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BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017



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District 4 election only agenda item for city council meeting tonight

By LYNDEL MOODY
 Staff Writer

The Big Spring City Council is expected to call for the election to fill the vacancy of the District 4 position tonight during a specially called meeting.

During the council's last meeting, Big Spring Mayor Larry McLellan read a letter of resignation from District 4 representative Steve Waggoner, who is moving out of the city. Waggoner was not in attendance at the meeting.

Council members will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the city council chambers located at 307 E. 4th St. Holding the special election for District 4 on the same

ballot with the May 6 regular city council races should save the city thousands of dollars, according to McLellan.

Open filing to run as a candidate for the District 4 seat is expected to begin soon. Candidates must live in the city of Big Spring but do not have to live in the district they wish to represent. Anyone wishing to file can pick up candidacy papers at city hall.

As for the other two seats up on the city council this election cycle, only one drew a race so far. Two candidates filed for District 1: incumbent Raul Marquez and challenger Tracy Parker, city

officials reported Friday. For District 3, Terry McDaniel has thrown his hat into the race. At this time, he is the lone candidate as incumbent Justin Myers opted not to seek a second term.

Friday was the last official day to file papers for candidates to have their names listed on the ballot for May 6 municipal, school trustee elections. Residents have until 5 p.m. today to file the necessary paper work to run as a write-in candidate.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 235, or by e-mailing citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

Playoff season begins

File photo/Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring Steer Abel Clark goes for the net during a game held earlier this season. Both the Big Spring Steers and Forsan Buffaloes boys basketball teams head into playoff games tonight. Big Spring plays in Anson against Burnet with the game to begin at 8 p.m. Forsan heads to Colorado City for a match up against Haskell. The games will get underway at 7:30 p.m.



Downtown Garden Project growing



Jeremiah Peters hopes to turn this old building located at 203 N Runnels Sreet in Big Spring into a community garden and activity center, specifically focusing on helping the area's homeless.

By SANDRENA KONING
 Staff Writer

Jeremiah Peters, founder and creator of The Downtown Garden Project is starting up new projects to aide in his efforts to build a community garden and activity center.

Peters is organizing a clean-up event on March 11 and 12 starting around 9 or 10 a.m., until the donated dump truck needs to be returned. Volunteers are welcome to join the efforts. The Downtown Garden Project is a way to beautify the downtown area

through community involvement and pride.

"We're hoping for a scheduled clean up the week-end of March 10," Peters said. "Local artist Shawna Privett has helped us get a dump truck to load stuff in. She's helping us get that."

The project is trying to raise funds to help clean up asbestos inside of the building.

"We've thrown two events at the park to help the Downtown Garden Project, but neither event made enough money to even do any real clean up effort to the project," Peters said. "We have spent probably about \$8,000 on cleaning up the downtown garden.

Unfortunately some mysterious bags labeled asbestos showed up."

They are also trying to gather supplies for current projects, which include the murals that will cover the building.

"We're also trying to get materials to cover the front of the building, so people can add murals," Peters said. "The front and the sides. Ply-wood and 2x4s. We could probably use some soil, some dirt. We could use the topsoil."

The Big Spring Intermediate Art Club and art teacher Bianca Mireles have begun the first of several murals that will cover the interior and exterior of the building.

"There will be eight total, four on the outside and four on the inside," Peters said. "That's until we can really get enough funds to do like the whole building...that's the ultimate goal. It's going to look really cool."

Peters will continue teaming up with local artists and volunteers to add some vibrance to downtown and his building.

"We don't have set artists yet," Peters said. "I'm hoping Shawna will get to paint one and I'm hoping Bianca will get to paint one by herself without her students," Peters stated in reference to local artist Shawna Privett and Bianca Mireles. "So that would be three. If other artist want to step forward and help paint these that would be awesome."

Artists that are interested in painting a mural will need to bring their own supplies and materials. There is freedom of expression, within reason. Volunteers of all ages are welcome.

"They would have to pay for their own supplies,"

See **PROJECT**, Page 3

Find us online at:
www.bigspringherald.com






Troops consolidate gains south of Mosul

ABU SAIF, Iraq (AP) — Iraqi forces were consolidating their gains south of Mosul on Tuesday ahead of moving into the city's Islamic State-held western half, a military spokesman said, as civilians fled along the front line to government-controlled areas.

The remarks came on the third day of what is expected to be the definitive push to rout the Islamic State group from Iraq's second-largest city.

The spokesman of the Joint Military Operation Command, Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasool, told The Associated Press that nearly 123 square kilometers — about 47 square miles — have been taken south of Mosul since the new push started on Sunday.

The troops now fully control the strategic hill of Abu Saif overlooking the Mosul airport as well as the Hamam al-Alil intersection on the main highway into the city, Rasool said.

See **MOSUL**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Jerold Pat Spivey



Jerold Pat Spivey took his last breath on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 in Tucson, AZ where he spent his last days at the VA Hospice Center. He was 74.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Judi of 30 years, daughters Lois McDonald, Lori Gomez and her husband Victor, son Scott Reck and wife Crystal and sister Diana Bailey. He had 9 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death: Hack and Pat Spivey, his

parents, sister Lois Hammond, sons Kenneth Spivey and Michael Reck and Jimmy Bailey, brother in law.

Jerold aka Jerry, was born in Pryor, OK on June 8.

He was an Army Veteran and enjoyed a successful career with the Veterans Administration for more than 30 years.

He was a loving husband, father and friend. Known for his God given charisma and sense of humor, he will be missed and loved forever.

To leave a message visit www.adairfuneralhomes.com.

Paid obituary

Rafael "Ralph" Lopez, Jr



Rafael "Ralph" Lopez, Jr., 83, of Big Spring, passed away Sunday, February 19, 2017 at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Vigil service will be held at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral service will be at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born November 13, 1933 in Harlingen,

Texas. He had lived most of his life in Howard County. He worked at cotton compresses and had later worked for Robert Beall on his farm. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by one son: Fabian Lopez of Ft. Worth; one daughter: Dianne Lopez of Big Spring; one sister: Olivia Lopez of Harlingen; eight grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one son Ralph Lopez; a daughter Ninfa Jimenez; 15 brothers and sisters.

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

Angela "Angie" Castaneda

Angela "Angie" Castaneda, 56, of Big Spring, passed away, Sunday, February 19, 2017 at Midland Memorial Hospital. Vigil service will be held at 7:00 PM Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 AM Thursday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **KEVIN SALAZAR**, 20, of 407 W 5th Street was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **ASHLEY RENEE CARNEY**, 26, of 1107 Stanford Avenue was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **GABRIEL XAVIER CROSSMAN**, 20, of 3604 Boulder was arrested on warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility, no driver's license (when unlicensed) and two counts of failure to appear.
- **ASHLEE NICKOLE VILLA**, 18, of 1104 S Austin Street was arrested on a warrant from another agency.
- **JOSEPH MICHAEL GARZA**, 35, of 214 Tubbs Loop was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- **KENNETH LABRON MACLIN**, 59, was arrested on a warrant for theft of service (greater than \$100 but less than \$750).
- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 1000 block of N Main Street.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road, and the 1400 block of Lincoln Street.
- **BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported in the 4100 block of Dixon Street.
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 700 block of Ohio Street.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 1800 block of E FM 700 and the 1800 block of E FM 700.
- **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of FM 700 and Birdwell.

symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

- 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.

- Membership to the Big Spring Native American Association is open to the public. People interested in Native American culture are encouraged to find out more about the organization by calling Richard "Indio" Lesser at 432-935-0125,

Volunteer opportunities

- The Scenic Mountain Medical Center volunteer program is in need of volunteers. A variety of opportunities are open for members of the community. For more information, call Anita Cline at 268-4721.
- The Big Spring State Hospital Volunteer Services Council is in need of volunteers to fill a variety of needs to assist the hospital's patients. Applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at The Chalet, 115 E. Second St., Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. or at the Big Spring State Hospital Community Relations Department, 1901 N. Hwy 87, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers can assist with a variety of functions, including The Chalet Resale Shop, various fund-raisers and patient events. For more information, contact Dee Lindsey, Big Spring State Hospital Director of Community Relations, (432) 268-7535 or danielle.lindsey@dshs.state.tx.us
- Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to visit patients. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Beverly Grant at 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

Support Groups

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.
- This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers.
- For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will start Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek Fellowship located in the Spring Township Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.
- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

- **RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy)** a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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.
- 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.

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/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish 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

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

WEDNESDAY

- A free beginner's genealogy class will be offered Sunday, Feb. 26, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Borden County Event Center in Gail. Those attending should bring materials for taking notes and a laptop; wifi will be available for research. Also, bring information about births, deaths, and wedding dates of your parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, if known. Contact Lisa Mahler at bordencohistory@gmail.com to reserve a seat or to ask a question.
- The Howard County Fair needs volunteers to cross stitch squares for the annual quilt fundraiser. The theme for this year's quilt is "It's a Jungle Out There." You can pick up a square from Cheryl Joy at the Heritage Museum during regular hours Tuesday through Saturday. Call Suzanne Markwell at 214-256-1674 for more information.
- Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking
- Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first,

FRIDAY

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles.

Take Note

food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

The next sacking session will be at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 20 and 21 at the old Lakeview High School gym located at 1107 N.W. Seventh St. To get there, take Gregg Street north and turn left on Delaney, which is the block just past the Salvation Army retail store. Delaney turns into Seventh Street, you will go over the railroad tracks and the school is on the left.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost is \$8 per person.

Meetings

- The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Tuesday of each month a 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library.
- The Christensen-Tucker Post-2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 500 Driver Road. For more information, contact David Leonard, Post Commander, at 432-816-6004. All combat veterans of foreign wars are invited to come.
- The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the

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Trump denounces 'horrible' threats against Jewish centers

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Tuesday denounced recent threats against Jewish community centers as "horrible" and "painful." He said they are a "very sad reminder of the work that still must be done to root out hate and prejudice and evil."

Trump made the remarks after touring the newly

opened National Museum of African American History and Culture.

