters.

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

Quinn Denton

Quinn Denton, 74, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Feb. 21, 2016 at his residence. Private family services will be at a later date.

He was born March 24, 1941, in Big Spring, Texas and graduated from Big Spring High School. He served in the United States Army and had worked as a welder, truck driver and as a farmer. He enjoyed fishing.

Survivors include two children, Nick Denton and

Amanda Denton, both of Big Spring; and three sisters, Angel Grantham and Sonya Aycock, both of Big Spring, and Sherry Hernandez of Dallas.

He was preceded in death by parents, Willard Denton, Sr. and Bernice Fowler Denton; and two brothers, Rex Denton and Willard "Dickie" Denton Jr.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **ADAM LEE RYAN**, 19, of 4203 Wasson Rd. was arrested on a charge of theft of property, more than \$100 but less than \$750, shoplifting.
- **WESLEY MATTHEW TAYLOR**, 38, of 3224 Auburn was arrested on warrants for theft, possession of drug paraphernalia and four counts of fail to appear.
- **VAN WAYNE SULLIVAN**, 45, of 209 E. Oklahoma St., Sweetwater was arrested on a warrant for theft of a firearm.
- **RUSSELL REX BANKS**, 62, of 120 Banks Rd. was arrested on warrants for disregard stop sign, display fictitious plates and failure to report change of address/name.
- **JOSHUA NATHANAEL SPIVEY**, 20, of 710 E. 14th St. was arrested on warrants for bail jumping/

failure to appear and eight warrants from other agencies.

• **HOLLEY DENISE JENNINGS**, 30, of 1203 N. FM 700 was arrested on warrants for no driver's license, theft of property and two warrants from other agencies.

• **REGINO GARCIA MENDEZ**, 37, of 1308 Stadium Ave. was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1000 block of W. 3rd St. and the 3400 block of County Road 3.

• **THEFT** was reported in the 1300 block of Harding, the 200 block of W. FM 700 and the 2300 block of Wasson Rd.

• **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Alabama and Morrison Streets.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 70 inmates at the time of this report.

- **RUSSEL REX BANKS**, 62, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for disregard stop sign, display fictitious license plate and fail to report change of address/name.
- **TOMMY BILLALBA JR.**, 27, was booked by the HCSO on a bench warrant.
- **HOLLEY DENISE JENNINGS**, 30, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of failure to appear and warrants for operating a motor vehicle without financial, two counts of no driver's license and theft.
- **REGINO GARCIA MENDEZ**, 37, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for assault of a family/house member impeding breathing and normal circulation.
- **ADAM LEE RYAN**, 19 was booked by the BSPD

on a charge of theft of property, more than \$100 but less than \$750.

• **JOSHUA NATHANAEL SPIVEY**, 20, was booked by the HCSO on a charge of fail to identify fugitive intentionally giving false/fictitious information and warrants for bail jumping/failure to appear, no license plate, violate promise to appear, no motorcycle endorsement, fail to maintain financial responsibility, three counts of failure to appear and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• **VAN WAYNE SULLIVAN**, 45, was booked by the HCSO on a warrant for theft of a firearm.

• **WESLEY TAYLOR**, 38, was booked by the HCSO on warrants for driving while license invalid, violate promise to appear, fraudulent use/possession of identifying information, two counts of failure to identify as a fugitive giving false/fictitious information, driving while license invalid with previous convictions/suspensions, five counts of failure to appear, theft and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• 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, located at 1209 Wright St.

• 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. Flexible payment options.

• A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical Center Veteran's Healing Center.

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speak-

ers 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 supper at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

MONDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees it, 615 Settles, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Mondays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

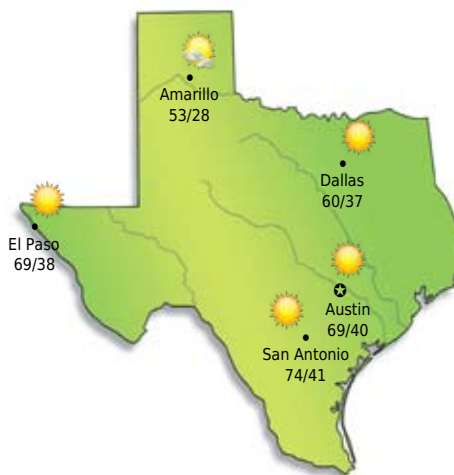
TUESDAY

• 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.

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thu 2/25	Fri 2/26	Sat 2/27	Sun 2/28	Mon 2/29
58/31 Mainly sunny. High 58F. Winds NE at 15 to 25 mph.	65/36 Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	71/47 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	78/43 Mainly sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 40s.	78/51 Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 6:40 PM	Sunrise: 7:17 AM Sunset: 6:40 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 6:41 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 6:42 PM	Sunrise: 7:14 AM Sunset: 6:43 PM

Texas at a Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	63	37	Sunny	Kingsville	72	40	Sunny
Amarillo	61	27	Sunny	Livingston	64	40	Sunny
Austin	67	41	Sunny	Longview	60	39	Sunny
Beaumont	63	39	Sunny/Wind	Lubbock	63	30	Sunny
Brownsville	73	47	Sunny	Lufkin	63	37	Sunny
Brownwood	64	34	Sunny	Midland	64	35	Sunny
Corpus Christi	72	47	Sunny	Raymondville	75	44	Sunny
Corsicana	62	39	Sunny	Rosenberg	66	40	Sunny
Dallas	62	41	Sunny	San Antonio	69	39	Sunny
Del Rio	68	39	Sunny	San Marcos	67	39	Sunny
El Paso	61	34	Sunny	Sulphur Springs	60	40	Sunny
Fort Stockton	62	37	Sunny	Sweetwater	64	38	Sunny
Gainesville	61	38	Sunny/Wind	Tyler	60	39	Sunny
Greenville	60	39	Sunny	Weatherford	64	40	Sunny
Houston	66	41	Sunny	Wichita Falls	65	38	Sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	59	38	Cloudy	Miami	82	62	P Cloudy
Boston	50	50	Cloudy	Minneapolis	35	24	Cloudy
Chicago	37	31	Snow Showers	New York	56	53	Few Showers
Dallas	62	41	Sunny	Phoenix	79	51	Clear
Denver	53	25	Sunny	San Francisco	69	52	P Cloudy
Houston	66	41	Sunny	Seattle	59	41	Cloudy
Los Angeles	83	52	Clear	Saint Louis	43	33	Snow/Wind

Moon Phases

First Feb 15	Full Feb 22	Last Mar 1	New Mar 9

UV Index

Thu 2/25	Fri 2/26	Sat 2/27	Sun 2/28	Mon 2/29
6	6	6	6	6
High	High	High	High	High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

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Lottery

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)
These Texas lotteries were drawn Tuesday:

All or Nothing Day
04-05-06-07-08-10-11-14-16-21-22-23

All or Nothing Evening
01-02-03-07-09-10-12-13-16-20-21-24

All or Nothing Morning
01-02-03-07-08-11-12-14-17-19-22-24

All or Nothing Night
04-05-06-07-09-11-12-13-14-16-19-22

Cash 5
20-21-24-28-35

Daily 4 Day
0-4-9-4, Sum It Up: 17

Daily 4 Evening
2-4-9-5

Daily 4 Morning
2-8-9-8

Daily 4 Night
8-0-7-7, Sum It Up: 22

Mega Millions
16-32-39-53-57, Mega Ball: 10, Megaplier: 5
Estimated jackpot: \$114 million

Pick 3 Day
0-1-5, Sum It Up: 6

Pick 3 Evening
2-7-8

Pick 3 Morning
0-9-9

Pick 3 Night
7-0-2, Sum It Up: 9

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$236 million

Triple Chance
07-10-23-24-34-40-42-44-46-47

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Take note

• The Howard County Fair needs people to cross-stitch squares for the annual quilt fundraiser. Complete kits may be picked up from Cheryl Joy at the Heritage Museum, Tuesday through Saturday. For more information call Suzanne Markwell at 214-256-1674

• Anyone in 6th-11th grades interested in trying out for cheerleading is welcome to sign up for a class hosted by the BSHS cheerleaders. They will work on stretches, jump techniques, motion techniques and hold mock try-outs. Classes will be Monday Feb. 29, Tuesday March 1 and Thursday March 3 from 6-8 p.m. each night.

Cost is \$60 per child. If you have any questions please email Ashley Phinney at aphinney@bsisd.esc18.net.

You may also call the front office of the high school and leave a message.

• The Mitchell County Senior Citizen Dance is Thursday Feb. 25. Bring a covered dish to share and dance to live music. The dance is at 157 E. 2nd St. in Colorado City from 7 – 10 p.m. Cost if \$5 per person.

