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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018



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Big Spring in compliance with racial profiling law, report says

By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer

At its meeting Tuesday evening, the Big Spring City Council received the Annual Contact Report for 2017 for the Big Spring Police Department, and heard a summary of its findings.

The report is compiled each year to identify and address

"areas of concern regarding racial profiling practices." The report was compiled by Del Carmen Consulting LLC of Grand Prairie, Texas.

"The comparison of motor vehicle contacts showed that the Big Spring Police Department came in contact (in motor vehicle-related incidents) with a smaller percentage of Hispanic drivers than the

percentage that resided in Big Spring and had access to vehicles," the report's summary states. "Further, the data suggested that the percentage of Caucasian and African-American drivers that came in contact with the police in 2017 was higher than the percentage of Caucasian and African-American households in Big Spring with ac-

cess to vehicles. In addition, the data showed that in a large number of instances, officers did not know the race or ethnicity of individuals before detaining them, when compared to instances where officers knew the race/ethnicity of individuals before they were detained."

The summary concludes: "In sum, the information and

analysis provided in this report serves as evidence that the Big Spring Police Department has, once again, complied with the Texas Racial Profiling Law."

According to the data in the report, the Big Spring Police Department conducted 8,251 motor vehicle-related

See **LAW**, Page 3

Coahoma's 'The Academy' now taking applications



Courtesy photo

Forest Riley (left) and Isiah Eleda (right) work with a group to assemble a robot during a session held by SM Energy Dec. 12, 2017 in Midland.

Special to the Herald

The Academy is now accepting applications for grades first through eighth for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Application forms can be found at the Coahoma ISD website at www.coahomaisd.com. Completed forms can be submitted online or brought to the CISD Administration Office, 600 N. Main Street, Coahoma. Applications must be submitted no later than 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, 2018.

The Academy is a kindergarten through eighth grade program designed to develop academic skills while emphasizing student responsibility, leadership, and self-confidence. The program is structured to create an environment that allows flexible scheduling, hands-on learning, incorporation of music

and movement into academic lessons while holding students to high expectations of responsibility.

The Academy opened its doors for the first time in August. After several months of watching the program in action, Dr. Amy Jacobs, CISD superintendent, said the faculty and administration have been extremely pleased with the results.

"We knew it was a good concept, and we were confident our students would benefit from the program, but seeing it in action and actually seeing the proof of what we felt our students would gain from this environment is extremely rewarding to everyone involved with its creation," Jacobs said.

Among some of the key components of the program are emphasizing peer-to-peer mentoring, public speaking

at all grade levels and individual responsibility. In the past few months, Jacobs said students have exceeded expectations just from their growth in communications skills and self-confidence alone.

"The students' growth in communication skills has just blown the top off our expectations," Jacobs said. "You can walk into any classroom right now and ask a student to explain what they are doing or ask them to come to the front of the classroom and explain what they are doing, and they can do it. They can do it confidently," she said.

Before gaining acceptance into The Academy, the student and their parents must agree to be held to high expectations. Students are

See **ACADEMY**, Page 3

Fat Tuesday at Parkview



Courtesy photo

Pictured above are residents at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center celebrating Fat Tuesday on Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

Desert Flower hosts Fat Tuesday Crawfish Boil



Courtesy photos

The Desert Flower Art Bar & Lounge hosted a crawfish and shrimp boil Tuesday night to celebrate Fat Tuesday, a traditional celebration that involves the practice of eating rich, fatty foods for the last time before ritual fasting that takes place on Ash Wednesday. Above, crawfish and shrimp boil attendees enjoyed food and fellowship with each other.

Mardi Gras marred as 3 killed, 5 wounded in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A festive close to Mardi Gras was marred by shootings across New Orleans that left three people dead and five others wounded.

The first two shootings happened in

the afternoon, when fights broke out near the traditional parade route.

Police clarified Wednesday that two teenage boys were wounded in one of the parade route shootings. Gunfire

struck one boy in the "head area" and the other had a leg wound, police said in a news release.

A man appeared to have been shot twice during a separate fight, and died after being rushed to the hospital, Police Chief Michael Harrison said. Police named Eddie Dingle, 21, as a suspect and said investigators obtained a warrant for his arrest on a second-degree murder charge.

The third shooting began as people celebrated Tuesday night at a house party in the Lower 9th Ward, about 2 miles (3 kilometers) from the parade route. Witnesses described a fusillade of bullets.

Police spokeswoman Ambria Washington said multiple suspects opened fire on a car with five people inside. The gunfire shattered its windows, flattened

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See **NOLA**, Page 3

Obituaries

Michael Edens



Michael Edens, 36, of Big Spring, died Friday, Feb. 9, 2018. The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Doug Shelley, pastor of East Side Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Michael was born Jan. 20, 1982, in Big Spring, Texas to Barbara Dillow Edens and Dan Edwin Edens. Michael was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and Howard County. He married Aimee Riley on April 18, 2008, in Midland. He was a graduate of Big Spring High School and Midland College. He was employed by Tiger Safety of Midland.