"This tour was a meaningful reminder of why we have to fight bigotry, intolerance and hatred in all of its very ugly forms," Trump said.

His comments about recent threats at Jewish community centers across the country marked the first time he had

directly addressed a wave of anti-Semitism and followed a more general White House denouncement of "hatred and hate-motivated violence."

That statement, earlier Tuesday, did not mention the community center incidents or Jews. Trump "has made it abundantly clear that these actions are unacceptable," that statement said.

The FBI said it is joining with the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division to investigate "possible civil rights violations in connection with threats" to the centers.

On Monday, Trump's daughter, Ivanka Trump, wrote on Twitter, "We must protect our houses of worship & religious centers," and

used the hashtag #JCC. She converted to Judaism ahead of her 2009 marriage to Jared Kushner. She joined her father at the African American museum tour.

The White House was criticized by Jewish groups after issuing an International Holocaust Remembrance Day statement last month that did not mention Jews.

Rome mayor supports taxi drivers striking against Uber

ROME (AP) — A weeklong strike by taxi drivers that has crippled transport in Rome, Milan and Turin is heating up, with cabbies marching through the eternal city to protest legislation they say will favor Uber and other car-hire services.

The strike has stranded tourists at Italy's main airports and train stations, complicated commutes and raised alarm about the Wednesday start of Milan fashion week, when cabs are in demand to shuttle fashionistas from show to show.

Riot police were keeping the peace outside parliament Tuesday and later lined a protest route through downtown Rome. The drivers say the legislation would help Uber's "irregular" inroads into Italy's rigidly regulated taxi industry. Supporters say Italians want greater choice in ride-sharing options.

Rome Mayor Virginia Raggi lent her support by visiting the protest Tuesday.

Austria approves US extradition for Ukrainian oligarch

VIENNA (AP) — An Austrian court on Tuesday approved a U.S. extradition request for a Ukrainian oligarch suspected of paying millions of dollars in bribes to Indian officials.

The court decision overturns a lower court ruling nearly two years ago against extraditing Dymitro Firtash. The judge then said that the U.S. move was at least partially politically motivated through links to political events in Ukraine, and not supported by sufficient evidence.

Extradition, however, is still not a certainty. Leo Levnaic-Iwanski, who headed the three-judge panel of the Upper State Court, said the final decision will be made by Justice Minister Wolfgang Brandstetter.

Firtash was indicted in Chicago by a U.S. grand jury in 2012 for allegedly paying off officials through U.S. banks in a failed attempt to secure titanium mining rights in India worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

Arrested a year later in Vienna, he posted bail of 125 million euros (more than \$130 million) shortly afterward, leaving him free but unable to leave Austria.

One of Ukraine's most influential businessmen, Firtash, 51, is well connected both in Moscow and with Ukrainian politicians opposed to the Kremlin. He earned millions of dollars in the natural gas trading sector under deposed pro-Russian Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich.

News reports tie him to business dealings with lobbyist Paul Manafort, an adviser to Donald Trump during his U.S. presidential election campaign. Manafort also advised Yanukovich during

a re-election bid.

Austrian Judge Christoph Bauer suggested in 2015 that the extradition request for Firtash was linked to attempts to weaken Yanukovich by stripping him of a key ally.

A court statement summarizing Tuesday's ruling focused on the U.S. accusations in overturning Bauer's decision, saying "the crimes Firtash is accused of have no political character."

Spanish police stop gas truck speeding against traffic

MADRID (AP) — Police in Barcelona fired gunshots Tuesday to stop a man who stole a butane gas truck and drove it at high speed against traffic on a city highway, ramming several cars along the way, a police spokeswoman said. Authorities ruled out terrorism as a motive.

Spain's interior minister, Juan Ignacio Zoido, said in a tweet that the man, a Swedish citizen, has a history of psychiatric conditions and added that "it has not been any terrorist act."

The 32-year-old suspect was arrested after police fired at the truck's wheels to stop it, regional police chief Joan Carles Molinero told reporters. The suspect is being questioned at a regional hospital where he was sent for a medical checkup, Molinero said.

A Brazilian woman suffered a leg injury when she was hit by one of several butane gas tanks that fell off the truck as the man tried to escape by speeding down a highway near the northeastern Spanish city's famed harbor.

PROJECT

Continued from Page 1

Peters said. "Artist choice, nothing obscene of course."

The location and idea for his project originated from the desire to help the community, as well as a way to feed local homeless and to provide them gainful employment, tending the garden grounds.

"I was looking for a building in downtown to do something to help out with something," Peters said. "So, I saw this building for sale and I inquired about it and I noticed it was already burned out and everything. So I inquired about it and they guy told me about the background of the building, that it had been burned down by homeless individuals trying to stay warm. That's what

gave me the idea of the Downtown Garden Project, to help them out. Help them out by hopefully one day being able to give them a job as groundskeeper of that place. To nurse, to watch everything grow and help everything grow."

If anyone is interested in volunteering, donating, or keeping up with the progress, contact the Downtown Garden Project or Jeremiah Peters

directly at 432-270-0290 or at their Facebook, www.facebook.com/thedowntowngardenproject/

The Downtown Garden Project is located at 203 N Runnels St Big Spring, Texas.

Contact Staff Writer Sandra Koning at 432-263-7331, ext. 234, or email reporter@big-springherald.com

MOSUL

Continued from Page 1

Elite Iraqi forces have moved to join the regular army and the security forces on the ground, he added, but wouldn't say what the next steps would entail.

Meanwhile, Iraqi state TV broadcast footage on Tuesday showing Iraqi fighter jets pounding IS positions, vehicles and personnel in Mosul's western half. The report didn't say when the airstrikes took place.

By noon Tuesday, about a dozen of civilians fled toward the security forces, holding up white flags.

"Come here!" Iraqi soldiers yelled from atop a

defensive dirt berm to a group of men, women and children. "They're scared," said Iraqi federal police soldier Hashem Ali, explaining that he's seen IS target fleeing civilians with sniper and mortar fire.

A group of soldiers moved down from the front to meet the civilians and search them before bringing them back to base.

Iraq's militarized federal police forces retook Abu Saif village, south of Mosul, from IS Monday night. Iraqi forces said they were targeted with at least four large car bombs in the small hilltop village, and as many as five other car bombs were destroyed with airstrikes.

Ibrahim Saleh, who fled to Abu Saif, said the small cluster of homes just a few hundred meters from the front line were still held by a handful of IS fighters. He said he fled after an airstrike destroyed his brother's home and the water his family stockpiled began to run low.

Once he reached Iraqi troops with about a dozen other people he began trying to call his wife and two children who he had left behind.

"I was afraid it would be too dangerous for them," Saleh, 27, explained. He said he didn't know if IS fighters would target him as he crossed or if the field was rigged with explosives.

Iraqi forces said Abu Saif was almost completely empty when they retook it, but as they push toward western Mosul they will begin encountering more civilians that will make it more difficult to use artillery and airstrikes to clear territory.

Consolidating the newest gains lays the groundwork for the operation's next stage: entering Mosul's more urban neighborhoods with old and narrow streets. A densely built-up area with a population of up to 750,000 people, it will likely contain booby traps and roadside bombs.

Mosul, which is now the last IS urban stronghold in Iraq, fell into the

hands of the extremists in the summer of 2014, when the Islamic State group captured large swaths of northern and western Iraq.

The battle for Mosul, backed by the U.S.-led coalition, has already driven the militants from the eastern half of the city, which is split by the Tigris River.

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Rafael "Ralph" Lopez, Jr., 83, passed away Sunday. Vigil service will be held at 7:00 PM tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Service will be at 10:00 AM Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will follow at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

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Storms, tornadoes damage dozens of homes in San Antonio area

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — At least two tornadoes have hit parts of San Antonio, damaging dozens of homes but causing no major injuries.

A National Weather Service survey team confirmed that a tornado struck a residential area about 5 miles north of downtown either late Sunday or early Monday.

San Antonio Fire Department spokesman Woody Woodward says 43 homes were damaged in the area, including three that collapsed. He says five minor injuries were reported.

Bexar (BAYR) County spokeswoman Monica Ramos says another 30 to 40 homes were damaged in two densely populated adjoining subdivisions about 10 miles northeast of downtown. The National Weather Service says the area was hit by a weak tornado.

Missing Texas dad of 3 is found in Ohio, met someone online

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — Police in Ohio say they've safely located a father of three whose mysterious disappearance from the San Antonio area spurred weeks of searching by his family and volunteers.

Police tell the Akron Beacon Journal a tip led them to 44-year-old Lee Arms near Bath Township. They say he tried to escape his life in Texas and ended up in Ohio after meeting someone online.

Police notified his family but wouldn't release details because Arms wasn't charged with a crime.

WOAI-TV in San Antonio reports Arms was located Thursday and his actions are under review by the Bexar County sheriff's office.

The Falls City, Texas, man vanished Feb. 5. His car was found still running and abandoned with its lights flashing, with his wallet and belongings still at the scene.

Texas child welfare agency adding 400-plus new staff members

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The head of Texas' troubled foster care system says emergency state funding helped hire 441 new employees in December and January, a two-thirds increase over the same period the previous year.

Department of Family and Protective Services Commissioner Hank Whitman told a state House committee on Monday that an additional around 250 staff should be hired soon. The Legislature approved nearly \$150 million for about 830 extra employees.

More than 100 children died in Texas child protective services last year alone, when a federal judge had already ruled that the system violated youngsters' constitutional rights.

A major House bill would make it easier for at-risk children to be adopted by relatives. Two others seek to increase case management privatization and separate Whitman's agency from the state's larger, omnibus health agency.

Man arrested for slaying of Caldwell County woman last year

LOCKHART, Texas (AP) — Central Texas authorities have arrested a 32-year-old man and charged him with murder for the slaying seven months ago of a 19-year-old woman.

Caldwell County Sheriff's officials say Rudy Herrera Jr. was arrested Saturday for the slaying of Emilia Juarez. Her body was found in a field in Lockhart in August.

An autopsy showed she had been strangled. Authorities have provided few immediate details, saying only that the arrest is based on interviews and evidence collected from the slaying scene.