• The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct the multi-county Permian Basin Cotton Conference from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. March 1 at the G.C. Broughton Jr. Ag Complex in Big Spring.

The complex is located at 2411 Echols Drive on the Howard College campus. Counties involved with the conference and its accompanying trade show include Howard, Martin,

Midland, Glasscock, Upton and Reagan.

Individual preregistration is \$15 by Feb. 26 and \$25 thereafter. The fee includes the noon meal.

To RSVP, contact the AgriLife Extension office in Howard County at 432-264-2236.

Meetings

• The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues are \$20.

• The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony of-

fice, 808 Scurry Street.

• The Kiwanis Club of Big Spring meets at noon every Thursday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are welcome.

• 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 271-2176.

• 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 1/2 Main St. All Masons are welcome.

GOP

Continued from Page 1

neighboring South Carolina but did little elsewhere.

Of the trio with looming home-state primaries, Cruz may be in the strongest position. "I wanna say, I cannot wait to get home to the great state of Texas," Cruz said Tuesday night after losing in Nevada to Trump. "Tonight, I'll sleep in my bed for the first time in a month."

But Cruz will have to win more than just Texas on Tuesday if he doesn't want to be looking up at Trump in the delegate count.

Kasich and Rubio, meanwhile, may be battling for many of the same votes from traditional Republicans uneasy with the bombastic Trump and the firebrand conservative Cruz. As long as both remain in the race, they

could continue to split the establishment bloc. And they'll have to run Tuesday's gauntlet before they can even reach must-wins at home.

The home-state jockeying is underway.

FLORIDA

Current and former members of Congress from Florida who had been backing Jeb Bush signed on with Rubio this week after the ex-governor left the race. That's not to say Rubio's a slam dunk in his state.

Trump is the only Republican still in the race who had an obvious campaign presence in Florida — office space and paid employees on the ground — as of late last month. Trump is a part-time resident. Bush also was building a Florida operation and some of that may flow to Rubio.

"Now that Jeb is out of the race, that helps Marco tremendously,"

said Marcelo Llorente, a former Republican legislator in Florida who knows both men well.

Cruz strategist Jason Johnson released a memo arguing that if Rubio's hopes are built around winning Florida, that won't work because almost half of the delegates needed to win the nomination will have been awarded by then. "That's an even less plausible path to victory than Mayor Rudy Giuliani's 'wait for Florida' strategy in 2008," Johnson said, referring to Giuliani's short-lived presidential run. But Johnson's argument presumes Rubio won't do well Super Tuesday.

TEXAS

The Texas senator has spent more time in the South than his rivals and built networks of supporters he hopes can not only help him in Texas but also nearby states. That approach

did not work in South Carolina, the only Southern state where it has been tested.

Cruz has for years been considered his state's most popular politician and Gov. Greg Abbott is his friend, mentor and ex-boss — although Abbott has so far held off making a presidential endorsement.

Cruz also has the backing of former Texas Gov. Rick Perry and current Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, along with nearly one-fourth of the Republicans representing Texas in Congress and about half of the Republicans in the state Legislature. He's also built a strong ground game, boasting 27,000 volunteers, but a similarly strong organization didn't spell victory in South Carolina.

Texas may not have a decisive winner, unless the top candidate can get a majority of the votes cast statewide and in each congressional district. Otherwise, del-

egates will be awarded proportionally based on full-state results and results in each district.

The only campaign or outside group advertising in Texas so far supports Rubio. Ads by the Conservative Solutions PAC tag Cruz as "calculated, underhanded." Still, polls suggest Cruz is the favorite.

"He's a native-son candidate," GOP strategist Matt Mackowiak said. "Support for him is very strong."

OHIO

Kasich is looking to the Midwest and Michigan's

March 8 primary to help carry him through to his neighboring home state a week later. His bid for the nomination is already a longshot and whatever viability he might have now surely would vanish if he faltered in Ohio.

A new Quinnipiac survey has Kasich lagging Trump but within 5 percentage points of him, marking progress for the governor.

Kasich brushes off any notion he may not win his state. "The last thing I'm worried about is how we'll do in Ohio," he said Tuesday.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

terward.

"I'm excited, and I have mixed feelings about it, because of the fact that, if this falls through, we'll have to

take the clinic back," District 2 Councilwoman Carmen Harbour said. "I'm glad they're in town, and we do need this project to get more doctors and staff in here, so we won't have to go to Midland and Lubbock for our medical needs. I just feel like if it falls

through, we're back to square one."

Others on the council, however, were excited about the possibilities a renovated clinic could bring to Big Spring.

"Big Spring used to be a center of medical services in West Texas," Councilman Raul

Marquez Jr. said. "This could help Big Spring become a more reliable place for people to address their medical needs, and that's awesome."

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

Womack said it will cost the city about \$6 a square foot, or approximately \$8,000 to \$9,000 a home, to demolish the structures and the budget allotted for the process needs to be boosted.

"There is \$16,000 currently in the budget for this," Womack said. "Plus, Keep Big Spring Beautiful has donated \$4,000 for specific use in demolishing dilapidated houses ... We'll need to transfer another \$50,000 from the budget later."

The city has some legal hurdles to jump over, as well. Determining ownership of the targeted houses — some of which have been vacant for years — is a tedious, time-consuming process, but one the city has to satisfy before it can tear down the property.

Womack said once owners are identified, they must sign off on the demolition and, in some cases, pay back taxes before the city can move forward in the process.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

DRA

Continued from Page 1

Entry to participate is \$10 a person with the first place team being awarded \$300. Each team can have a maximum of 10 people.

"There is no need to sign up before hand," said Johnson. "Just show up with your team at the east gym entrance. Sign-ups will start at 5 p.m. the night of, with games beginning at 7 p.m."

In addition to the

dodgeball fun, the event will be DJed by Big Spring's own Diamond D.

Johnson also said that those who aren't interested in playing in the dodgeball tournament are welcome to come watch and check out the

concessions that will be served during the games.

All proceeds will go towards the Funtastic Fourth. For more information on the dodgeball tournament, contact Saverance at 432-816-1001.

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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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Would you rather be right or happy?

Another Valentine's Day has come and gone, meaning romance for some will once again be forgotten until another candy and flowers holiday comes along. I think that's sad because romance is a wonderful thing and should be enjoyed every day of the year. Love is awesome, and being in love is the greatest expression and manifestation of this beautiful, God-given emotion.

This past Saturday, my parents, Charles and Betty Prince, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. It didn't turn out the way we would have liked as my 88-year old mom was taken to the hospital for bronchitis. While in the hospital, she took a bad fall, fracturing her nose and injuring her head and face. Fortunately, the injuries looked much worse than they actually were and she was released and is recovering at home.

It was just a little over two weeks ago that Leah and I celebrated our 44th anniversary. Yes, friends, miracles do still happen. For her to put up with me that long definitely qualifies.

In a world where planned obsolescence is standard operating procedure and things are made to use for a short time and then throw away, it's gratifying and encouraging to be a part of something that endures the test of time and trials. I applaud anyone who makes a commitment and does all it takes to maintain a relationship for an extended period of time, not only in marriage but on the job and in other relationships.

It's hard to maintain a lasting and meaningful relationship when everything around us screams for personal gratification and selfishness is the order of the day for many people.

The world's view is, as it always has been, "look out for No. 1." While it's true that sometimes we have to take care of ourselves because no one else will, developing an attitude of self-preservation at any cost

is a prescription for disaster in marriage or most any other endeavor.

In our morning devotion recently, Leah and I enjoyed a very good reading and I'd like to share it with you. It's from a book entitled, "Moments With You" by Dennis and Barbara Rainey, co-founders of Family Life located in Little Rock, Ark. "We all come into marriage with a full yardstick of expectations—what love looks like, what our roles will be, what we'll do on weekends, where we'll go for Christmas. But over the years, that yardstick starts getting snapped off an inch or two at a time, until we're left holding something a whole lot shorter than what we brought with us.

"This leads to what I call the Unmet Expectation Syndrome. And every time it happens, the natural reaction is to go from disappointment to hurt to anger and finally to punishment—making your spouse pay for not living up to your expectations.

"Here are four better ways to deal with these unmet expectations:

"1. Love and forgive. Because you vowed before God to remain committed to each other, you must both own up to your failures and responsibilities. Your marriage will never outgrow its need for massive doses of forgiveness.

"2. Communicate and seek to understand each other. Expectations must be managed, and the best way to do that is to keep the communication lines open. Clarify your needs and expectations. Don't leave each other guessing.