He is survived by his wife, Aimee Edens; chil-

dren, Forrest Riley, Codi-Lynn Michaelle Edens and Russell Edwin Edens; his parents, Barbara Schofield and Dan Edens; three brothers, Sammy Daily, Charlie Hedden and Landon Rowden; three sisters, Acacia Daniels, Amanda Edens and Kelly Moore Morris; his grandmother, Frances Edens Overton; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins; and his best friends, Dustin Clark and Jamie Hoover, the mother of Codi-Lynn and Russell. We also cannot forget his little buddies Vivian Rose and Jace Hudson.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents: Barney "Kip" Edens, Sr., Barbara's parents and one uncle: Barney Edens, Sr.

Pallbearers will be Dustin Clark, Terry Rumpff, Gerald Loudermill, Justin Hoover, Kenneth Imler and Jacob Drake. Honorary pallbearers will be Forrest Riley, Russell Edwin Edens, Scott Hargrove and Gary Hargrove.

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

Doss N. Roberts

Doss N. Roberts, 79, of Midland, passed away on Friday, Feb. 9, 2018. Graveside services will be held on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018, at 1 p.m. at the Garden City Cemetery. Floral arrangements can be sent to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Please dress in casual attire.

He is survived by his wife, Sally Roberts and two children.

Amos T. (Ted) Franklin

Amos T. (Ted) Franklin, 77, of Lubbock, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 12, 2018, at University Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Vickie A. Gonzales

Vickie A. Gonzales, 60, of Grand Prairie, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, Feb. 12, 2018, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1200 block of Lindberg. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 400 block of Westover Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of Morrison. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of S Goliad. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2300 block of Runnels. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **ZACHARY R. WILLIAMS**, 36, of 1300 Stanford Ave., on a warrant of aggravated assault causes serious bodily injury.
- **JOHN ROSS COLLINS**, 33, of 36795 Gumbo Corner Rd, Arkansas, on a charge of public intoxication.
- **JORGE LUIS GOMEZ JR.**, 26, of 508 State St., on warrants of failure to control speed, display expired registration, failure to maintain financial responsibility, no driver's license, driving while license is invalid, and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- **CASEY ADAM TORRENCE**, 21, of 1404 S Benton St., on war-

rants of theft of property in between \$2,500 to \$30,000, bail jumping failure to appear, gone off bond possession of controlled substance less than one gram, criminal mischief less than \$100, failure to maintain financial responsibility, and driving while license is invalid.

- **REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK**, 34, of 1600 N Lancaster, on a charge of criminal trespass.
- **JACKIE JOE-KYLE KIRKHAM**, 24, of 2410 Old West 80 HWY, on a warrant of criminal mischief in between \$100 to \$750.
- **NICHOLAS VALBUENA**, 18, of 705 S Aylesford St., on a warrant of assault family house member.
- **KENNETH LEE MURPHY**,

58, of 109 NE 10th St., on a warrant of possession of controlled substance in between one to four grams.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1400 block of S Austin St.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1800 block of S Benton St.,
- **THEFT** was reported in the 3600 block of W HWY 80.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 800 block of ½ S Nolan St.
- **HARASSMENT** was reported in the 1100 block of Hickory St.
- **BURGLARY OF BUILDING** was reported in the 1600 block of E FM 700.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 67 inmates at the time of this report.

- **JOHN ROSS COLLINS**, 33, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- **REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK**, 34, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of criminal trespass.
- **JORGE LUIS GOMEZ JR.**, 26, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of failure to control speed, display expired registration, failure to maintain financial responsibility, no driver's license,

driving while license is invalid, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

- **JACKIE JOE-KYLE KIRKHAM**, 24, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant of criminal mischief in between \$100 to \$750.
- **NICHOLAS BLAIR KIRN**, 27, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of assault family house member.
- **KENNETH WAYNE MIEARS JR.**, 41, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of possession of controlled substance in between one to four grams.
- **KENNETH LEE MURPHY**, 58, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of cruelty to non-live-stock animals.

• **CASEY ADAM TORRENCE**, 21, was arrested by BSPD on warrants of theft of property in between \$2,500 to \$30,000, bail jumping failure to appear, gone off bond possession of controlled substance less than one gram, criminal mischief less than \$100, failure to maintain financial responsibility, and driving while license is invalid.

- **NICHOLAS VALBUENA**, 18, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of probation violation theft of property.
- **ZACHARY R. WILLIAMS**, 36, was arrested by BSPD on a warrant of aggravated assault causes serious bodily injury.