2 dead in shooting during brawl at Houston strip club

HOUSTON (AP) — Two men have been fatally shot during a large fight at a Houston strip club.

Police say the brawl broke out just before 6 a.m. Sunday at a club called Fantasy Island and escalated to gunfire when two men pulled out guns and started shooting.

About 30 people witnessed the shootings. The two men were dead at the scene.

Supreme Court weighs case of Mexican boy slain across border



In this Feb. 14, 2017 photo, The Supreme Court is seen at day's end in Washington. The Supreme Court on Tuesday is hearing an appeal to a case involving a 2010 shooting of a Mexican boy by a U.S. Border Patrol Agent.

By **MARK SHERMAN**

Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — Sixty feet and the U.S.-Mexico border separated the unarmed, 15-year-old Mexican boy and the U.S. Border

Patrol agent who killed him with a gunshot to the head early on a June evening in 2010.

U.S. officials chose not to prosecute Agent Jesus Mesa Jr. and the Obama administration refused a request

to extradite him so that he could face criminal charges in Mexico. When the parents of Sergio Adrian Hernandez Guereca tried to sue Mesa in an American court for violating their son's rights, federal

judges dismissed their claims.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday is hearing the parents' appeal, which their lawyers say is their last hope for some

See **COURT**, Page 5

What to Watch: Abbott's NFL feud, foster care, abortion case

By **WILL WEISSERT**

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas governor was throwing verbal penalty flags: 15 yards for sports league overreach. Another 15 for pigskin meddling in state policy.

"The NFL needs to concentrate on playing football and get the heck out of politics," Gov. Greg Abbott crowed.

He was reacting last week to the NFL which, after Houston hosted a successful Super Bowl, issued a statement branding as possibly "inconsistent with our values" a proposed Texas law requiring transgender people to use the public bathroom corresponding to their birth certificate gender.

But for all his anti-football furry, Abbott didn't actually endorse the bill. He has repeatedly refrained from embracing a measure that would likely face a tough road through the Republican-controlled Legislature even if he were applauding it.

Top business organizations oppose the bill, fearing sports leagues and musicians canceling lucrative events like they did in North Carolina when that state passed a similar measure last year. Texas House Speaker Joe Straus has suggested it's bad for economic growth. And while state Senate overseer and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick has been its top cheerleader, the proposal has yet to even get a committee hearing — suggesting it could be a tougher upper chamber sale than previously thought.

Upping the political ante were 140-plus rock and Hollywood stars — from Sting to Emma Stone — signing a letter protesting the bill and hinting at future Texas boycotts. Abbott could have helped the proposal's chances but settled for NFL name-calling.

The governor may yet swoop in and fully bless the bathroom bill, but the clock is ticking. In the meantime, here are some other issues to watch this week in Texas politics:

FOSTER CARE FIXES

The House Human Services Committee on Mon-

day hears a series of bills aiming to improve Texas' troubled foster system, including a proposal making it easier for relatives to adopt at-risk children.

A federal judge has ruled that the system violated children's constitutional rights and Abbott made overhauling it a legislative priority, noting that 100-plus youngsters died in state custody last year alone. Lawmakers already approved around \$150 million to make emergency fixes, but lasting changes will come from bills filed in the House and similar measures working their way through the Senate.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD RULING

A federal judge has temporarily blocked Texas' attempt to boot Planned Parenthood from the state's Medicaid program over videos secretly recorded by

See **TEXAS**, Page 5

Special Day at Midway

Sunday, February 26

Midway Baptist Church will have

Michael Seay

preaching the morning and evening services.

Michael Seay is 57 years old. His wife Belinda and son Cody will be with him. The members of Midway are considering him to be their pastor.

After the morning service, the church will enjoy a pot luck meal. Following the meal there will be a question and answer session. Members will vote following the evening service.

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Sunday morning services begin at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday evening services begin at 6:00 p.m.

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COURT

Continued from Page 4

measure of justice.

The legal issues are different, but the Supreme Court case resembles the court battle over President Donald Trump's ban on travelers from seven majority Muslim nations in at least one sense. Courts examining both issues are weighing whether foreigners can have their day in U.S. courts.

Privacy experts also are watching the case because it could affect how courts treat global internet surveillance, particularly when foreigners are involved. It's there that the "Fourth Amendment question in Hernandez seems to matter most," George Washington University law professor Orin Kerr wrote on the Volokh Conspiracy blog.

The Fourth Amendment protects against unreasonable searches and seizures. Precisely what happened in the cement culvert that separates El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, is in dispute, although the competing accounts are legally irrelevant to the court's decision. Sergio's family says he was messing around with his friends that day, playing a game in which they ran down the culvert from the Mexican side and up the American side to touch an 18-foot fence. Mesa arrived on a bicycle and detained one person while the others scampered back across the culvert, actually the dry bed of the Rio Grande River. He then shot Sergio as the boy ran toward a pillar supporting an overhead rail bridge. Mesa and other agents who arrived on the scene rode away on their bikes, without checking on the boy or offering medical aid, the family says.

The Justice Department said Mesa was trying to stop "smugglers attempting an illegal border crossing" and fired his gun after he came under a barrage of rocks. Mesa argues in his court filings that Sergio was among the rock throwers.

But Robert Hilliard, the family's lawyer, said U.S. officials met privately with the parents to explain the decision not to prosecute Mesa and told them that their son had not thrown rocks. A cellphone video appears to show that Sergio was running and trying to hide before he was shot.

Had Sergio been shot a few feet to the north, he would have been on American soil and U.S. courts would be open to his family, Hilliard said. There's no dispute that Mesa was on the U.S. side of the border, he said.

If the family is kept out of court, Hilliard said, the Supreme Court will be saying "that 100 percent of the conduct of a domestic police officer in the United States is unconstrained by the U.S. Constitution." The family is seeking at least \$10 million, Hilliard has said.

The Trump administration, like its predecessor, is arguing that the location of Hernandez's death, in Mexico, should be the end of the story.

The right to sue "should not be extended to aliens injured abroad," the government said in its court filing. In addition, the government said the parents' claims under the Fourth Amendment should be dismissed because its protections against unreasonable search and seizure don't apply to non-citizens outside the U.S. The government also said Mesa should be shielded from liability for the shooting, even if the family could prove he violated other rights Sergio might be able to assert.

Judge Edward Prado of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals initially voted to allow the case to proceed because "if ever a case could be said to present an official abuse of power so arbitrary as to shock the conscience," Sergio's shooting appeared to be it. The full 5th Circuit later sided with Mesa.

Sergio's shooting was not an isolated border episode. Parents of a teenager killed in Nogales, Mexico, from gunshots fired across the border by a U.S. agent have filed a civil rights lawsuit that is being delayed until the Supreme Court rules.

The government's response to that shooting was notable because prosecutors are pursuing second-degree murder charges against Agent Lonnie Swartz.

In that episode, 16-year-old Jose Antonio Elena Rodriguez was hit about 10 times by shots fired across the border from Arizona. The Border Patrol has said Swartz was defending himself against rock-throwers.

The boy's family says he was not involved and was walking home after playing basketball with friends. Swartz is on leave and his trial is set for June. A 2013 report commissioned by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and written by an outside group faulted the agency for insufficiently investigating the 67 shootings that took place from 2010 to 2012 and questioned the use of force in some of those cases. The agency has said it has tightened its policies, particularly in response to rock-throwers.

Norma McCorvey, at center of landmark abortion ruling, dies



AP photo

In this April 26, 1989 file photo, Norma McCorvey, Jane Roe in the 1973 court case, left, and her attorney Gloria Allred hold hands as they leave the Supreme Court building in Washington after sitting in while the court listened to arguments in a Missouri abortion case. McCorvey died at an assisted living center in Katy, Texas on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017, said journalist Joshua Prager, who is working on a book about McCorvey and was with her and her family when she died. He said she died of heart failure.

By JAMIE STENGLE and DIANA HEIDGERD

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Norma McCorvey, whose legal challenge under the pseudonym "Jane Roe" led to the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision that legalized abortion but who later became an outspoken opponent of the procedure, has died. She was 69.

McCorvey died on Saturday at an assisted living center in Katy, Texas, said journalist Joshua Prager, who is working on a book about McCorvey and was with her and her family when she died. He said she died of heart failure and had been ill for some time.

McCorvey was 22, unmarried,

unemployed and pregnant for the third time in 1969 when she sought to have an abortion in Texas, where the procedure was illegal except to save a woman's life. The subsequent lawsuit, known as Roe v. Wade, led to the Supreme Court's 1973 ruling that established abortion rights, though by that time, McCorvey had given birth and given her daughter up for adoption.

Decades later, McCorvey underwent a conversion, becoming an evangelical Christian and joining the anti-abortion movement. A short time later, she underwent another religious conversion and became a Roman Catholic.

"I don't believe in abortion even in an extreme situation. If

the woman is impregnated by a rapist, it's still a child. You're not to act as your own God," she told The Associated Press in 1998.

After the court's ruling, McCorvey lived quietly for several years before revealing herself as Jane Roe in the 1980s. She also confessed to lying when she said the pregnancy was the result of rape.

Throughout the 1980s and into the 1990s, she remained an ardent supporter of abortion rights and worked for a time at a Dallas women's clinic where abortions were performed. Her 1994 autobiography, "I Am Roe: My Life, Roe v. Wade, and Freedom of Choice," included abortion-

See ROE, Page 6

STATE

Continued from Page 4

anti-abortion activists in 2015 — but a deadline now looms for another ruling.

The ouster had been set for last month until Austin-based U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks issued an injunction through Tuesday. Sparks is expected to either let the removal proceed or fully block it pending a trial.

Other federal courts already have stopped several states that tried similarly tried severing ties with Planned Parenthood. They too cited heavily edited videos claiming to show officials from the nation's largest abortion provider profiting from sales of fetal tissue for medical research.

ABORTION BILLS ADVANCE?