"3. Develop God's perspective. Your spouse will never be able to meet the needs in your life that can only be met by God alone. Let Him be your sufficiency.

"4. Don't throw away the yardstick. Don't give up on your dreams.

"Even though expectations sometimes tend to be out of step with reality, God doesn't want you to live with just a few inches of the yardstick. Keep high hopes and expectations in your marriage, work toward them in a healthy way, and give thanks to God as He fulfills your true and deepest desires . . . both

through Him and through each other."

I think they are right on target. They have been married more than 30 years and have six children and 19 grandchildren so I respect what they have to say.

Another couple I read about recently, Andrew and Claudia, said of their relationship, "Each person takes turns being either a watering can or a flower. Sometimes we need to be watered, and sometimes we need to do the watering."

Author Richard Greenberg, commenting on that statement, said of his marriage, "Sure, sometimes I don't feel like doing the watering, or I feel as though I'm completely out of water.

I'm sure there are times when JoAnn feels the same way. But after 37 years, I've learned it's worth finding the emotional resources necessary to nurture my mate -- even if it means having to change my own focus or ignoring something that has irked me. In the end, making that effort comes back to me as a peaceful life, a calm environment, and a mate who digs deep for me when I need her. Being generous to someone I love seems a small price to pay."

"The hallmark of our marriage is that we're kind to each other. We don't yell. We don't call each other names. We don't keep score. This doesn't mean that we don't get angry, or leave each other space when one is feeling tapped out. It means that our kindness is defined by the swallowing of pride, of understanding and generosity. One of us will do the dishes when neither of us feels like it, because the dishes aren't going to wash themselves. We take care of each other, and consider each other's needs as equal to our own. It's our agreement, and we both know we're better for it."

There's an old expression, "Would you rather be right, or would you rather be happy?" Marriage is not 50/50 — it's at least 90/90.

Always give more than you take and it will pay priceless dividends.

It won't be easy, but it will be worth it.

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

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:

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DAILY PRAYER

You, Lord, show us Your wonderful promise. May we put all our trust in You. Amen.

Apple, public safety and selling stuff

Federal investigators hold the iPhone of Syed Rizwan Farook, the terrorist who helped slaughter 14 innocents in San Bernardino, California. They want to look at its contents but can't because the device is encrypted and Apple has refused to unlock it.

The matter ended up in federal court, where a magistrate judge ordered Apple to hack Farook's cellphone. Apple has rejected the judge's order, citing privacy concerns.

Apple is in the wrong. As Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance points out, the government's case rests on centuries of law holding that "no item — not a home, not a file cabinet and not a smartphone — lies beyond the reach of a judicial search warrant."

There exists no "right of privacy" to withhold evidence of a crime. The idea that the cellphone is a privileged communications device that must be off-limits to law enforcement is nonsense.

The court's not telling Apple to create what one critic of the judge's order called a "design defect," a backdoor that puts all users in danger of being hacked by identity thieves and other creeps.

It has ordered Apple to help the Federal Bureau of Investigation get into a single iPhone.

While Apple's stance is unacceptable, it is understandable from a limited business point of view.

Apple worries that if it gives U.S. law enforcement access to encrypted cellphones, countries less sensitive to civil liberties would demand the same. Places like China and Russia could grab the technology for widespread use against their citizens. China is Apple's second biggest market after the United States.

U.S. tech companies and civil libertarians are supporting Apple's stance. Nuala O'Connor of the Center for Democracy and Technology expressed some of the fears. Cellphones "have become effectively a part of our bodies," she wrote. Hers has contacts, medical records, kids' report cards, pictures and so forth.

No one said that drawing a line between privacy and security is simple — and new technology keeps moving that blurred border.

All the more reason not to carry all that information around in one's handbag, we might say. But even if a master key for unlocking iPhones got on the loose, the brutes would still need to possess the physical iPhone and spend perhaps years trying to get past a strong password.

Full-disclosure time. Your writer is a voracious consumer

of Apple products and an investor in Apple Inc. stock. She's not selling her shares for the following reasons:

Before the recent iPhone decryption debate, China was already demanding a backdoor to its citizens' computers and phones. Chinese consumers know the score.

And there are American sensibilities to consider. FBI Director James Comey spoke for many when he said national policy on confronting terrorism should not be left to "corporations that sell stuff for a living." It shouldn't matter how cool the stuff is.

Victims of the San Bernardino attack are filing a legal brief supporting the U.S. government's position.

And for what it's worth, Donald Trump has called for a boycott of Apple products if the company does not cooperate.

No one said that drawing a line between privacy and security is simple — and new technology keeps moving that blurred border.

But Comey is right. The job of setting national security priorities has not been outsourced to Silicon Valley boardrooms. It is a matter for our federal government.

Dear Apple: Frustrating efforts to track terrorists is not a great marketing strategy. Your wisest move would be to make some noise and then help the FBI break into a terrorist's iPhone.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com.



EDDY PRINCE



FROMA HARROP

State transportation funding and Ports-to-Plains

EDITOR'S NOTE:
This is the 13th in a series of articles highlighting the Ports-to-Plains project.

Since 2008, expansion of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridors has come primarily through the various state departments of transportation, including both state and federal transportation funding. As discussed last week, federal funding for the past 10 years has come through the state DOTs. The state DOTs combine the federal funds with state funds to carry out each state's transportation program. While the



MICHAEL REEVES

process of planning the funding and construction scheduling of highway projects varies across the states in the Ports-to-Plains region, the Alliance works closely with each DOT to advocate for funding expansion projects. Governors, state legislatures, transportation commissions, regional planning efforts and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) all have differing roles across the region in determining how transportation funds are used.

As with federal funding, the base for state transportation funding is state fuel tax. The same issue of vehicle fuel efficiency has also negatively impacted state fuel tax revenues. As a result,

states have looked for ways to address those negative impacts. In some of the Ports-to-Plains states, state legislatures have acted to increase fuel taxes in the past few years. Wyoming increased its fuel tax 10 cents per gallon in 2013. South Dakota increased its fuel tax by 6 cents per gallon in 2015. Nebraska increased its fuel tax by 6 cents a gallon in 2015.

Additionally in 2011, the Nebraska Unicameral approved the Build Nebraska Act, which committed one-quarter of a cent out of the state's 5.5-cent sales tax to roads projects.

New Mexico finished the four-lane expansion of the Ports-to-Plains corridor across northern New Mexico through a bonding program. North Dakota's legislature has provided significant funding to

the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway and other western North Dakota infrastructure from oil and gas severance taxes.

Texas voters have passed several ballot questions including Proposition 14: State Highway Fund Revenue Bonds backed by the State Highway Fund (2003); Proposition 12: General Obligation Bond Projects (2007); Proposition 1: a portion of oil and gas tax revenues that typically go into the Economic Stabilization Fund will be deposited to the State Highway Fund (2014); and last year Proposition 7: dedicated portions of revenue from the state's general sales and use tax

as well as from the motor vehicle sales and rental tax to the State Highway Fund for non-tolled projects.

These state legislatures and voters recognized the relationship between transportation and economic development.

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 Coalition, whose 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



Public, not private, for UT Permian Basin loan options

MIDLAND (AP) — With March quickly approaching, students at both the secondary and higher education levels begin to look toward the fall. Where will they be? What housing will they choose? And most importantly, how will they pay?

For students at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin, the answer to that last question likely will not be "with a private loan." When applying for a private student loan online from private lenders SallieMae, Wells Fargo and Discover, UTPB does not appear on the "choose your school" section.

"We choose not to participate in the securing of other educational loans," said C. Edward Kerestly, director of the Office of Financial Aid at UTPB. "The real reason is, I think ... We feel like the loan programs that we do directly participate in provide the financial assistance needed, along with our generous grant and scholarship program and our very affordable price to assist students in funding their education."

Currently in-state tuition for UTPB ranks at less than \$5,000 per semester, and more than 90 percent of UTPB students are Texas residents, according to its website.

UTPB students can easily acquire an offer of a federal loan after filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Undergraduate students can obtain up to \$5,500 a year in Perkins Loans and \$5,500 to \$12,500 per year in direct subsidized loans and unsubsidized loans, depending on a student's circumstances and school, according to the Department of Education's website.

Graduate students can obtain up to \$8,000 a year in Perkins Loans and up to \$20,500 each year in direct unsubsidized loans. Parents of students can obtain a PLUS loan, according to the website.

Kerestly said that UTPB chose not to obtain certification to

private lenders, citing that federal loans "are likely" more affordable than private loans. UTPB students can still obtain a private loan but must become self-certified by filling out a form that the school provides according to federal law, Kerestly said.

Wells Fargo spokesman Jason Vasquez said that it is not unheard of for educational institutions, private and public, to opt out of completing certification with private lenders.