Take Note

• Scholarship packets for Coahoma High School seniors are now available at the counselor's office. Thousands of dollars worth scholarships opportunities are available to Coahoma High School students. The deadline to turn in applications for some of the scholarships is fast approaching. If students or parents have any questions or need help filling out any forms, please contact Chandra Brooks at 395-5000 or come by the high school office. Extra scholarship packets are available at front office. Please see Brooks at the high school office for a packet.

• Are you interested in Duplicate Bridge? Big Spring Duplicate will offer lessons to both men and woman. The lessons will be offered at the Big Spring Country Club. The lessons started Jan. 31 and run through Feb. 28. There will be five lessons at \$25 per person. Bridge is a wonderful, stimulating, and pleasant way to spend an afternoon or evening.

If you have any questions call 267-5615 or 263-2753.

• Cross stitch squares are now ready for the 2018 Howard County Fair quilt. Theme for this year's quilt is "The Love of Dogs." Anyone able to help by stitching a square may pick one up at the Heritage Museum during regular hours Tuesday through Saturday. For questions or for more

information, please contact Suzanne Markwell at 214-256-1674.

• The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

• Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St. For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716 or Lions member David Stives at 432-270-2251.

• Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking 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.

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

• Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, 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 has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

• Howard County Republicans meet the second Monday of each month. Club members meet in the Cactus Room at Howard College at 11:30 a.m. for Dutch treat lunch and meeting at 12 p.m.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

• **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

• **GriefShare** is a Biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support). Weekly Feb. 8 through May 10, 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for more information.

• 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.

HERALD

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ACADEMY

Continued from Page 1

expected to accept responsibility for their own learning and their conduct.

"As a parent, we should never underestimate the ability of our student to step up and handle his or her responsibilities because we see these students do it every day at The Academy," Jacobs said. "We feel like this develops the child. It helps them academically, it helps them socially, and it helps them gain communication skills and confidence."

Although The Academy was limited to 200 enrollment spaces this current academic year, Jacobs said the district plans to make room for growth in the coming year.

"We want to make these concepts available to as many students who are interested in this type of learning environment," Jacobs said. "There is value in a small setting or to have small groups per grade level. This type of environment allows multi-grade levels to work together. It has shown to be very effective,

so we are planning to retain the close-knit concept during our expansion."

Acceptance into The Academy is on a first come, first serve basis. Applications will be stamped with the time it is turned into the district. Students who have applied or in the process of applying to transfer into the district can also turn in an application during the enrollment period. Applicants and their parents must undergo an interview and complete an orientation prior to the start of the program.

Students who are already accepted into the program will not have to re-apply. The Academy will open registration for kindergarten later this spring.

The Academy is an optional program available to all Coahoma ISD students in the kindergarten through eighth grade. There are no additional costs to attend The Academy except for the purchase of school uniforms. A uniform scholarship is available to qualifying students. For more information about The Academy, contact Jacobs at 394-5000 or visit www.coahomaisd.com.



Courtesy photo

Pictured above is Allison Collier (left) and Kasen Rogers (right) working on a science demonstration on the forms of matter.



Courtesy photo

Pictured above is Kinzlyn Kemper (left) and Blakely Rodgers (right) also working on a science demonstration on the forms of matter.

Heart health lunch and learn

Special to the Herald

Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Our Healthy Circle is focusing on heart health this month, with "Healthy Hearts, Healing Wounds," featuring Family Nurse Practitioner Shawn Harris. The program is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Thursday at the Howard County Library.

"Ensuring a healthy blood flow is important when it comes to maintaining good heart health. Through the addition of peripheral services and the Wound Healing Center services, Scenic Mountain

is focused on promoting a healthy community," Amanda Duforat, Scenic Mountain Medical Center Marketing Manager, said.

Harris will be discussing the importance of maintaining proper blood flow and symptoms to look for that could indicate possible blockage. Her discussion will also include avenues for correcting these issues.

The event is free to the public, but reservations are requested. To find out more about the Our Healthy Circle program or reserve your spot for "Healthy Heart, Healing Wounds," call 432-268-4902.

LAW

Continued from Page 1

contacts (traffic stops) in 2017. 6,002 of those were on Caucasian drivers, 622 were on African-Americans, 1,564 were on Hispanic individuals, 40 were on people of Asian descent, 19 were on Native Americans, and four were on people of Middle Eastern ethnicity.

In other business, the council held a public hearing over the application from Acute Medical Services, a state-wide ambulance service, to receive a non-emergency ambulance operating permit.

"We are operating currently out of the Midland, Odessa, and Andrews stations, and we are looking to bring a station over to Big Spring, simply just to better serve the area and the hospitals we've been transporting from," said Acute's West Texas Manager, Bryan Taylor.

Taylor said the ambulances, which would operate under the name "EM-CEMS," would provide non-emergency transportation services, meaning they would not answer 9-1-1 calls; instead, they would respond to hospital requests to transport patients from Big Spring to Midland, Odessa, Lubbock, or other destinations as needed.