After the U.S. Supreme Court last summer struck down much of Texas tough 2013 abortion restrictions, top Republicans switched strategies. Rather than focusing on women's health, like in the past, they are now promoting proposed legislation focused on safeguarding fetuses.

Last week, the Texas Senate Health and Human Services Committee spent hours hearing support for and objections against three such proposals. One mostly bans a common second-trimester abortion procedure, "dilation and evacuation," and is similar to laws that federal courts blocked in Alabama, Oklahoma, Kansas and Louisiana. Another requires fetal remains to be buried or cremated, and the third bars fetal tissue donations, among other things.

The committee convenes again Wednesday and could pass all three bills on to the full Senate.

Abbott didn't make abortion restrictions a legislative priority, meaning no bills on the issue can be approved by the Legislature until 60 days into the session — still about three weeks away.

But passing the proposals quickly through committee nonetheless leaves them poised to speed through the full Senate as soon as possible.

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Utah's anesthesia abortion law unenforced

By HALLIE GOLDEN

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Last year, Utah enacted a first-in-the-nation law requiring that fetuses receive anesthesia or painkillers before elective abortions starting at 20 weeks gestation. Nine months later, the only licensed clinic providing those abortions in the state says no changes have been made in how doctors perform the procedures.

The handful of doctors who do the abortions at the clinic run by the Planned Parenthood Association of Utah are trying to comply with the law passed last May but it contained no specific guidance on how to do so, said Karrie Galloway, the group's CEO.

Dr. Leah Torres, one of five or six licensed physicians who perform these elective abortions at the clinic, said she went to legislators, the governor's office and the attorney general's office seeking an explanation on what treatment she's supposed to give. She said they gave her none and recommended she speak to a lawyer.

"I guess I'm breaking the law, but I don't know how to not break it because no one would tell me," Torres said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Dr. M. Sean Esplin, a Utah physician who performs these abortions in emergency situations, such as if the mother's life is at risk, which is not covered by the law, said a strict interpretation could force doctors to choose between two risky procedures: Administering anesthesia via a needle directly into the umbilical cord or giving women general anesthesia.

The law, he said, "is, in my opinion, a waste of our money and our time by someone who is trying to make a political statement and really not worried about what's best medically or what's best for people's health."

Utah Gov. Gary Herbert told the AP that physicians should try to get directions from the attorney general's office if they don't understand how to follow the law.

Dan Burton, a spokesman for the attorney general's office, said that the office does not "specifically regulate doctors in Utah."

He suggested asking Utah's Department of Health but the spokesman for that agency, Tom Hudachko, said it had no guidance for the doctors because the law "didn't task us with doing that."

Sixteen states ban abortions starting at about 20 weeks, according to Guttmacher Institute, a research organization that supports abortion rights. Utah allows such procedures, but last year passed the first law in the nation to require anesthesia or painkillers for fetuses after 20 weeks.

Montana lawmakers passed a similar law in 2015 requiring fetal anesthesia before surgeries, includ-



AP photo

This Aug. 25, 2015, file photo, Karrie Galloway, CEO of Planned Parenthood Action Council, laughs as the roar of the crowd drowns out her speech at the state Capitol in Salt Lake City. Galloway says her doctors are trying to comply with the law, but there is no clear guidance in the law or from state officials on how to do so.

ing abortions, performed after 20 or more weeks of gestation, but its Democratic governor vetoed the measure.

The Utah law has no definition of legal fetal anesthetics or whether doctors have complied if women receive anesthesia or painkillers during abortions with those drugs passing to the fetus.

Burton said the attorney general's office is unaware of any investigations into doctors for alleged violations. He said any violations would probably be punishable by fines of up to \$750.

The Republican lawmaker who sponsored the legislation, Sen. Curt Bramble, said in an interview that he did not know how the law is being implemented, but expects doctors to comply.

The most recent data available from Utah's health department show that doctors in the state performed 25 abortions at 21 weeks of gestation or later in 2015.

Dr. David Turok, another physician who provides the abortions at the Planned Parenthood clinic, said he tells his patients that research shows fetuses likely cannot feel pain prior to 24 weeks but believes he is probably following the law by giving

women moderate sedation.

Mary Taylor, the president of Pro-Life Utah, said her group supported the law but that she wishes it had been enacted with tougher language and that there was more enforcement so physicians would be more likely to comply.

Eric Scheidler of the national anti-abortion group Pro-Life Action League accused the clinic's doctors and Planned Parenthood of trying to skirt the law.

"What's happening here is that these abortionists do not want to have to acknowledge the value of the life of the unborn child and the pain that those children experience," he said.

Galloway said the confusion surrounding the law is proof that Utah's state legislators did not understand the medical impact of what they were doing when they passed it.

"When politicians try to practice medicine, you don't get real medicine," she said. "And that's what we're dealing with."

ROE

Continued from Page 5

rights sentiments along with details about dysfunctional parents, reform school, petty crime, drug abuse, alcoholism, an abusive husband, an attempted suicide and lesbianism.

But a year later, she was baptized before network TV cameras by a most improbable mentor: The Rev. Philip "Flip" Benham, leader of Operation Rescue, now known as Operation Save America.

McCorvey joined the cause and staff of Benham, who had befriended her when the anti-abortion group moved next door to the clinic where she was working.

McCorvey also said her religious conversion led her to give up her lover, Connie Gonzales.

She said the relationship turned platonic in the early 1990s and that once she became a

Christian she believed homosexuality was wrong.

She recounted her evangelical conversion and stand against abortion in the January 1998 book "Won by Love," which ends with McCorvey happily involved with Operation Rescue.

But by August of that year, she had changed faiths to Catholicism and had left Operation Rescue.

Though she was still against abortion, she said she had reservations about the group's confrontational style.

McCorvey formed her own group, Roe No More Ministry, in 1997 and traveled around the U.S. speaking out against abortion.

In 2005, the Supreme Court rejected a challenge by McCorvey to the 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling.

In May 2009, she was arrested on trespassing charges after joining more than 300 anti-abortion demon-

strators when President Barack Obama spoke at the University of Notre Dame.

In July 2009, she was among demonstrators arrested for disrupting Sonia Sotomayor's Supreme Court nomination hearing.

McCorvey was born in Louisiana, spending part of her childhood in the small village of Lettsworth.

Her family then moved to Houston and later Dallas, where in "I Am Roe" she recounts stealing money at the age of 10 from the gas station where she worked afternoons and weekends and running away to Oklahoma City before being returned home by police. She was eventually sent to a state reform school for girls in the northern Texas town of Gainesville, living there from the age of 11 to 15.

She married at the age of 16, but separated shortly after while she

was pregnant. She gave custody of her daughter to her mother.

She gave a second child up for adoption, but when she got pregnant a third time she decided to have an abortion.

She said she couldn't afford to travel to one of the handful of states where it would have been legal.

In "I Am Roe," she said her adoption attorney put her in touch with Texas lawyers Linda Coffee and Sarah Weddington, who were seeking a woman to represent in a legal case to challenge the state's anti-abortion statute. She gave birth to the "Roe" baby in June 1970.

Her first child, Melissa, was the only one of the three who was a part of her mother's life, according to journalist Prager. Melissa was with McCorvey when she died.



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South Plains defeats Howard College 71-51

By: **MARISSA LOFTIN**

Sports Editor

The Howard College men's basketball team faced off against the South Plains College Texans last night and fell short, losing 71-51.

The Hawks got off to a great start in the game, carrying a three point lead with 4 minutes to go in the half.

Unfortunately, that was enough time for South Plains to outscore Howard College 12-2, bringing the half time score to 29-22.

The game was still in the Hawks' reach to begin the second half, but the team just couldn't seem to find any success offensively.

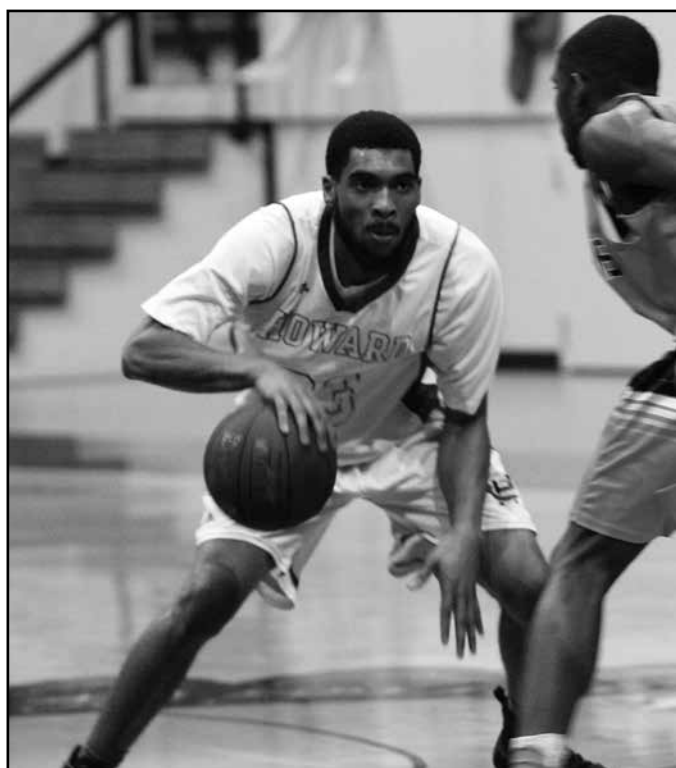
"We were 0-11 from the three-point line in the first half and 7-30 overall on field goals, so you think we will be alright if we just make a few shots," said head coach Scott Raines. "But that never happened."

The Hawks couldn't knock down enough shots to stay alive in the game and finished with 15-59 from the floor overall and 2-25 from the three-point line.

"I am proud of our guys preparation and I am pleased with the game plan we had," said Raines. "We just couldn't get the ball in the basket enough tonight."

Howard College has a big game coming up against Odessa College on Thursday, February 23rd at home.

"I'm looking for the same type of effort from our guys" Said Raines. "It's just about being able to



Courtesy Photo by Cindy Smith

Pictured above is #33, KJ Riley, working against the South Plains College defense to set up a play for the Hawks in last night's game.

knock some shots down."