Vasquez said private lenders can also refuse certification based on a high dropout rate, low graduation rate or high amount of average debt.

UTPB has a 34 percent six-year graduation rate, meaning 34 percent of its students graduate within six years, according to its website.

"There has got to be hundreds of schools there (in Wells Fargo database) but there are thousands of campuses all over the country," Vasquez said. "It's real-

ly up to the school."

UTPB does not feature private loan information on its website. Kerestly said that UTPB also chose not to participate in school certification as an ethics issue and because it would be an additional administrative process.

"We don't have agreements with the lenders in any way. ... To do so would be a violation of our ethics," Kerestly said. "The issue does not come up in a large way with many students, and I think that's

because of the other options that are available are generally sufficient to allow students to secure the funding they need."

The majority of college students pay for their out-of-pocket expenses with federal loans, according to the federal Department of Education. The remainder, an average of 7 percent according to a spokesman for private lender SallieMae, normally falls to private loan lenders.

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Check this out: What's at the library

Hard to believe March is just around the corner. If you are looking to make plans for spring break, we just got in a few books that might interest you. "Charleston" by Lee Davis Perry (917.579 PER L) tells you everything you want to know about travel and leisure in Charleston. This insiders' guide also includes information for Mt Pleasant, Summerville, Kiawah, and other islands. "Discovering Vintage New Orleans" by Bonnye Stuart (917.633 STU B) is a guide to the city's timeless shops, bars, hotels and much more. It features 50 fun-to-explore locations that capture the true essence of this unique city. "Paddling Texas" by Shane Townsend (797.122 TOW S) is a guide to the Texas' best paddling routes. Run the rapids on the Guadalupe River, float the calm water on Navarro Mills Lake, or navigate the sandy beaches and knobby mangroves of the Texas Gulf Coast. Something to think about as you prepare to pick your spring break or summer vacation destinations.

Are you ready for a backyard makeover? "All New Backyard Idea Book" by Sandra S Soria (578.75 SOR S) has smart solutions for transforming all areas of the backyard. It is a must-have design guide to decks, patios, outdoor kitchens, play areas, pools, landscaping, and more. This book contains creative strategies for small improvements and major projects with color photographs that provide inspiring options. Nathan Smith & Michael Snyder have a book "Color Concrete Garden Projects" (721.044 SMI N) that instructs you on how to make your own planters, furniture, and fire pits using creative techniques and vibrant finishes. Concrete artisans Nathan Smith and Michael Snyder show you how to build forms and molds, mix concrete, and add color using stains, slurries, and other innovative techniques. Twenty creative step-by-step projects include an elegant tabletop planter, a modern birdhouse, and a charming chair for kids. After these books, your yard will be

ready for barbecues, parties, and company.

In this day and age, the world is surrounded by tragedies and turmoil. As parents, you don't always know how to reach out to your children. The library has gotten in several books that might help you communicate with them on different topics. "When Kids Are Grieving" by Donna M Burns (371.46 BUR D) addresses grief and loss in school. This book helps you understand and respond to the extraordinary challenges that children and adolescents may face when dealing with loss and grief. "The Everything Parent's Guide to Teenage Addiction" by Edward Lynam, MD and Ellen Bowers, PhD (616.860 LYN E) is a comprehensive and supportive reference to help your child recover from addiction. This book will be your guide as you help your child, rebuild your relationship, and heal the damage caused by addiction. Joe Dallas has a book "When Homosexuality Hits Home" (261.835 DAL J) that helps you navigate through difficult waters with sound,

passionate, and biblically accurate advice as you take a journey you never anticipated. "10 Things Great Dads Do" by Rick Johnson (248.842 JOH R) gives us strategies for raising great kids. Johnson offers ten practical strategies to help men become the dads they want to be. "52 Things to Pray for Your Kids" by Jay Payleitner (248.320 PAY J) gives you 52 example-packed ways to talk with God about topics closest to your heart. It instructs moms and dads to turn to God for courage, strength, and guidance and teach their kids to do the same.

For our patrons that love to read bibliographies, we have "Blind Curves" by Linda Crill (B CRI L). Linda Crill is a sought-after executive, consultant, and speaker who has worked with many Fortune 100 companies, universities, nonprofits, and government departments and agencies. Crill speaks and writes on how to manage change and reinvent yourself, your life, and your business. After losing her husband to cancer and following her family's boring advice, Linda makes a rebellious, spur-of-the-moment decision: she trades her corporate suits for motorcycle leathers and commits herself to a 2,500-mile road trip down America's Pacific Northwest coast on a Harley. The only problem is that she doesn't know how to ride and has only thirty days to learn. By heading to the unknown—the blind curve—she faces her fears, tests old beliefs, and discovers not only a broader horizon of possibilities to use in building the next phase of her life but also the fuel to make it happen. Check this book out and follow Linda on her enlightening journey.

These books and many more will be hitting the shelves soon so come see what suits you. James Bryce said "The worth of a book is to be measured by what you can carry away from it".

The library will no longer be opened on Saturdays. We are open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. You may reach us at (432) 264-2260 and our fax number is (432) 264-2263.



MONICA MARTINEZ



Industry advances outpace regulators' update ability

MIDLAND (AP) - Texas' oil and gas industry is outrunning the Railroad Commission's ability to oversee its booming drilling activity and technological advances in horizontal drilling.

From rules governing spacing and production allowables to production sharing and allocating production, the state agency has been challenged to update rules so operators can continue their work.

Production sharing and allocation wells and the field rules governing the Spraberry Trend, Phantom Wolfcamp and Wolfbone Trend were the focus of Austin Attorney Brian Sullivan's talk as he

addressed the Permian Basin Petroleum Association's membership luncheon this week.

Led by efforts from Pioneer Natural Resources, Sullivan said the Railroad Commission in 2014 updates Spraberry Trend rules to accommodate the growth of horizontal drilling.

"The problem is the Delaware Basin," home to the Phantom and Wolfbone fields is so new, "the Railroad Commission has not had a chance, and operators have not had a chance, to develop rational rules," he said.

The ability to drill longer and longer laterals in a horizontal well have

also created challenges. Allocation wells "have become an issue because certain organizations have made it an issue," said Sullivan.

A licensed petroleum engineer and former Railroad Commission counsel, Sullivan said that, to his mind, it's clear the right to drill "is in Texas law."

The question of "how to properly pay people is the issue," he said, especially as development of resource plays has grown in the state.

"In order to develop a resource play well, if you don't drill long enough to expose the reservoir, you won't make money. A one-mile lateral may not be enough, but a two-mile

lateral may be enough," he said. But that raises the question of how to pay land owners.

"All of us would like for the Texas Legislature to enact legislation that says 'If you drill an allo-

cation well and you pay a certain way, it's the right way,'" he said, citing similar legislation in Oklahoma and Pennsylvania.

"Drilling an allocation well means there's not

as many drilling pads, operators use less water and recover more hydrocarbons," he said.

As of Feb. 1, 1,737 allocation well permits had been issued by the Railroad Commission.

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Buffaloes advance after comeback win

By DREW WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

HERMLEIGH — The Forsan Buffaloes (16-8, 12-2) staged an impressive comeback against the Hawley Bearcats (22-7, 11-3) Tuesday to advance to the next round of the playoffs.

The Buffaloes struggled early offensively and defensively, and were down 17-5 at the end of the first quarter. The Bearcats were dominant inside, particularly on the boards, and they were hitting their jump shots when they were forced to kick the ball back out.

"We started the game out with real good intensity, but we just couldn't get a basket to fall," Huckabee said. "We weren't getting rebounds off the boards, and I made some substitutions and finally got a mix that was working for us and got everybody's attitudes back and we settled down some."

In the second quarter, the Buffaloes finally found a rhythm. They started hitting shots, but their defense changed the game. The focus went to containing things on the inside and forcing Hawley to shoot from outside, which worked because of Hawley's inability to hit their 3-pointers.

"We came out and we changed up our defense a little bit, and it seemed to frustrate their offense," Huckabee said. "The guys did a great job of

changing what we were doing, being really malleable, and really turned it up."

Forsan got closer by halftime, and the third quarter started with Hawley's lead trimmed to 31-21. The 10-point Bearcats lead would disappear in a hurry, and an 8-0 run to start the quarter helped Forsan take control of the game and the momentum, eventually outscoring the Bearcats 16-3 in the third and taking a 37-34 lead into the fourth. The defense continued to lock down the paint, and Hawley missed every shot they attempted as all their points in the quarter came from the free throw line.