"We do transport to Odessa Regional Medical Center. We do a fair amount of transports into Lubbock as well, whether it's to Covenant Medical Center or University Medical Center. In addition to that, we may do some long-distance transfers. We've been as far as Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

So we do cover some long-distance transfers, but most of our business as far as Big Spring is concerned is from Big Spring into one of those larger facilities, mainly for specialized services."

No citizens from the public spoke during the public hearing.

Council members also:

- Removed consideration of a contract with Global Energy Partners LLC from the agenda, pending a reworking of the contract to be considered.

- Approved an emergency reading of a resolution approving a financing agreement with Capital One Public Funding LLC.

- Approved the first reading of an ordinance approving increasing the General Fund budget with received grant money to purchase rifle-resistant vests for each Big Spring police officer. The Criminal Justice Division recently granted the city \$21,508 to purchase the vests through the Rifle-Resistant Body Armor Grant Program.

- Approved transferring \$5,000 to the city's Cemetery Fund for the purchase of a new lowering device for Mount Olive Cemetery.

- Approved an agreement with CGI Communications Inc., a company that creates free marketing videos for cities. When complete, the video will be available for viewing on the Big Spring city website.

- Approved authorizing City Manager Todd Darden to negotiate an easement for SM Energy to the south of the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

- Approved an amendment to the city's agreement with Vector Fleet Management LLC, removing the requirement for Vector - who has pro-

vided fleet management services to Big Spring since 2013 - to maintain a performance bond.

- Approved an amendment to a lease agreement with Caterpillar to extend leases on five backhoe loaders and one mini hydraulic excavator. Three of the backhoes' leases will be extended one year; while the other two backhoes and the excavator will be extended two years. According to Assistant City Manager John Medina, the city eventually plans to purchase three or four of the construction vehicles, but the plan is to continue to lease them for now, reducing the eventual purchase price.

- Approved a request for proposals for the sale of about 40 acres of surface-only land south of Willard Street and west of Parkway.

- Granted permission to seek a grant through the Criminal Justice Division for a new ID card printer and software for the police department.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

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Vickie A. Gonzales, 60, of Grand Prairie, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Amos T. (Ted) Franklin, 77, of Lubbock, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

NOLA

Continued from Page 1

its front tires and left more than a dozen bullet holes in the driver's door.

The driver managed to drive to a nearby gas station before two people died from their wounds. Arriving officers strung up police tape to keep crowds away. At that scene and outside the family home of some of the victims a few blocks away, mourners were still wearing festive Mardi Gras shirts and hats.

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TSTC Student Receives Guitar Once Used by Famous Rock Band

Special to the Herald

(SWEETWATER) - In the wake of the Bluebonnet Inn dorm fire at Texas State Technical College in Sweetwater, one student had a special request. Isaiah Ornelaz, an Automotive Technology student and avid guitar player, just wanted his guitar replaced.

When TSTC employees heard of the request, Rene Ralston, TSTC's director of Dual Enrollment programs, made a post on her personal Facebook page, asking if anyone might have a guitar they would be willing to donate. She soon had a response.

Maggie Dickey, owner of Sweetwater Performing Arts Center and wife of the late David Dickey, bassist of the band America, told Ralston she might have a guitar for Ornelaz.

"When we asked Maggie if she was sure she wanted to do this, her answer was, 'electric or acoustic?'" Ralston said. "Maggie took the guitar to Abilene on Saturday, had new strings put on it, had it tuned and bought Isaiah a new guitar case."

Ornelaz said he mentioned the guitar in conversation with TSTC employees he talks to often.

"I talk to them a lot, so they knew I play the guitar," he said. "When the fire happened, I was like, 'Aw, I lost my guitar,' and later they asked me if I had an electric or acoustic."

The guitar was presented to Ornelaz on Monday at a gathering TSTC Chancellor Mike Reeser held to speak to the students affected by the fire.

"I'm a guitar player, too, and I want you to know that if I lost one of my guitars in a fire, I would really be upset," Reeser told Ornelaz. "I happened to hear this morning that there are some employees trying to make sure you get your guitar. I knew David Dickey, and he's quite literally a rock star. He's the real deal."

Ornelaz was shocked to receive the gift.

"I was pretty surprised," he said. "I just thought he knew I played guitar and was talking about it, and then they showed up with a guitar."

He wasted no time in playing and even looked up music by America, whose music he hadn't previously heard.

"I played it all last night. It's awesome," he said. "I looked up some songs [by America.] They're pretty good. I'll listen to them quite a bit now."

David Dickey, a Sweetwater resident since 1996, joined America in 1972. The band produced hits like "A Horse with No Name," "Ventura High-



Courtesy photo

TSTC Dual Enrollment Director Rene Ralston presents Automotive student Isaiah Ornelaz with a guitar formerly owned by David Dickey.

way," "Hat Trick" and "Sister Golden Hair."