Steers fall to Loboes in tight game, 10-8

By: **MARISSA LOFTIN**

Sports Editor

The Big Spring Steers varsity baseball team battled through a tough loss against the Monahans Loboes that came down to the final pitches.

Big Spring started the game out strong, making their presence known at the plate and containing Monahans' offense.

The score stayed tight throughout the entire game, but the Steers managed to remain on top of Monahans until the top of the 7th inning with the score at 7-6, Big Spring lead.

The Loboes started the final inning with a lot of successful at bats and base running. They were able to score 4 runs in the top of the 7th which put

them at a three point lead over the steers, 10-7.

It was up to the Steers to try and come up with an answer to those 4 runs from Monohans. Unfortunately they could not get it done and fell to the Loboes with the final score 10-8.

"Our pitching has got to get better. Our confidence starts with the ones on the mound," said head coach Daniel Carrillo. "Tonight we averaged 27 pitches an inning. With that is tough to beat anybody."

Walks seemed to be the main setback for Big Spring last night, having a total of 13 for the game. Now the Steers have their work cut out for them as they look to bounce back and begin preparation for their tournament in Shallowater this weekend.

Morris, Thomas lead Iowa St past Texas Tech, 82-80 in OT

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — It was pointed out to Iowa State coach Steve Prohm that his team won at Kansas earlier this year.

Still, he insisted, this 82-80 overtime win against Texas Tech Monday was the best road win of the season.

"This is the best road win today, there's no question about it," Prohm said. "We win next Friday, that will be the best road win. (Texas Tech) is tough, man. I told the guys, 'you can talk about the (Kansas) game when we're 40. Right now, we're trying to get as many road wins as we possibly can.'"

Monte Morris had 23 points and Matt Thomas added 20 for the Cyclones, which were held without a field goal for the final four-plus minutes of overtime but capitalized on making seven of 10 free throws in the extra period.

"I knew we were up two and we were hoping they didn't take a three," Morris said of Texas Tech's final possession, in which it didn't get a shot off before the final buzzer. "Worst case, it was going to double (overtime). Donovan (Jackson) did a great job of stopping the basketball. And they ran out of time. Good thing we were on the other end of it today."

Naz Mitrou-Long added 16 points for Iowa State (18-9, 10-5 Big 12), but fouled out along with Deonte Burton. Both were unavailable on overtime.

Texas Tech (17-11, 5-10) was led by 17 points from Steven Stevenson and 16 points apiece from Justin Gray and Zach Smith.

Entering Monday, Texas Tech's last two losses — at TCU and home against Kansas — were each decided by one point.

Red Raiders coach Chris Beard quickly interjected when a question was posted to Gray about what transpired on Texas Tech's last possession.

"I got it, Justin — I saw a team that fights that asses off that's been in a lot of close games," Beard said. "That represents their school well. Their town. Guys that go to class every day and do the right thing. And a coaching staff that believes in the players. And we find ourselves in another one possession game."

Jackson hit two free throws to give Iowa State the lead, 79-78, for good with 1:55 left in overtime. Matt Thomas made two more foul shots and Morris added a third to make it 82-78 with 17 seconds to go. Keenan Evans made a layup seven seconds later to pull Texas Tech within two and the Red Raiders fouled Nick Weiler-Babb, who missed both free throws, with 6.7 second remaining. Smith rebounded the second miss but Texas Tech didn't get off a shot; Devon Thomas hit a 3, but it came just after the buzzer.

"Just a lot of grit and toughness," Thomas said. "(Mitrou-Long and Burton) fouled out at the end and different guys had to step up late in the game. Nick (Weiler-Babb) and Donovan (Jackson) both did that. Nick had a bunch of rebounds, Donovan had some big plays. Made his free throws."

At the end of regulation, the Cyclones were called for an over-and-back while bringing the ball up court with the game tied 73-73, which gave the Red Raiders the ball with 1.3 seconds left. On



AP Photo

Iowa State coach Steve Prohm yells at Solomon Young (33) during an NCAA college basketball game against Texas Tech in Lubbock, Texas, Monday, Feb. 20, 2017.

the ensuing inbounds pass, Gray fired a turn-around jumper that hit the rim.

The Cyclones took a 59-51 lead midway through the second half during a stretch when they made six straight shots and the Red Raiders were scoreless for three-plus minutes.

Morris, who entered the game first nationally in assist-to-turnover ratio (6.0), drained a 3 in the closing seconds of the first half to tie the game, 39-39.

BIG PICTURE

Iowa State: The Cyclones have pushed themselves into a tie for second-place in the Big 12 entering Monday.

Texas Tech: The Red Raiders are in a stretch of exceedingly close Big 12 games. It lost in double overtime to West Virginia Saturday and upset then-No. 4 Baylor 84-78 on Feb. 13.

UP NEXT

Iowa State hosts Baylor, with which the Cyclones entered Monday tied for second place in the Big 12, Saturday.

Texas Tech, which has not won consecutive games in league play this season, visits Oklahoma State Saturday.

Big Spring Boys Track Results -Del Rio Relays

Big Spring Steers JV & Varsity Track

100 Meters Varsity – Finals
8. Alec Espinosa (So.) 11.80a SR
9. DJ Molina (So.) 11.91a SR

100 Meters Junior Varsity – Finals
4. Robert Valencia (Jr.) 12.08a PR
21. Aaron Salazar (Fr.) 12.83a PR
27. Cruz Martinez (Fr.) 13.91a PR

200 Meters Varsity – Finals
4. Alec Espinosa (So.) 23.93a SR
13. DJ Molina (So.) 24.68a SR

200 Meters Junior Varsity – Finals
6. Michael Renteria (Jr.) 25.27a SR
10. Jeremy Faz (Jr.) 25.71a PR
19. Gabriel Collazo (Fr.) 28.73a PR

400 Meters Varsity – Finals
1. Aaron Martinez (Jr.) 51.83a PR

400 Meters Junior Varsity – Finals
16. Eugene Saldana (So.) 58.50a PR
25. Eric Aguello (So.) 1:01.98a SR
26. Zachary Shook (Fr.) 1:02.01a PR

800 Meters Varsity – Finals
1. Ian Gonzales (Sr.) 2:00.18a SR
9. Aaron Martinez (Jr.) 2:05.14a PR
11. Eric Stinson (Jr.) 2:06.59a PR

800 Meters Junior Varsity – Finals
Thomas Tino (Jr.) SCR SR
Kasin Redding (Fr.) SCR PR
Joey Garcia (Fr.) SCR PR

1600 Meters Varsity – Finals
Eric Stinson (Jr.) SCR SR
Juan Lugo (Jr.) SCR SR
Cooper Miller (So.) SCR SR

1600 Meters Junior Varsity – Finals
Ishmael Collazo (Jr.) SCR PR
Christian Garrett (Fr.) SCR PR
Augustine Delos SCR PR
Santos (Fr.)

3200 Meters Varsity – Finals
Cooper Miller (So.) SCR SR
Juan Lugo (Jr.) SCR SR

3200 Meters Junior Varsity – Finals
Ishmael Collazo (Jr.) SCR PR
Christian Garrett (Fr.) SCR PR

110m Hurdles – 39" Junior Varsity – Finals
12. Dakota Jones (So.) 20.43a SR

300m Hurdles – 36" Varsity – Finals
1. Daniel Luna (Sr.) 41.98a SR

300m Hurdles – 36" Junior Varsity – Finals
14. Dakota Jones (So.) 52.22a SR

4x100 Relay Varsity – Finals
1. DJ Molina 43.88a
Domino Cole
Daniel Luna
Leon Mathews

4x100 Relay Junior Varsity – Finals
7. Robert Valencia 47.63a
Paul Guzman
Mitchell Renteria
Othon Villalobos

4x200 Relay Varsity – Finals
1. Daniel Luna 1:31.48a
Domiono Cole
Ian Gonzales
Leon Mathews

4x200 Relay Junior Varsity - Finals
Robert Valencia DQ
Paul Guzman
Michael Renteria
Othon Villalobos

4x400 Relay Varsity – Finals
1. Aaron Martinez 3:26.98a
Leon Mathews
Domiono Cole
Ian Gonzales

4x400 Relay Junior Varsity – Finals
7. Othon Villalobos 4:07.20a
Jimmy Faz
Zachary Shook
Eugene Saldana

Shot Put – 4kg Varsity – Finals
8. AJ Gonzalez (So.) 41-02.50 PR

Shot Put – 12lb Junior Varsity – Finals
Kevin Martiarena (Fr.) SCR PR
Christian Roberts (Fr.) SCR PR
Keith Sanchez (Fr.) SCR SR

Discus – 1kg Varsity – Finals
Eric Aguello (So.) SCR PR
Channing Miller (So.) SCR PR
AJ Gonzales (So.) SCR PR

Discus – 1.6kg Junior Varsity – Finals
4. Kevin Martiarena (Fr.) 101-06 PR
Christian Roberts (Fr.) SCR PR
Keith Sanchez (Fr.) SCR PR

Pole Vault Varsity – Finals
7. Ranen Wilson (Jr.) 9-06.00 SR

Pole Vault Junior Varsity – Finals
13. Max Gonzales (Fr.) 7-00.00 PR

Long Jump Junior Varsity – Finals
Jimmy Faz (So.) SCR PR
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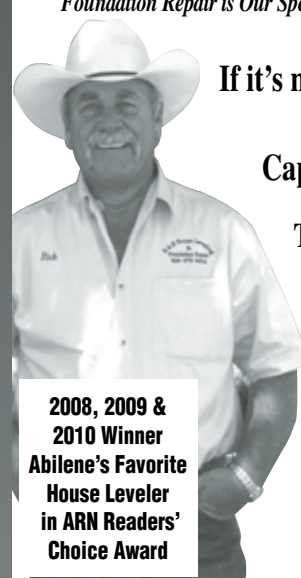


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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Power Moon