The fourth quarter saw both offenses stymied, and with just over a minute remaining, Forsan was holding onto a 39-37 lead. During the next Buffaloes possession, the Bearcats used the full-court press to force Forsan into a 10-second violation to get the ball for a chance to tie the game, but gave the ball right back on an offensive foul.

The Buffaloes inbounded



Herald photo/Drew Williams

The Forsan Buffaloes celebrate their new trophy after defeating Hawley 43-40.

and immediately beat the press, and senior Ian Park got an easy layup that extended their lead to four. Hawley answered with a 3-pointer, but with only 22 seconds left they were forced to foul, down 41-40. Forsan missed the front end of a one-and-one, but Hawley couldn't capitalize and turned the ball over on a drive to the basket.

With four seconds left, sophomore guard Garrett Evans

was fouled, and made both free throws to give his team a 43-40 lead. That lead would hold as Hawley couldn't get a quality shot off before the clock hit zero.

Evans and Park led the way for the Buffaloes. Evans had 17 points, most of which came in the paint by getting the Bearcats to bite on his pump fakes. Park finished with 13, including eight in the Buffaloes' game-changing third

quarter.

Forsan moves on to play the Smyer Bobcats (25-5, 12-0) Friday night in the next round of the playoffs.

"They've got a couple of pretty larges fellas in there, and they've got some great guards that handle the ball well. It's a great team with great coaching," Huckabee said. "They've been beating everybody pretty solidly, and we aim to change it."



TCU's Chauncey Collins, right, scored a career-high 29 points Tuesday night, but it wasn't enough to hold off Devon Thomas and Texas Tech. (Brad Tollefson/AP)

Tech makes history in win

By CARLOS SILVA Jr.
Associated Press

LUBBOCK, Texas — Texas Tech was looking to make history Tuesday night against TCU and did just that.

Thanks to career nights from Aaron Ross with 25 points and Zach Smith with 23, Texas Tech rallied for a 12-point halftime deficit and earned an 83-79 win over TCU on Tuesday night to notch its fifth straight Big 12 Conference victory for the first time in its 20-year stay

in the league.

"I'm really proud of how our kids competed tonight," Texas Tech coach Tubby Smith said. "We didn't have our best game, but a lot of it had to do with TCU coming in ready to play. We regrouped. And, in this league, nothing's easy and you have to come ready to play every night."

Texas Tech (18-9, 8-7), which has not reached the NCAA Tournament since 2007, last won five

See **TECH**, Page 13

No. 19 Baylor stumbles late in 66-60 loss to No. 2 Kansas



AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez

Kansas guard Wayne Selden Jr. (1) attempts to drive the baseline to the basket against Baylor's Johnathan Motley (5) in the first half of an NCAA college basketball game, Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016, in Waco, Texas.

WACO, Texas (AP) — No. 19 Baylor was better this time against Kansas.

Still not good enough to beat the second-ranked Jayhawks.

After taking the lead into halftime on Rico Gathers' first-ever 3-pointer and then going up by as many as eight points, the Bears stumbled down the stretch in a 66-60 loss Tuesday night that put Kansas a step closer to its 12th consecutive Big 12 title.

"I was proud of how we competed and played for about 36 minutes, and then I wish we could do that last 4 minutes over again," Bears coach Scott Drew said. "I don't think we executed as well as we'd like. We didn't rebound as well as we'd like down the stretch. But I think we've seen marked improvement from the first time we

See **BAYLOR**, Page 13

Benn scores twice in 3rd, Stars beat Jets to end 3-game skid

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) — Jamie Benn scored twice in the third period Tuesday night. It was another late goal that the Dallas Stars were talking about, though.

Benn got his 31st and 32nd goals of the season after Colton Sceviour scored a go-ahead goal in the Stars' 5-3 win over the Winnipeg Jets.

Dallas scored three times in the final period to end a three-game skid. Sceviour put Dallas up 3-2 12:29 into the third on a goal awarded after a video review showed the puck bounced off the in-net camera before ricocheting out.

"I thought the horn went off by accident," Sceviour said. "All of us were kind of looking at each other, we had good possession, kind of trying to figure out what happened. And we came to the bench and they told us it went in. I was more shocked than any-



(Trevor Hagan/The Canadian Press via AP)

"We have a confident habit," Klingberg said. "If we just stick to our game, we will win the game."

Mark Scheifele scored in the third period for Winnipeg, and Alexander Burmistrov and Andrew Ladd also scored. Ondrej Pavelec made 22 saves, and the Jets lost their fourth straight.

Ladd is an unrestricted free agent at the end of the season and has been the target of rumors in-

goal."

The Stars' seventh-ranked power play went to work early in the first period and produced a result just 7 seconds into Paul Postma's interference minor. Tyler Seguin directed a low shot on goal, but the puck caromed off the skate of Dustin Byfuglien and onto the stick of Spezza, who fired his 19th past Pavelec for the

See **STARS**, Page 13

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2608 Alamesa Dr, comprised of four lots located in a Single-Family (SF-2) Dwelling Zoning District totaling 0.608 of an acre tract at the northeast intersection of Alamesa Dr. and Boulder Dr. More specifically, this tract occupies Lots 31-34 in Block 3 of the Wasson Place addition in southwest Big Spring.

#8978 February 24, 2016

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#8975 February 21 - March 2, 2016

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4	5	6	9	2	1	8	7	3
9	8	2	7	3	5	1	4	6
3	1	7	6	4	8	9	5	2
8	2	4	1	9	6	5	3	7
1	6	9	3	5	7	4	2	8
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Tomorrow's Horoscope



HOLIDAY MATHIS

It's out with the old as the sun waves goodbye to the Pisces realm and bursts into the fiery sign of new birth. The Aries ram is the animal of spring, the symbol of fresh hope, purity and potential. Is your mind starting to fill with ideas about what you'd like to see out of the new season? There's a buzzing sense of possibility in the air.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Humor is magic. If you don't have enough laughter in your life, you don't have enough magic. The funny people you know are golden treasures, and you will treat them as such because you're an emotional genius.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Social graces are so much more important than they seem. Reach out to that shy

person. It's not that big of a deal for you, but it will be huge in the other person's lens.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Go ahead and orient yourself to your own needs. This isn't the least bit selfish, you know. It's actually smart, and you're doing someone else a favor by providing for yourself.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you didn't make the kind of impression you wanted to make on someone, you'll get a second chance. So think about it this time -- exactly what are you going for?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The talkers will annoy you. It's because this isn't your nature. You can't see the point in talking a good game. In fact, you prefer not to talk at all as you get down to whatever it is you need to do to produce your deliverables.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The other person clearly isn't asking what can be done

to help you out. Maybe it's because you're so self-sufficient. Anyway, if you want help, you're going to have to ask directly for exactly what you need.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have the best ideas, and perhaps you'll have more of these ideas than others know what to do with. Keep track. Write things down and you can figure out your presentation later.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Have you gotten away from the basics? Food, water, rest, warmth -- and, of course, love. Check each box. You'll be surprised how much better things go when you are, for instance, properly hydrated.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Stress isn't attractive or interesting to others. That's why you never lead with how "stressed out" you are, even if it happens to be true. Being fun is harder than being anxious, but you

make the effort and get the payoff, too.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Don't accept the pressure someone is putting on you. For the pressure to be real, you both have to agree to it. Don't agree and it goes away. It's really as simple as that.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The one who says sorry is actually testing the waters. Listen between the lines. Is this an apology or a way to find out where the boundaries are?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Romance, for all its beauty, also has the effect of threatening your comfort zone. You're grappling with this in your mind, trying to figure out how far you're willing to stray from the pleasantness you're used to.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (February 24). You don't have to take physical risks to prove that you're brave. Yours

is a different sort of courage. You're willing to let someone know you. You're willing to be vulnerable, and to be bad at things for the sake of your own learning and development. Passionate love and popularity are part of your cosmic birthday gift. Capricorn and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 16, 27, 38 and 44.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "After five years with an incredible woman, I'm back at this place again and I can hardly believe it. Woody Allen says it best in 'Annie Hall': Love fades. At this point, there is a lot of research that backs this idea up.

"Yep, I cheated, she left, and now I'm wondering if I'm ever going to be in it for the long haul again. This is one I shouldn't have let go, but I lost the feeling and then I messed up. I definitely want her back, but truthfully,

ly, won't this scenario just repeat somewhere further down the line? What is the point, pray tell? It doesn't help that I'm a Sagittarius and she is a Leo."