In all, 28 students were left without their belongings because of the dorm fire. The college and the community have rallied together to recoup the

students' lost items and necessities like clothing and books.

Those interested in donating to the students can give to the Sweetwater Fire Emergency Relief Fund at foundation.tstc.edu.

Lawsuit: Texas coach aided student accused of sexual assault

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas (AP) — A federal lawsuit alleges a Prairie View A&M University coach helped a male student accused of sexual assault flee Texas to avoid arrest.

An unidentified female athlete filed the lawsuit Friday in Houston. It accuses the university of creating a hostile educational environment and violating the federal law prohibiting gender discrimination in educational institutions, the Houston Chronicle reported.

According to the lawsuit, the woman reported to university police the day after the Feb. 18, 2015, assault in her campus apartment. She alleged she confided to her coach, who isn't named, and identified her attacker.

The coach responded by telling her not to alert her parents, and then bought the accused student a plane ticket to leave town, according to the lawsuit.

The coach left his position several months later and told the woman's teammates she was the reason for his departure, the lawsuit stated. The suit didn't mention which sport the woman played.

The unidentified accused student was found in Florida and charged with sexual assault in May 2015, according to the lawsuit, which didn't provide details on the case's outcome. The woman alleged she learned the coach paid for the student's plane ticket while she attended a bail hearing on the case.

"If the people responding to survivors are acting more like gatekeepers keeping the case from going forward, that's not justice — that's abetting a rapist," said Christopher Kaiser, director of public policy for the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault.

The university doesn't comment on pending litigation but officials take allegations of sexual assault seriously, said Yolanda Beville, spokeswoman for the university.

The accusation is the latest federal lawsuit accusing a college campus of not properly handling allegations of sexual misconduct, a problem universities nationwide have long faced. Federal officials are reconsidering guidance on how universities should respond to reports under Title IX.

"If you can't trust your coach, if you can't trust your school, if you can't trust the police, who do you turn to?" said Brenda Tracy, a victim advocate who has worked with Texas college sports teams. "You have a responsibility for the well-being of this human in front of you. This is serious trauma with serious consequences."

Houston surgeons separate toddlers joined at chest, abdomen

HOUSTON (AP) — Doctors in Houston have successfully separated toddler girls who were born in 2016 conjoined at the chest and abdomen.

A spokeswoman at Texas Children's Hospital says 13-month-old Anna and Hope Richards were in good condition Tuesday. Lindsey Fox says separation surgery was done Jan. 13 and announced Monday.

Fox says the twins join two brothers and their parents, Jill and Michael Richards, of North Texas. Fox declined to provide a hometown or more specifics about the family, as the parents focus on their daughters' recovery.

Officials say a routine ultrasound revealed the girls were conjoined. The twins were born premature, at just over 35 weeks, on Dec. 29, 2016, at Texas Children's Pavilion for Women. Their combined weight was 9 pounds, 12 ounces.



AP photo

In this Jan. 13, 2018, photo provided by Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, Hope Richards is seen in recovery after surgery to separate her from her conjoined twin Anna.

\$105M Houston Astrodome renovation plan approved

HOUSTON (AP) — Officials are going forward with a \$105 million redevelopment of the Houston Astrodome that would include raising the ground level two floors to create about 1,400 parking spaces.

Harris County commissioners voted unanimously Tuesday to give the project final approval.

Officials had approved \$10.5 million on the project's initial design in 2016.

Plans call for the bottom floor of the county-

owned Astrodome to be raised for parking so that it can be used for festivals, conferences and commercial uses across more than 550,000 square feet of space.

Parking revenue, hotel occupancy taxes and county general funds will cover the cost.

Opened in 1965, the Astrodome has been vacant for 19 years and closed to all events since 2009. Voters in 2013 rejected a \$217 million bond package for renovations.

Texas announces \$1B for mitigation efforts after Harvey

HOUSTON (AP) — Texas Gov. Greg Abbott says communities that were hit hard by Hurricane Harvey will be able to apply for over \$1 billion in federal funds that can be used on projects to help prevent or lessen damage from future storms.

Abbott said Tuesday that the funding can be used by cities and counties to pay for a variety of projects, including buyouts and elevations of homes, seawalls and large scale channeling of waterways.

He says \$500 million of the funding is available and ready to be disbursed once communities submit and get approval for their applications.

Harvey made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane on Aug. 25 and dumped more than 60 inches of rain in some areas in Southeast Texas after weakening to a tropical storm.

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'LOVE' returns: Philadelphia park gets its sculpture back



By KRISTEN DE GROOT

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — "LOVE" returned to Philadelphia on Tuesday, just in time for Valentine's Day.

The famous 1976 Robert Indiana sculpture was brought back to its namesake downtown park on a flatbed truck after making a number of stops at parks and statues along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway before the reinstallation.