The Capricorn moon of power structures will help us find the social order. We're not like ants, born to understand our roles and built to naturally fall into them. We each must find our own way. We have to learn to understand one another and work at listening. To become powerful, become a listener. To become more powerful, become a better listener.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Not only is it natural to feel defensive around people who have a history of socking you when you're not expecting it: It's advisable. Likely this has to do with the soft jabs of a loved one. Arms up; protect your head; duck and cover.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's a point at which too much conversation clouds the meaning of things instead of making it clearer. While some seem committed to talking things to death, you jump in and fix it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It takes a confident person to risk being misunderstood and maybe that's partly why you'll do it. Plus, you'll learn more from people who are dissimilar to you than from people with whom you have a great deal in common.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When things get a little more colorful and dramatic than is comfortable, be grateful for it. Were you to be limited to a very confined and unvarying society, you would be quickly bored to tears.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Discipline is just not something you easily come up with on your own right now. Enlist the help of a coach, a champion or a supportive friend. Not only will you get results; you'll feel loved in the process.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Sept. 22). Before you get into the mix, remind yourself of your purpose. While you're at it, revel for a few minutes in what you're all about. Because if you're not sure of this, someone will come along and fill in the blanks for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your big dream of the day may not be anything too spectacular; rather, it's a small personal accomplishment or meaningful exchange that drives you to work deliberately and connect warmly with others today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't be surprised if, when you sit down to make a positive plan of action, negativity comes first. Work through the grievances. Once you give them airtime, they'll go away.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Fun-loving people are the best when fun is chief on the agenda. What about when it's not? If their love of fun is stronger than their love of doing the job at hand, trust your instincts and get the right person for the job.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're an artist. This doesn't always present itself in the way some people think about creativity, but there are so many ways to turn life into a beautiful experience. That's what you'll chase today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Same-ness leads to staleness. Seek variety and diversity. It takes an effort to mix things up, and you'll probably meet with resistance from those more fearful than you. Do it anyway. Everyone will be better for it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's a day to read and learn. Social topics, in particular, will be lucky to know about. They'll also be as exciting to read up on as any fiction, because this learning paves the way to new adventures.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 21). A few stellar choices will carry you up this year. Happiness is having a pure strong love in your life. You'll put quite a lot of effort into establishing a habit over the next

10 weeks. After that, living the way you prefer will be nearly automatic. There's intense competition in March and September; get serious. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 20, 5, 33 and 16.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "I'm a Libra born on Oct. 9. I'm wondering, as I go through much pain and change, if I will finally be able to cope. My boyfriend dumped me, and I almost feel like everything in life is going out of control. Also, I want to know, will I get over him if I still love him in a way, knowing that he made me unhappy sometimes?"

Cope you can, because cope you must! Your Aries moon makes every hurt feel like the first one all over again. This makes it difficult to move on. On the other hand, born under the resilient sign of Libra, I believe that by the time you read this reply in the paper, you'll already be interested in someone new and have gone out on exactly one and a half dates. I see from

your chart that you are friendly, thoughtful, sweet and extremely attractive. Love-planet Venus is in sultry Scorpio suggests that have more appeal than you know what to do with. Your firsthand knowledge of the way love hurts only makes you worldlier, adding to your draw. Your Mars is in Capricorn, suggesting that you are a hard worker and should concentrate on building a career, which will make you temporarily forget about your heartache.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Is Charles Barkley psychic? The basketball great is a Pisces with easy access to intuitive information, which he can use to help him strategize on the court, in his personal life and in his career. He and other Pisces people are constantly mentally sifting through information they know to be true, but they don't know how or why they know it!

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com/author/holiday-mathis and click "Contact."
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Annie's Mailbox

Respect for Time

Dear Annie: I have a sister-in-law who always has spur-of-the-moment birthday parties for her children -- usually just giving us all one day's notice. They are active in school activities and sports. All of these activities have schedules planned weeks in advance, but my sister-in-law's excuse is that the parties have to be "squeezed in" when they have time. Well,

what about my time? I am expected to drop plans and sacrifice my own children's activities so they can go to their cousins' birthday parties? I feel disrespected. I'm sure her kids wonder why no one comes to their parties. How should I deal with the next surprise-for-everyone party? -- Party Pooper

Dear Party Pooper: The next time this happens, go to the party, because your little nieces and nephews really shouldn't

have to pay the price for their mom's mistakes. But afterward, sit down and have a talk with your sister-in-law about her schedule. It sounds as if she is a bit underwater with the kids' schedules and struggling to stay organized. Encourage her to cut back on a few of the activities. In the long run, she and her kids would benefit from a "less is more" approach.

Dear Annie: This is my first correspondence to any advice columnist -- and I go way back to the days of Ann Landers. Your response to "Scuffed" was wrong from the salutation to the period of the last sentence! "Scuffed" wrote to you because

her sister-in-law's fiance "scratched" her car with his truck tires backing out of the driveway and he refused to pay for the damages. "Scuffed" had been leaving her children there for her sister-in-law to baby-sit but was reconsidering that arrangement. You told her to follow her instincts and not leave the kids there anymore.

You would have her cause a family upheaval involving young children because of scratches to a car? Really? Just because you feel you should always follow your gut feeling? And then you told "Scuffed" to just invite the sister-in-law to her house to visit with the kids instead and said she

would probably want an excuse to get out of the house anyway because of her fiance's "lousy attitude."

It's as if she had an angel and devil on her shoulders and all your advice came from the one holding the pitchfork. How about taking the high road and a deep breath and worrying about more important things in life? In the fleeting precious time we have on this earth, keep the peace and show the love. You'd have her give that up because of paint on a car door. C'mon. -- Older and Wiser

Dear Older: I appreciate your outlook about keeping the peace and showing the love, but I think you misunderstood my

point. I wasn't suggesting that "Scuffed" stop speaking to her future brother-in-law. I only meant that she should stop leaving her children with the couple. Given the man's bizarrely aggressive response to the incident -- calling up "Scuffed" and her husband to tell them that he'd never apologize -- it seems plausible he has anger issues. Why risk exposing your children to that sort of volatility?

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Lost in the twilight zone

South dealer.
 East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ Q 10 5
 ♥ 7 3
 ♦ A 10 9 2
 ♣ A K 8 2

WEST
 ♠ K 9 8 3
 ♥ K 8 5 2
 ♦ 8 7 5
 ♣ 7 4

EAST
 ♠ 6 4
 ♥ J 10 9 6
 ♦ K Q J 6 3
 ♣ 10 9

SOUTH
 ♠ A J 7 2
 ♥ A Q 4
 ♦ 4
 ♣ Q J 6 5 3

The bidding:
 South: 1♣ Pass
 West: Pass 1♦ Pass
 North: 3♣ Pass
 East: Pass

3 NT
 Opening lead — eight of diamonds.

The chief danger in many deals lies in playing impulsively at a critical point instead of taking the time to think things out. Hasty play is advantageous in some games, but not in bridge.

Assume you're in three notrump and West makes the inspired lead of the eight of diamonds. You can't afford to rise with the ace, which would leave the diamonds wide

open, so you cover the eight with the nine, which loses to the jack. You plan to duck the next diamond if East returns the king, since East is marked by the opening lead with the K-Q-J. However, East shifts to the jack of hearts at trick two.

This is the moment when you must take care not to act too quickly by playing the queen. The temptation to finesse, whenever you have the A-Q-x facing two small, is almost irresistible, but it would be a dreadful play to make here.

If you go up with the ace, you can be 100 percent sure of the contract, regardless of how the cards are divided. Next you simply cross to dummy with a club and lead the queen of spades, planning to finesse. Win or lose, you are certain to score at least three spades, five clubs and the two red aces.

But if you finesse the queen of hearts, which you might do if you were thinking of where you parked the car that day, a sad fate would befall you when West took the king and returned a heart.

You would take the spade finesse later on in an effort to make the contract, but ultimately you would go down one, losing three hearts, a diamond and a spade.

Tomorrow: Measure and countermeasure.
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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.

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

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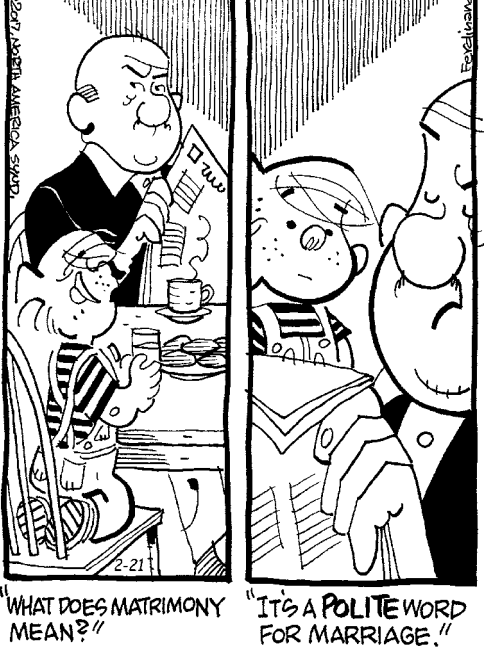
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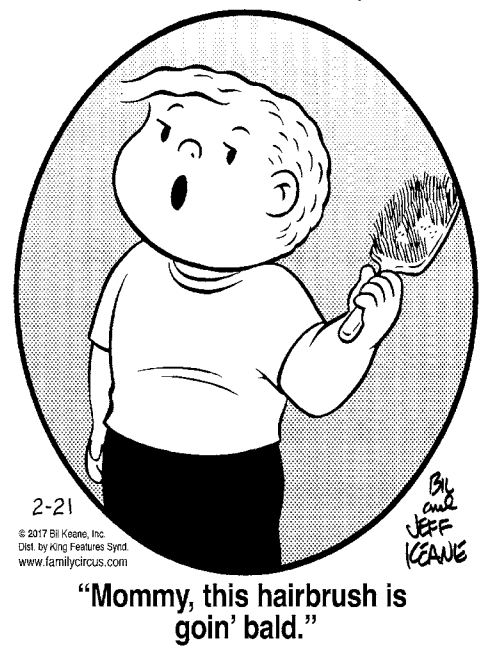
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Local 2 ABC	Hotel	The List	CBS 7	Tele	News	Justice	Focus	Mama's	American	Seinfeld	Bones	SportsCenter	Around Pardon		Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Moonshiners
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cerrado	News	J. McGee	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Bones	College Basketball	College Basketball: Oklahoma at Baylor	Stars In. Spurs In. Full Court Bask	Law & Order: SVU	Intervention	Moonshiners: Outlaw
7:PM	Middle House	Pequeños Gigantes	New Girl	NCIS (DVS)	La Fan (SS)	The Wall	HaYesod	American Masters	Griffith	The Flash	Big Bang	Movie: Jack the Giant Slayer (DVS)	College Basketball: Indiana at Iowa	College Basketball	High School Football	WWE SmackDown!	Intervention	Moonshiners: Outlaw
8:PM	Fresh-O'Neals	Vino el Amor	(01) Bones	Bull	La Doña (SS)	This Is Us	Light of the Southwest		MacGyver	DC's Legends	Big Bang						Intervention	Moonshiners
9:PM	S.H.I.E.L.D.	El color de la pasión	News	NCIS: New Orleans	El Chema (SS)	Chicago Fire		Frontline	Heroes	Seinfeld	Detour					Chrissy	Escaping Polygamy	Killing Fields
10:PM	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	CBS 7	Tele	News	With Scholars	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett	King	(03) Conan					Mod Fam	(02) 24 to Life	(01) Moonshiners
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Two Men	Late Show-Cobert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Ministerios Vida	Newsline	Rules	Detour						Mod Fam	(02) Intervention	(01) Killing Fields
12:AM	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met James Corden	Insider	Programa	(08) Today	Light of the Southwest		Alfred Hitchcock Hr.	Cheaters	Seinfeld					Chrissy	Intervention	(12:02) Moonshiners
1:AM	Paid Prg.	A Que No Me Dejas	Law Order: CI	ET	Programa	(08) Today	Light of the Southwest		Mannix	Cheaters	(03) Movie: Transcendence	The Librarians	SportsCenter	Mike and Mike		Law Order: CI	Escaping Polygamy	(02) Moonshiners