Gotcha. The wandering Sagittarius and the royal lioness -- two fire signs and a stellar match -- but once her Leo pride has been wounded there's no going back to the way things were. You can start from scratch and rebuild trust over time. Or have you considered seeking love with someone who wants an open arrangement? Perhaps you're just not suited for the traditional model at this time in your life. One thing you definitely have going for you is that you seem to really know yourself and have a realistic view of your relationships.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I've been seeing a very nice man for more than a year. We are both in our late 50s and divorced. He is affectionate and kind, and I love him quite a lot. He doesn't have any of the obvious problems -- money, drugs or alcohol, but one thing bothers me a lot. He likes to wear women's thigh-high stockings. He started wearing the stockings near the end of his previous marriage. His ex wouldn't wear them, so he decided to try them himself and ended up liking them a lot. He says they give him a lot of pleasure and make him feel sexy. He was

upfront about it early in our relationship, and I said I didn't think it would be a problem. He likes wearing them around the house and in public under his pants. He doesn't want his friends and co-workers to know. He's not a cross-dresser or anything like that. It's just the stockings.

The problem is, I haven't been able to accept it as well as I thought I could. I wear the stockings for him, which pleases him a lot, but he still wants to wear them, too. He agreed to put them on only once a week until I adjusted, but now he says he's getting frustrated. I'm resist-

ing. I've told him I don't see this as very manly behavior. He says he feels a need to express his feminine side. I don't want to lose him, but I'm not sure how to deal with this. Can you help me? -- Thigh High in Confusion

Dear Confusion: If your boyfriend derives sexual satisfaction from wearing women's stockings, he is a cross-dresser, even though he may not wear the whole ensemble. We are glad he was upfront about it, but you need to educate yourself on the subject, so you can decide how tolerant you can be. Cross-dressing does not mean that

your boyfriend is gay (most cross-dressers are not) or that he plans to change his sexual identity (not likely). The stockings may be as far as it ever goes. Check out tri-ess.org for information and support -- and please don't judge the book by its cover. He's still the man you fell for.

Dear Annie: I'd like to weigh in on the letter from "Wondering in Pennsylvania," who asked how to have a surprise wedding as part of a picnic.

My husband and I had a surprise wedding in the large backyard of a home we had just purchased. We sent invitations inviting

everyone to a picnic, claiming that we were recently married. The invitations were artist-drawn, and we specified that the recipients' presence was all that was required, which took everyone off the hook of bringing gifts or food. We hired a caterer, parking attendants, a cleanup crew and an officiant, and did all of the decorating ourselves.

It was a huge hit, and people still mention how lovely it was. Even my mother didn't know there was going to be an actual wedding until the last minute. That was 29 years ago. Tell "Wondering" that it can be done. -- A.

Dear A.: We like that you handled all of the details on your own and didn't expect the guests to bring their own food. Bravo.

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/AskAnnies](https://www.facebook.com/AskAnnies). 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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Obligatory Finesse

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

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

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

SOUTH
♠ A Q 4
♥ 10 7 5
♦ Q 8 6 2
♣ J 10 7

The bidding:
East 1♣ South Pass West Pass North Dble
Pass 1 NT Pass 2 NT
Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — eight of spades.
The obligatory finesse is a play you make because there is no other choice. Its chance of success is normally not very good; rather, it is chosen because no other legitimate line of play is available.

Consider this deal where declarer must play carefully to make three notrump. First, let's say South wins the eight of spades with the queen and leads a low diamond to the king, losing to East's ace. East forces out the ace of spades, establishing his suit. South can now develop an extra diamond trick by playing the queen

and another diamond, but this gives him only eight tricks, and he goes down one.

This line of play is not correct, however. Given the bidding, South should expect this result, so he should seek another approach. His only real chance for the contract lies in making three diamond tricks, and how he tackles the suit to accomplish this is where the obligatory finesse comes in.

Declarer sees 26 points between his own hand and dummy, so he knows East has at most 14 points for his opening bid. East is thus marked with the ace of diamonds, and South should shape his play to take advantage of this knowledge.

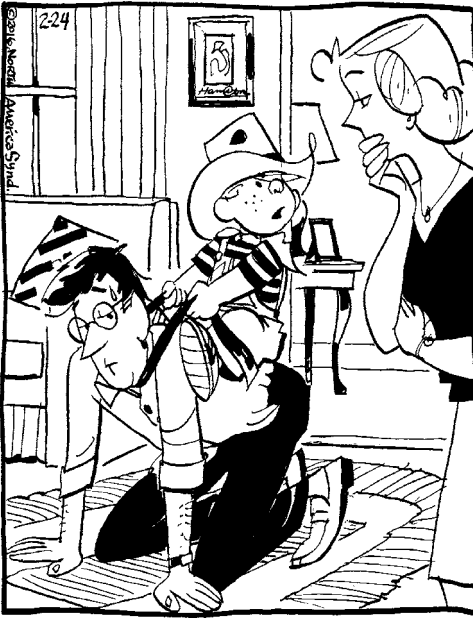
Obviously, if he leads a diamond to the king and East takes the ace, it becomes impossible to win three diamond tricks. Instead, South should try to lose a trick to the ace without sacrificing a high diamond. This can be accomplished only if East started with the doubleton ace.

Accordingly, after taking the king of spades with the ace at trick one, South should cross to dummy with a club and return a low diamond, winning East's nine with the queen. He then continues with a diamond and ducks whatever card West plays. This is the obligatory finesse. As it happens, East is forced to win the trick with the ace, and declarer acquires his ninth trick.

Tomorrow: It all adds up to 13.

Table with 30 columns (KMID, UNI, KPEJ, KOSA, KTLT, KWES, KMLM, KPBT, KWWT, KWES2, WTBS, TNT, ESPN, ESPN2, FSN, USA, A&E, DISC) and 24 rows of TV listings.

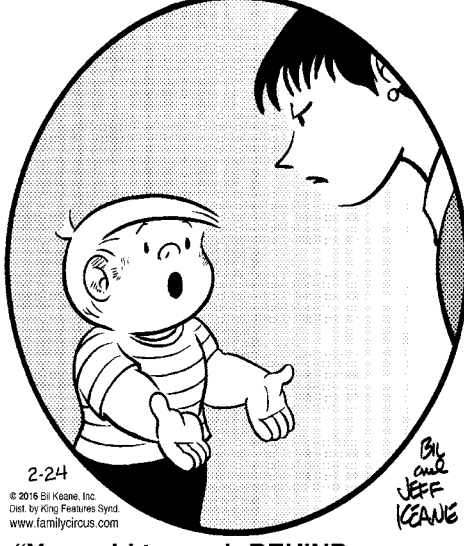
DENNIS THE MENACE



"I THINK IT'S TIME TO PUT DAD 'OUT TO PASTURE!'"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"You said to wash BEHIND my ears. You didn't say anything about in FRONT of them."

HAGAR



YOU WERE RIGHT! RAIDING THE ROYAL WEDDING WAS WORTH THE RISK! LOOK AT THESE GIFTS!



LOOK AT THIS CAKE!

BC



I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M DOING THIS.

WIZARD OF ID



HERE'S TO PREPAREDNESS

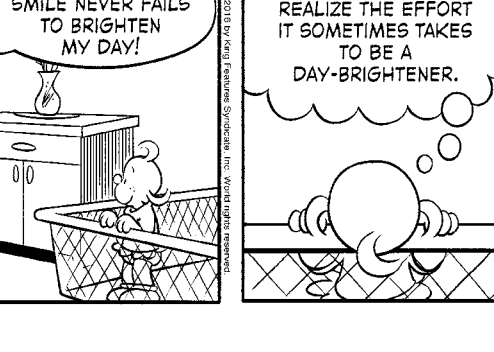
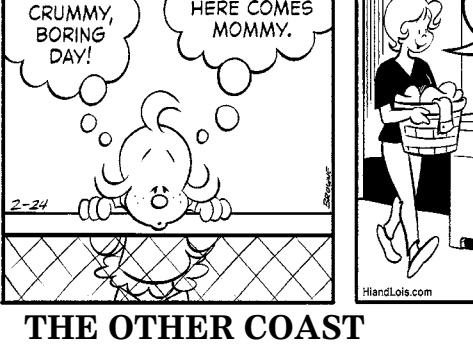
AGNES



IT'S A SELF PORTRAIT. OF WHO?!

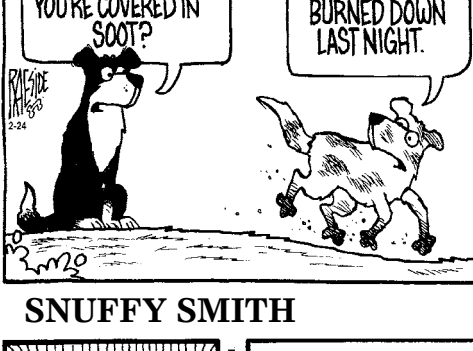
CRITICS. AT LEAST YOU CAN TELL I'M A CRITIC.