School children cheered and those gathered spontaneously sang the fight song for the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles as a forklift placed the sculpture atop a pedestal.

Susan Murphy had the day off from work and came to the park to see the sculpture reinstalled. She played the Beatles "All You Need is Love" on her iPhone and sang along with her new pal Caitlin Night, who swung by take photos of what she called "the symbol of our city."

"This is what we are known for,

and it's wonderful to have the 'LOVE' back," Murphy said. "The city seemed empty without it."

The sculpture was temporarily installed at nearby City Hall in 2016 while Love Park was going through a renovation.

It was taken out of view a year ago for repairs ahead of the park's reopening.

The perennial tourist attraction and engagement photo backdrop looks a bit different. It's been repainted to the original colors of red, green and purple that the artist originally used. At some point over the decades, the purple had been repainted blue.

Deborah Rickards, who teaches third grade at nearby Friends Select School, brought her class over to see the statue's return.

"We consider the city to be part of our campus and all of these kids know the LOVE statue," she said.

Student Caroline DeFalco said she thinks the statue is one of the city's best.

"I missed it," she said. "It's a really big part of Philadelphia."

"LOVE", the famous 1976 Robert Indiana sculpture, is parked in front of John F. Kennedy Plaza before reinstallation, Tuesday Feb. 13, 2018 in Philadelphia. The sculpture was removed for repairs a year ago while its home, the downtown park, was going through a renovation.

AP photo

Second bald eagle hatches in Southern California mountains



AP photo

This still photo taken from live stream remote video cam and provided by Friends of Big Bear Valley shows a bald eagle keeping warm two recently hatched chicks on Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018 in Big Bear, Calif.

BIG BEAR LAKE, Calif. (AP) — The second of two bald eagle eggs laid last month in Southern California has hatched in a nest watched for weeks by nature lovers via an online live feed.

The first fluffy white chick made its on-camera debut when it poked its head out of the shell Sunday near Big Bear Lake east of Los Angeles.

The second hatched Monday. The mother and a male compan-

ion took turns nestling over the chicks to keep them warm as snow flurries moved through the San Bernardino National Forest.

The Institute for Wildlife Studies web page has thousands of comments from people watching the feed. The camera was installed by the group Friends of Big Bear Valley.

The U.S. Forest Service estimates the chicks will leave the nest in two to three months.

Federal vote-protection efforts lag ahead of first primaries



AP photo

A worker passes voting equipment being staged for the upcoming primary elections at the Bear County Election offices, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, in San Antonio. Texas will hold the first primary of 2018 on March 6.

By FRANK BAJAK and CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY

Associated Press

With the first primaries of the 2018 elections less than a month away, you might expect federal officials to be wrapping up efforts to safeguard the vote against expected Russian interference.

You'd be wrong.

Federal efforts to help states button down elections systems have crawled, hamstrung in part by wariness of federal meddling. Just 14 states and three local election agencies have so far asked for detailed vulnerability assessments offered by the Department of Homeland Security — and only five of the two-week examinations are complete.

Illinois, for instance — one of two states where voter registration data-

bases were breached in 2016 — requested an assessment in January and is still waiting. Primary voters go to the polls there March 20; state officials can't say whether the assessment will happen beforehand. DHS says the assessments should be finished by mid-April.

Meantime, fewer than half of the estimated 50 senior state elections officials who requested federal security clearances have received them, DHS says. That can hinder information sharing designed to help states deal with election disruptions.

And Congress is still sitting on three bipartisan bills that address election integrity issues, including funding to upgrade antiquated equipment.

Overall, experts say far too little has been done to shore up a vulner-

able mishmash of 10,000 U.S. voting jurisdictions that mostly run on obsolete and imperfectly secured technology. Russian agents targeted election systems in 21 states ahead of the 2016 general election, DHS says, and separately launched a social media blitz aimed at inflaming social tensions and sowing confusion.

The CIA director and two other top U.S. intelligence officials told the Senate Tuesday they've seen indications Russian agents are preparing a new round of election subterfuge. The secretary of state has said the same. Texas will hold the first primary of 2018 on March 6; Illinois follows two weeks later.

That makes local election officials "the front

See EFFORTS, Page 6

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EFFORTS

Continued from Page 5

lines of the information age," said Eric Rosenbach, co-director of Harvard's Belfer Center and a former Defense Department chief of staff in the Obama administration. "After what the Russians did, every other bad guy is going to come after our democracy now."

Since last July, a bipartisan team at Harvard — including former U.S. Marine and Army cyberwarriors, national security eggheads and Google engineers — has been trying to shore up that local line. The group, which calls itself the Defending Digital Democracy initiative, has just drafted its latest protect-the-vote election "playbooks" intended to prepare state and local officials for the worst.