DENNIS THE MENACE



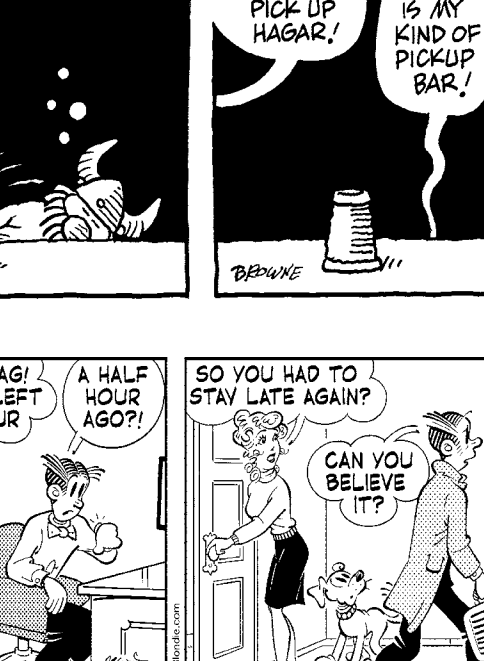
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



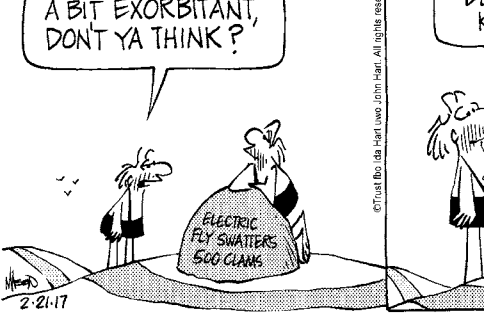
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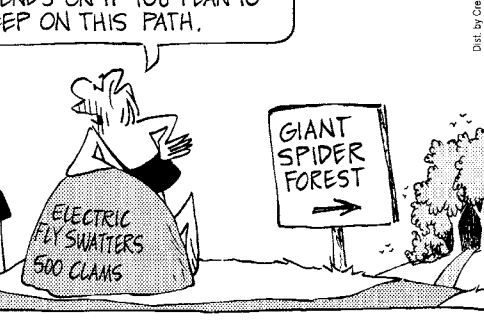
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WIZARD OF ID



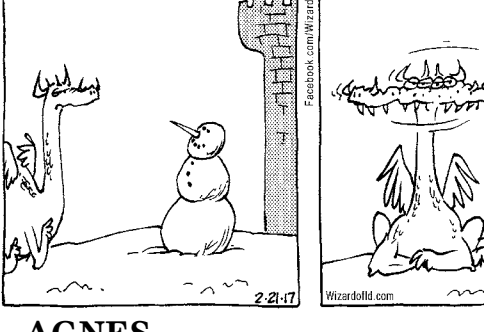
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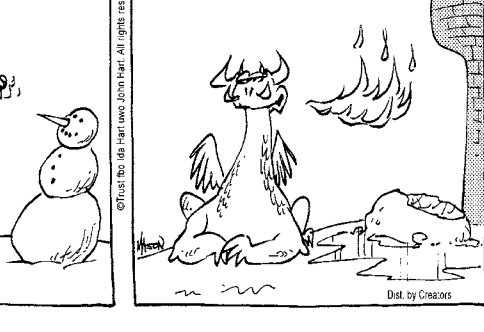
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AGNES



AGNES



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 21, the 52nd day of 2017. There are 313 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Feb. 21, 1947, inventor Edwin H. Land publicly demonstrated his Polaroid Land camera, which used self-developing film to produce a black & white photograph in 60 seconds.

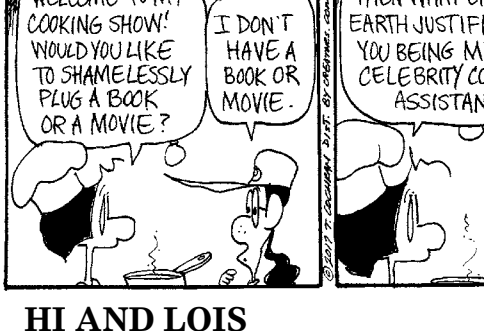
On this date:
In 1513, Pope Julius II, who commissioned Michelangelo to paint the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, died nearly four months after the project was completed.
In 1613, Mikhail Romanov, 16, was unanimously chosen by Russia's national assembly to be czar, beginning a dynasty that would last three centuries.
In 1885, the Washington Monument was dedicated.
In 1916, the World War I Battle of Verdun began in France as German forces attacked; the French were able to prevail after 10 months of fighting.
In 1945, during the World War II Battle of Iwo Jima, the escort carrier USS Bismarck Sea was sunk by kamikazes with the loss of 318 men.
In 1958, the USS Gudgeon

Atlanta, injuring five people. (Eric Rudolph later admitted targeting the club.)

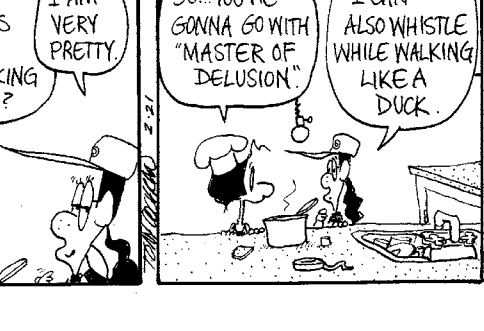
Ten years ago: British Prime Minister Tony Blair announced his country would withdraw around 1,600 troops from Iraq in the coming months; Denmark, meanwhile, said it would withdraw its 460 troops. A U.S. helicopter was shot down north of Baghdad; all aboard were safely evacuated by a second helicopter.

Five years ago: The 17-nation eurozone approved a \$170 billion bailout for Greece, which received the news with a mixture of relief and foreboding. Publisher Barney Rosset, 89, who introduced the U.S. to such underground classics as "Tropic of Cancer" and "Lady Chatterley's Lover," died in New York.

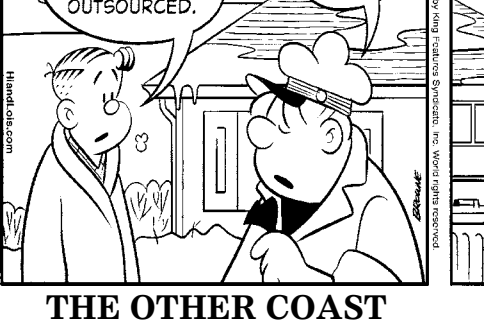
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HI AND LOIS