HI AND LOIS



PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE THE EFFORT IT SOMETIMES TAKES TO BE A DAY-BRIGHTENER.

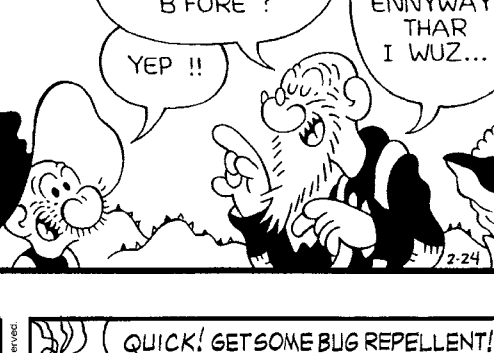
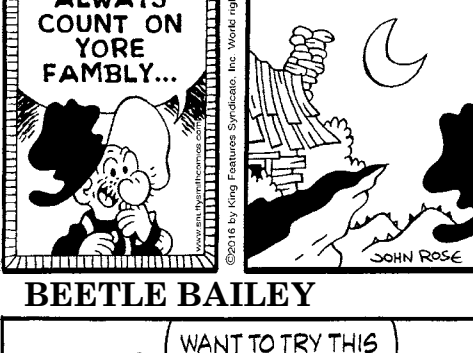
THE OTHER COAST



NOBODY WAS HURT, BUT I LOST EVERYTHING. MY DAD IS DEALING WITH THE INSURANCE COMPANY RIGHT NOW.

THAT'S RIGHT, WE LOST A STINKY BLANKET, A SQUEAKY BONE AND A FAVORITE STICK.

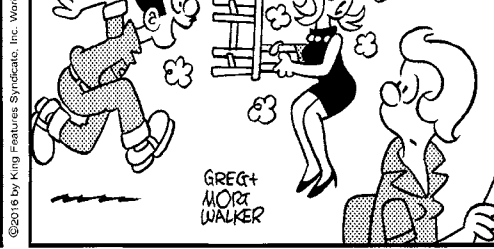
SNUFFY SMITH



T'DRIVE YA CRAZY !!

OH, WELL, ENNYWAY, THAR I WUZ...

BEEBLE BAILY



WANT TO TRY THIS NEW PERFUME?

QUICK! GET SOME BUG REPELLENT!

This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 2016. There are 311 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 24, 1868, the U.S. House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate. On this date: In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued an edict outlining his calendar reforms. (The Gregorian Calendar is the calendar in general use today.) In 1803, in its Marbury v. Madison decision, the Supreme Court established judicial review of the constitutionality of statutes. In 1912, the American Jewish women's organization Hadassah was founded in New York City. In 1920, the German Workers Party, which later became the Nazi Party, met in Munich to adopt its platform. In 1938, the first nylon bristle toothbrush, manufactured by DuPont under the name "Dr. West's Miracle Toothbrush," went on sale.

In 1946, Argentinian men went to the polls to elect Juan D. Peron their president. In 1955, the Cole Porter musical "Silk Stockings" opened at the Imperial Theater on Broadway. In 1966, Kwame Nkrumah, the first president of Ghana, was overthrown in a military coup while he was visiting Beijing; he was replaced by Joseph Arthur Ankrach. In 1975, the Congressional Budget Office, charged with providing independent analyses of budgetary and economic issues, began operating under its first director, Alice Rivlin. In 1986, the Supreme Court struck down, 6-3, an Indianapolis ordinance that would have allowed women injured by someone who had seen or read pornographic material to sue the maker or seller of that material. In 1988, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a \$150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against Hustler magazine and its publisher, Larry Flynt. In 1996, Cuba downed two small American planes operated by the group Brothers to the Rescue that it claimed were violating Cuban airspace; all four pilots were killed. Ten years ago: Suicide bombers attempted to drive explo-

sive-packed cars into the world's largest oil processing facility in Saudi Arabia, but were foiled by guards who opened fire, detonating both vehicles; al-Qaida claimed responsibility. Death claimed actors Don Knotts in Los Angeles and Dennis Weaver in Ridgway, Colorado; both were 81. Five years ago: Discovery, the world's most traveled spaceship, thundered into orbit for the final time, heading toward the International Space Station on a journey marking the beginning of the end of the shuttle era.

Thought for Today: "It is my feeling that Time ripens all things; with Time all things are revealed; Time is the father of truth." Francois Rabelais, 16th century French writer and physician.

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Answer to previous puzzle grid with words like BOLTS, CAFE, PAST, INAWAY, ALEX, ANTI, NOLITE, NOTI, ITAL, GRANDTOTAL, DIRTY, EIEI, EVICTS, ITSODD, BASIN, DAWN, DRUG, AFTER, EXIT, VOYOS, URGE, SIGHT, SIGH, LEGS, EATEN, ABLEST, SHOWME, APR, TALL, OATH, ABOVE, ITALL, UNTO, CAVE, CAMEO, NOEL, USER, KLEIN, DIRIE, PERT, SENSE.

Newsday Crossword

PARTY TIME by Carolyn Stewart Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS: 1 Makeovers, 6 Get married, 9 Conductor's wand, 14 Vote in, 15 Wrath, 16 Escape from, 17 Talking talent, 19 Parts of ears, 20 Word of lament, 21 If nothing else, 23 __ State (California), 26 Hang around, 27 Burden, 28 Shower gel alternative, 34 One of a DC 100, 35 Last word of a New Year's song, 36 Gadget, 37 Letter before tau, 39 __ loss for words, 41 Show with sopranos, 42 Noble principles, 44 Bloke, 46 Get the __ of the land, 47 Ask for donations, 49 Pigeon shelter, 50 Suspicious, 51 On cloud nine, 53 Grade schooler's shoebox project, 57 Long-tailed Oz visitor, 58 Fort Knox bar, 59 Computer audio accessory, 64 Telegraph inventor, 65 Goof up, 66 Aladdin's pal, 67 Vile smile, 68 Comprehend, 69 Pop singer __ John, 70 Home for hatchlings, 71 Posh, 72 New Mexico art colony, 73 Spread rumors, 74 New York lake, 75 Fencing thrusts, 76 Incomplete, as details, 79 Santa __, CA, 80 Taste of tea, 81 Spotted wildcat, 82 Make fizzy, 83 Hoped strongly, 84 Argue the issues, 85 Clumsy dive, 86 Natural balm, 87 Brass instrument, 88 Some Keats poems, 89 Home for hatchlings, 90 Posh, 91 New Mexico art colony, 92 Spread rumors, 93 New York lake, 94 Fencing thrusts, 95 Incomplete, as details, 96 Santa __, CA, 97 Taste of tea, 98 Spotted wildcat, 99 Make fizzy, 100 Hoped strongly, 101 The ocean, essentially, 102 Grad school dogs, 103 Triumphant shout, 104 Pretense, 105 Had food delivered, 106 Clears the board, 107 Call off, 108 Skier's hotel, 109 Darkens, 110 Aware of, 111 Fairy-tale fiend, 112 Floated upward, 113 Entice, 114 Mine rock, 115 Pantry pest, 116 Spanish river, 117 Family room.

13x13 crossword grid with numbers 1-69.

TECH

Continued from Page 7

consecutive conference games during the 1995-96 season when it won the Southwest Conference title.

Chauncey Collins and Brandon Parrish netted 39 and 19 points, respectively, for the Horned Frogs (11-17, 2-13).

Despite trailing by 12 at halftime, the Red Raiders did not come out deflated, jumping out to a 14-2 game-changing run to knot things up at 49-49 with 14:38 to play in the second half.

"I just felt like I just needed to keep being aggressive," said Smith, who went 7 of 10 from the free-throw line. "They put me on the line, and I was able to make some shots today."

Texas Tech and TCU would trade the lead more than 10 times before the Red Raiders took control late.

Ross drained a pair of free throws and Justin Gray recorded a steal and

converted 3-point play to give Texas Tech a 65-60 lead with less than nine minutes left in the second half.

"Halftime, Coach wanted to pound the ball inside," said Ross, who made all 12 of his free throws. "So we started doing that and they got into foul trouble. So, we just continued with it."

From that point on, the Red Raiders held on — though they watched their lead slip to 80-78 with less than a minute remaining before Smith had a basket then a free throw to ensure the win.

"Every time I go in at halftime, I say, 'Fellas, the most insignificant score in basketball, or in sports, is a halftime score,'" Tubby Smith said. "We came out in the second half and changed our defense and became a little more aggressive and played denial defense to guard the 3-point line."