"It's not a question of whether somebody is going to try to breach the system," said Robby Mook, manager of the 2016 Clinton campaign, which was stung by multiple email thefts later traced to Russian agents. "The question is: 'How resilient are we and what are we doing to protect ourselves?'"

Mook helps run the effort with Matt Rhoades, who managed Mitt Romney's 2012 presidential run. Over six months, the authors visited 34 state and county offices and ran simulations to help local officials improve their "threat awareness."

The team's findings highlight resource-strapped election systems that can't secure their own operations, vulnerable voting-equipment vendors and the threat posed by insiders and people looking for political advantage.

There's no evidence that any hack in the November 2016 election affected election results. But there are also cases — such as in Georgia, where a key election-staging server was exposed on the open internet for months then wiped clean without a forensic exam — that haven't been independently investigated.

And federal delays are legion. In the last election, DHS took nearly a year to inform the affected states of hacking attempts, blaming it in part on a lack of security clearances. But it hasn't made up enough lost ground to satisfy critics on Capitol Hill.

In Illinois, for instance, the executive director of the state elections board submitted his application in August and has yet to receive his clearance, according to agency spokesman Matt Dietrich.

As a stopgap, DHS is providing one-day "read-ins" on secret information this week in Washington to about 100 senior state officials — secretaries of state and elections directors — gathered there for a meeting. "That's a way to deal with the fact that the process hasn't worked as quickly as we'd hoped," Bob Kolasky, deputy assistant secretary at DHS for infrastructure protection, said in an interview.

The Harvard team recommends a variety of election safeguards, such as background checks for everyone with access to sensitive election systems, universal use of voting machines that produce a paper trail, and routine, rigorous audits of election results — currently standard only in Colorado and Rhode Island.

The team also urges local officials to quickly acknowledge any election threats and immediately explain to the public what they are doing about them — two things that don't come naturally to them.

Elections officials "made us all a little nervous" in their handling of disinformation scenarios during tabletop exercises — such as bogus online reports of two-mile-long lines certain polling stations, said Rosenbach.

"They do not want to talk to the press, much less communicate at all," he said. A hack is just one element of a modern election attack — "the more potent part is often info ops."

Gates turns attention toward poverty, growing inequity in US



In this Feb. 1, 2018 photo, Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates and his wife Melinda take part in an interview with The Associated Press in Kirkland, Wash. Gates and his wife, head the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, are rethinking their work in America as they confront what they consider an unsatisfactory track record, the country's growing inequity and a president they disagree with more than any other.

By SALLY HO

Associated Press

KIRKLAND, Wash. — Bill and Melinda Gates, as the world's top philanthropists, are rethinking their work in America as they confront what they consider their unsatisfactory track record on schools, the country's growing inequity and a president they disagree with more than any other.

In an interview with The Associated Press, the couple said they're concerned about President Donald Trump's "America first" worldview. They've made known their differences with the president and his party on issues including foreign aid, taxes and protections for immigrant youth in the country illegally.

And they said they're now digging into the layers of U.S. poverty that they haven't been deeply involved with at the national level, including employment, race, housing, mental health, incarceration and substance abuse.

"We are not seeing the mobility out of poverty in the same way in the United States as it used to exist," Melinda Gates said.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is studying these topics with no plans yet for any particular initiatives, though it has done related work at home in Washington state on a much smaller scale. Last year, it funded a grant for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities to look into state and federal policies that can reduce poverty.

Once the world's richest man, Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates has marked a decade since transitioning away from the tech giant to focus on philanthropy. He said he's had two meetings with Trump, where they discussed innovation in education, energy and health — including vaccines, which Trump has voiced skepticism about.

"I got, both times, to talk about the miracle of vaccines and how those are good things," Bill Gates said.

Melinda Gates, who left her job at Microsoft to raise their three children before turning to the foundation full-time, has lately embraced her role as a public figure more boldly. She called out Trump's behavior, saying the president has a responsibility to be a good role model when he speaks and tweets, and that his verbal attacks don't belong in the public discourse.

"You just have to go look in Twitter to

see the disparaging comments over and over and over again about women and minorities," Melinda Gates said. "That's just not what I believe. It's not the world that I see."

Trump has said he's a counterpuncher who goes after people when they go after him, only 10 times harder.

Taking a more reflective review of their work than in years past, the couple in their annual letter published Tuesday also answered 10 questions critics often ask them. They acknowledge it's unfair that they have so much wealth and influence but reject the notion that they're imposing their values on other cultures.

"Behind the scenes, these are the tough, tough questions that people are asking us, and yeah, we have to wrestle with them ourselves," Melinda Gates said in the Feb. 1 interview.

Since 2000, the Seattle-based private foundation has amassed an endowment worth over \$40 billion, which includes a large portion of billionaire investor Warren Buffett's fortune. The Gates Foundation has given money to various programs in more than 100 countries, as well as in all 50 states and Washington, D.C.