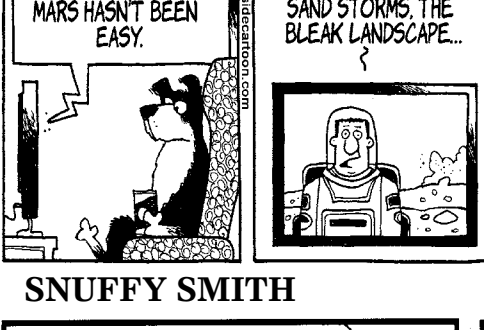
THE OTHER COAST



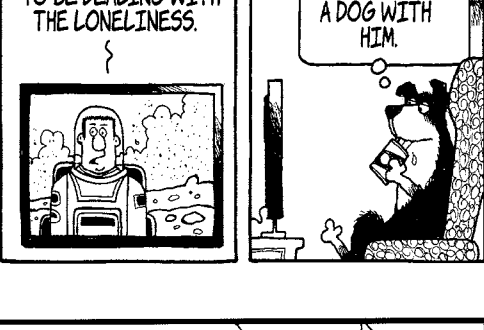
THE OTHER COAST



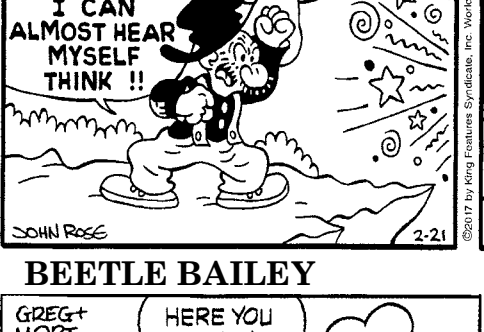
SNUFFY SMITH



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



BEEBLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Speak indistinctly
 - 5 Monogram of Reagan's successor
 - 9 Norway's capital
 - 13 Look after
 - 14 ___ Grey tea
 - 15 Informed about
 - 16 Mythical "golden touch" king
 - 17 Soprano's song
 - 18 Adjust, as an engine
 - 19 Needing repair
 - 21 Poems of praise
 - 22 Prefix meaning "earth"
 - 23 Indent key
 - 24 ___-portrait (type of painting)
 - 26 Big galoot
 - 27 At an earlier date
 - 31 Fly like an eagle
 - 34 Midterm, for one
 - 37 Operagoer's shout
 - 38 Apportion, as a time
 - 40 Mother sheep
 - 41 Unsuccessful 1950's Ford
 - 42 Lizard in GEICO ads
 - 43 Char, as a steak
 - 45 Make simpler
 - 46 Things of value
 - 48 ___-do-well (rogue)
 - 50 Opposite of "yeses"
 - 52 Relaxing resort
 - 53 Scooby-___ (toon dog)
 - 56 Herringlike fish
 - 59 Needing repair
- DOWN**
- 1 River through Paris
 - 2 Resulted in
 - 3 Great Salt Lake's state
 - 4 ___ the occasion (met a challenge)
 - 62 Matador's opponent
 - 63 Plumlike fruit
 - 64 Bellybutton
 - 65 All over again
 - 66 Diabolical
 - 67 Totally silly
 - 68 Lima or garbanzo
 - 69 "The Farmer in the ___" (kids' song)
 - 70 Be inclined (to)
 - 5 Car transmissions
 - 6 Mata ___ (legendary spy)
 - 7 Judicial orders
 - 8 Bright fires
 - 9 Needing repair
 - 10 Potato, informally
 - 11 ___ Star State (Texas)
 - 12 Change for a \$5 bill
 - 13 Urban pollution
 - 20 Unnerve
 - 25 Earring site
 - 26 Needing repair
 - 28 Astronauts' org.
 - 29 Nights before holidays
 - 30 Actor's character
 - 31 Lengthy story
 - 32 Spanish cheers
 - 33 World Series prelude: Abbr.
 - 35 Astonish
 - 36 Has good intentions
 - 39 Wizard of Oz dog
 - 44 Bank takeback, for short
 - 47 Had a feeling
 - 49 Merit a reward
 - 51 Figure out
 - 53 Backless sofa
 - 54 For days ___ (nonstop)
 - 55 Gape at
 - 56 Wild guess
 - 57 Make sharper
 - 58 Neighborhood
 - 60 Work strenuously
 - 61 Citizen ___ (Welles film)

FIX IT by Sandy Fein Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

Answer to previous puzzle

MOLDS	MAMA	JAZZ
OPERA	IDOL	ERIE
BEGAN	NOVA	LEGS
SNOW	GLOBES	LAST
TORE KEY		
CAPOTE	SAP	CPA
ELSE	TRAP	ISLES
TAKES	ARAIN	CHECK
ARENA	OHNO	OAKS
LAW	GRR	ATHENS
EAU ARIA		
STAG	SECOND	WIND
ARMY	TUTU	ARDOR
LIMP	IRON	GEENA
TOOT	CORD	ONSET

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Trump's new national security adviser a soldier-scholar

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has chosen as his national security adviser a soldier-scholar who fought in both Iraq wars and published an influential book that called out the U.S. government for “lies” that led to the Vietnam War.

Army Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster would remain on active military duty while leading the National Security Council, White House officials said Monday. He joined two retired generals — Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly — already in Trump's inner circle, adding to the impression that the president prefers military men in top roles.

Trump called McMaster “a man of tremendous talent and tremendous experience” when he introduced his new national security adviser at his private Florida club. McMaster, who returned to Washington with the president, said he looked forward to “doing everything that I can to advance and protect the interests of the American people.”

McMaster replaced retired Gen. Michael Flynn, who was fired last week after Trump determined that Flynn had misled Vice President Mike Pence about the nature of his discussion with Russia's ambassador to the U.S. during the presidential transition. The White House said McMaster was one of four candidates Trump interviewed for the job over the weekend.

McMaster has been heavily involved in the Army's efforts to shape its future force and its way of preparing for war. He is the director of the Army Capabilities Integration Center, a sort of military think tank, at Fort Eustis, Virginia.

Malaysia: No cause of death yet for exiled North Korean

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — No cause of death has been determined yet for the exiled member of North Korea's ruling family who died last week after apparently being poisoned in a Kuala Lumpur airport, officials said Tuesday.

The autopsy showed no evidence of a heart attack in Kim Jong Nam's

death, or sign of puncture wounds, Director General of Health Noor Hisham Abdullah told reporters.

Asked if there was any indication that he had been poisoned, Noor Hisham said medical specimens from the autopsy had been forwarded to experts to determine the cause of death. “We have to confirm with the lab report before we can make any conclusive remark,” he said.

No family members have come forward to claim the body. Kim, the older half brother of North Korea's ruler, had spent most of the past 15 years living in China and Southeast Asia. He is believed to have had at least three children with two women.

The attack spiraled into diplomatic fury when Malaysia refused to hand over Kim's corpse to North Korean diplomats after his death, and proceeded with an autopsy over the diplomats' objections. The two nations have made a series of increasingly angry statements since then, with Malaysia insisting it is simply following its legal protocols, and North Korea accusing Malaysia of working in collusion with its enemy, South Korea.

4 US tourists and pilot killed in Australian plane crash

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — An Australian pilot and four American tourists on a golfing vacation were killed when a light plane crashed in flames into a shopping mall on Tuesday shortly after takeoff in the Australian city of Melbourne, officials said.

The five were on a twin-engine Beechcraft Super King Air that crashed about 45 minutes before the Direct Factory Outlet mall in suburban Essendon was to open, Police Minister Lisa Neville said.

The U.S. Embassy in Canberra confirmed that four victims were U.S. citizens. Texans Greg Reynolds De Haven and Russell Munsch have been identified by their families on social media as two of the victims.

De Haven's sister Denelle Wicht posted on Facebook that her 70-year-old brother had been killed “on a once in a lifetime trip to Australia” with friends.

The pilot was Max Quartermain, owner of the charter company Corporate and Leisure Travel.

Israeli court gives soldier 18 months for fatal shooting

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — An Israeli military court has sentenced a soldier to 18 months in prison for the fatal shooting last year of a wounded Palestinian attacker.

Prosecutors had asked that Sgt. Elor Azaria be sentenced on Tuesday to 3-5 years in prison. His defense attorneys insisted he should be freed.

Azaria was convicted last month on manslaughter charges. The verdict deeply divided Israel, where military service is compulsory and support for young soldiers is widespread. He was captured on video fatally shooting a wounded Palestinian attacker in the West Bank city of Hebron last March.

The verdict against Azaria marked a victory for commanders seeking to preserve a code of ethics. But Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and prominent hard-line politicians have called for the soldier to be pardoned.

Dozens of the soldier's supporters gathered outside the court ahead throughout the sentencing.

Red Crescent: 74 bodies of migrants wash ashore in Libya

CAIRO (AP) — Scores of bodies of African migrants washed ashore in Libya, in the western city of Zawiya on the Mediterranean Sea, a spokesman for the Libyan Red Crescent said on Tuesday.

The drownings — at least 74 bodies were found in Zawiya — are the latest tragedy at sea after migrant deaths rose to record levels along the Libya-Italy smuggling route over the past months.

The Red Crescent's spokesman Mohammed al-Misrati told The Associated Press that the bodies were found on Monday morning and that the Red Crescent workers retrieved them between 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

He said that a torn rubber boat was found nearby and that he expected more bodies to surface as such boats usually carry up to 120 people. Earlier, al-Misrati mistakenly told the AP that the bodies surfaced overnight.

The aid agency posted on its Twitter account photographs of dozens of bodies in white and black body bags, lined up along the shore. Al-Misrati said the local authorities would take the bodies to a cemetery in the capital

of Tripoli that is allocated for unidentified persons.

Groups, individuals helping white extremists shed hate

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — The Celtic cross tattoo on Shannon Martinez's leg gives away her past.

A victim of sexual assault at age 14 and never quite able to meet her parents' expectations, Martinez sought out other angry teens. By 16, she was a skinhead spouting white supremacist rhetoric, giving stiff-armed Nazi salutes and tagging public property with swastikas. She favored racist fashion statements — like the symbol on her right calf.

Fortified by the love of an adopted family, Martinez left the skinheads behind. Today she's helping others do the same as part of an emerging U.S. movement that helps people quit hate organizations.

Modeled loosely upon organizations that formed in Europe years ago to combat extremism, groups and individuals are offering counseling, education and understanding to extremists seeking a way out.

Now a 42-year-old mom who homeschools her kids at their house in Georgia, Martinez volunteers with Life After Hate, a leading organization dedicated to helping people leave white supremacy. On Facebook, she shares her story with others who've left or are looking to leave extremism.

In Trump's future looms a familiar shutdown threat

WASHINGTON (AP) — Add a potential government shutdown to embattled President Donald Trump's growing roster of headaches.

Beneath the capital's radar looms a vexing problem — a catchall spending package that's likely to top \$1 trillion and could get embroiled in the politics of building Trump's wall at the U.S.-Mexico border and a budget-busting Pentagon request.

While a shutdown deadline has a few weeks to go, the huge measure looms as an unpleasant reality check for Trump and Republicans controlling Congress.

Despite the big power shift in Washington, the path to success — and averting a shuttering of the government — goes directly through Senate Democrats, whose votes are required to pass the measure.

BEST BITES

YOUR GUIDE TO LOCAL RESTAURANTS

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Gill's Gold 'N Crisp Fried Chicken

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Pizza Inn

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KIDS EAT FREE
TUESDAY NIGHTS
4-9 PM

700 E. FM 700

Pizza Inn



flavors in a pizza!
\$11.99

700 E. FM 700

Pizza Inn