It didn't look like Texas Tech stood much of a chance at the end of the first half.

Following a 3-pointer by Ross, the Red Raiders clung to a 23-22 lead before TCU went on a mini-run in the

first half.

TCU closed out strong by outscoring Texas Tech 14-6, including 10 free throws, in the final 4:30 to take a 47-35 advantage into halftime.

At the break, TCU shot 67 percent (7 of 11) from the 3-point line and enjoyed its best first-half shooting performance at 56 percent (15 of 27) from the perimeter.

"We played really, really well," TCU coach Trent Johnson said. "Texas Tech is a very good basketball team. They have a lot of confidence in close games. We had a couple of bad possessions down the stretch, but I can't fault their effort, I can't fault their execution. That's just the way it goes sometimes, you don't get breaks."



Malique Trent, left, who scored 15, and TCU couldn't steal a road win from Devaughtah Williams and Tech. (Brad Tollefson/AP)

BAYLOR

Continued from Page 7

played them."

The Jayhawks (24-4, 12-3) had three consecutive scores after offensive rebounds in their late go-ahead stretch.

Landen Lucas had the tiebreaking layup with 3:03 left after one of his four rebounds in that closing span. Wayne Selden, who finished with six points, had four of those in the final 2 1/2 minutes, along with two offensive rebounds in that span that led to points.

"All the credit to them. They fought hard at the end of the game. ... They're tough," said Al Freeman, who led Baylor with 17 points. "But there's going to be games like this for us the rest of the year, especially this time of the year when every game matters. We're going to bring that toughness, too."

Baylor (20-8, 9-6) lost its Big 12 opener 102-74 at Kansas on Jan. 2, when the Jayhawks were also No. 2.

"There are no moral victories, but I like how we're headed in the right direction," Drew said.

Frank Mason III had 19 points and Perry Ellis added 15 for Kansas, which has a two-game lead over No. 14 West Virginia in the Big 12 standings with three

league games remaining. Graham had 11 points and Lucas had 10 rebounds to go with his five points.

The Jayhawks host Texas Tech on Saturday with a chance to guarantee at least a share of the Big 12 title.

"That's big for us," Lucas said. "About a month ago, a lot of people were doubting us and what-not."

Taurean Prince added 12 points for Baylor.

The Bears were ahead 45-37, which would equal their largest lead, on Ish Wainright's 3-pointer on a possession set up when he had a steal — basically taking the ball out of Jamari Traylor's hands and getting the ball back after a couple of passes.

There were eight ties and 17 lead changes Tuesday night, along with a span of more than 3 1/2 minutes when neither team scored.

Freeman's 3 with 8:05 left put the Bears up 52-51, and their next score was another Freeman 3 with 4:11 left to put them back ahead after Ma-

son's jumper had just ended a long scoring drought by Kansas.

Baylor led 36-33 at halftime on the buzzer-beating 3-pointer from Gathers, their 6-foot-8 senior forward whose first career attempt from beyond the arc came on his 836th shot in his 135th game. He made the shot from the corner in front of the Kansas bench after a court-length pass from Wainright.

Gathers was still excitedly pounding his chest going into locker room after knocking down someone who was standing at the entrance to the tunnel.

WINLESS AGAINST THE BEST

Baylor is 0-16 all-time against the No. 1 or No. 2 teams, including 0-3 this season. They lost to then-No. 1 Oklahoma at home on Jan. 23.

BETTER ON ROAD After losing three straight Big 12 road games, the Jayhawks have won their last four as part of an eight-game winning streak overall.

TIP-INS Kansas: The Jay-

hawks made missed six of their first seven shots, but made 11 of their next 18 before halftime. They shot 50 percent (23 of 46) in the game. ... Kansas has a 26-4 series lead, and won seven straight over Baylor. ... The Jayhawks have reached 24 wins for the 11th consecutive season.

Baylor: The Bears had been 20-0 this season when leading at any point after halftime. ... Of their 21 losses the past two years, 15 have been away from home and 14 were to ranked teams.

STARS

Continued from Page 7

1-0 lead at 7:15.

The Jets tied the game with their first shot on goal of the second period. Drew Stafford's initial shot was blocked in front of Niemi, but the puck squirted onto Burmistrov's stick, and he shoveled a backhand shot to tie the game at 3:28. The assist was the 200th of Stafford's career.

Dallas restored their lead at 8:14 when Nichushkin wired home a

shot from in close after picking up his own rebound.

A pair of 2-on-1 rushes by the Jets while short-handed resulted in the tying goal late in the second.

The Stars thwarted the first rush from Byfuglien and Joel Armia thanks to an impressive stick check by Klingberg. But 20 seconds later the Jets were back, this time with Byfuglien, who fed Ladd in front to make it 2-2 at 16:14.

"We made some mistakes that we won't ... that we will grow out of," Jets coach Paul Maurice said.

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Trump notches win in Nevada caucuses

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Notching three in a row, Donald Trump decisively won Nevada's Republican caucuses Tuesday as Marco Rubio bid to elbow out Ted Cruz for second place in an increasingly urgent effort to slam the brakes on the Trump juggernaut.

Trump now can claim victories in the West, the South and Northeast — a testament to his broad appeal among the mad-as-hell voters making their voices heard in the 2016 presidential race. His rivals are running out of time to stop him.

"We're winning, winning, winning the country," Trump declared. "Soon, the country is going to start winning, winning, winning."

Ticking off a list of upcoming primary states where he's leading in preference polls, Trump predicted he'll soon be able to claim the GOP nomination. "It's going to be an amazing two months," he told a raucous crowd at a Las Vegas casino. "We might not even need the two months, folks, to be honest."

Entrance polls captured the sentiment propelling Trump's insurgent campaign: Six in 10 caucus goers said they were angry with



AP photo
Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump addresses a large crowd in Las Vegas, Nev. Monday.

the way the government is working, and Trump got about half of them.

With time running out, Nevada was a critical test for Rubio and Cruz, the two senators battling to emerge as the clear alternative to the GOP front-runner. Rubio was out to prove he can build on recent momentum, while Cruz was looking for a spark to help him recover from a particularly rocky stretch in his campaign.

Lagging far behind the two senators in the Nevada vote were Ohio Gov. John Kasich and

retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson.

Rubio, already campaigning in Michigan as caucus results rolled in, sought to project confidence that he can consolidate the non-Trump voters who have been splintering among an assortment of GOP candidates, saying "we have incredible room to grow."

But after finishing third in Iowa, fifth in New Hampshire and second in South Carolina, Rubio needs a win soon to support the idea he can beat Trump.

Cruz, a fiery conserva-

tive popular among voters on the GOP's right, finished a disappointing third in South Carolina after spending much of the past two weeks denying charges of dishonest campaign tactics and defending his integrity. Another disappointing finish in Nevada would raise new questions about his viability heading into a crucial batch of Super Tuesday states on March 1.

In a more muted address across town, Cruz gave Trump his due for winning in Nevada and then pressed the argument that he's the only

candidate who can stop the billionaire businessman.

Harking back to own win in Iowa's leadoff caucuses, Cruz told supporters "the only campaign that has defeated Donald Trump is this campaign."

Then, looking for opportunities that lie ahead in his home state of Texas and elsewhere, he added: "One week from today will be the most important night of this campaign: Super Tuesday."

The election calendar suggests that if Trump's rivals don't slow him by mid-March, they may not ever. Trump swept all of South Carolina's 50 delegates, giving him a total of 67 compared to Cruz and Rubio who have 11 and 10, respectively. There were 30 delegates at stake in Nevada, and a whopping 595 available one week later on Super Tuesday.

Trump, in his victory speech, dismissed the notion that if more GOP candidates drop out of the race, they'll coalesce around an alternative.

"They keep forgetting that when people drop out, we're going to get a lot of votes," he said.

Nevada's caucusing played out in schools, community centers and places of worship across

the state — a process that's been chaotic in the past.

Count Tracy Brigida, fed up after her husband was laid off from his mining job, among those caucusing for Trump.

"I want a businessman to run the biggest business in the world," Brigida said as she caucused at a Las Vegas high school.

Jeremy Haight drove straight from his marketing job to caucus for Marco Rubio at the same high school.

"He's the most level-headed. He hasn't said anything stupid or crazy ... which is really what I think the country needs," Haight said.

It was Cruz for Megan Ortega, who declared: "He's consistent, he's bold and he's a class act."

Preliminary results of the entrance poll found that about 3 in 10 early caucus goers said the quality that mattered most to them in choosing a candidate was that he shares their values, slightly more than the quarter who said they want a candidate who can win in November. About a quarter said they want a candidate who can bring change. About 2 in 10 want one who "tells it like it is."



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