Their approach to giving has shifted the philanthropy world as a whole. They've been criticized for prescribing how the money is spent and then expecting tangible proof their investments work.

About 75 percent of the foundation's resources are dedicated to global health and development. Bill Gates said they're proudest of their efforts to help eradicate polio and curb the number of child deaths, calling those global health improvements a miracle.

But he concedes the same level of progress didn't happen in the U.S. with their strategy of chasing equity through education reform. U.S. education initiatives are a distant second funding priority for the foundation, but the \$450 million the Gateses spend annually on the issue makes them the top funders of schools reform in America.

They've been major supporters of charter schools and also pushed Common Core education standards, teacher evaluation systems that factored in student test scores and a smaller schools model — highly polarizing

education policy reforms that didn't dramatically change student outcomes but made the Gateses deeply unpopular in some communities.

"It's in taking all of those lessons and saying, 'OK, but did they reach the majority of the school districts? Did they scale and change the system for low-income and minority kids writ large, at scale?' And the answer when we looked at it, it was no," Melinda Gates said.

Christopher Lubienski, an education policy expert who studies philanthropy, said he found the couple's honesty refreshing but noted their foundation's overall approach means it will continue to systematically influence education reform.

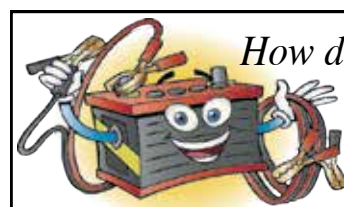
Lubienski, who said he has not sought nor received money from Gates, also noted that by turning their attention to poverty, the Gateses are tackling the "really big elephant in the room" when it comes to student achievement.

"It's also a much bigger, more expensive and politically stickier area to attack than simply changing the structure of schools," Lubienski said.

The Gateses say they're going in a less prescriptive direction on U.S. education by funding efforts through regional networks of schools, which will lean more heavily on educators at the local level. They also intend to support new curriculum development and charters catering to students with special needs.

The foundation will spend \$1.7 billion on education over the next five years, as K-12 will remain their primary focus in the U.S. But as they take stock of the country — from the West Coast's growing income gap to the generations of racial inequities in the American South — the Gateses say they're looking at myriad problems that hinder children in the classroom.

"Poverty is like education, where there's not enough philanthropic resources to take on responsibility, but if you can show how to have a lot more impact, then the policies will benefit from that," Bill Gates said.



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Bulldogs lose to Wolves by 5 Mason Moore nets 25 points in last game as a Bulldog



Courtesy photo

Left, Mason Moore heads to the post during the Coahoma Bulldog vs. Colorado City Wolves game held Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, in Coahoma. Above, Bryson Cline pushes past a Colorado City defender during the Bulldogs varsity versus the Colorado City Wolves game held Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, in Coahoma.

70-61.

Omar Boone answered back for the Wolves pounding in the ball for his second slam dunk of the night to give Colorado City a little breathing room at 72-61. Moore then netted 2 from the charity stripe and Joe Manning stepped up once again to nail a shot to cut the Wolves' lead down to 7. The Wolves netted one more goal for the game to set the score at 74-65, but Moore and the Bulldogs were not done for the night. The senior hit two more goals, one with 25 seconds left, while the Wolves tried to slow down the game and keep the ball out of Coahoma's itching hands. The Wolves were successful and won the match 74-69.

Manning was on fire in the fourth quarter scoring 12 of his total 13 game points in that quarter alone.

However, Moore netted a whopping 25 points overall in the game. The senior has been deadly at the rim p for the Bulldogs all season long. In the third, Moore hit back-to-back 3-pointers with the last one being his fourth of the night.

Clark raked in 18 points during the game and

See 'DOGS, Page 13

Special to the Herald

With less than 3 minutes left in the game, the Coahoma Bulldogs whittled down a 14 point deficit to 5 but a lack of time and a tough Colorado City team kept the Bulldogs from winning their last game of the season. The Wolves took the match 74-69 Tuesday evening.

Playing tough and fast basketball all four quarters, the two teams went into the fourth quarter to battle until the buzzer sounded. And that's just what they did.

Colorado City had the advantage of an 8-point

lead heading into the last quarter of play with the score at 54-46. Bryson Cline, Gage Clark, and Joe Manning helped to cut it down to 6. However, every time one of the Bulldogs scored, the Wolves answered back then Kwentin Malveaux buried the ball from behind the arc for the Wolves. Colorado City started to pull away eventually gaining a 14-point advantage over the 'Dogs as the clock ticked down to the last 3 minutes.

It was Joe Manning that lit the fire for the Bulldogs when he nailed a shot. Mason Moore followed easily sinking in one from the free throw line. Manning sank a shot for 2 more to narrow the score to

Steer varsity falls to Wylie 104-47



Tony Claxton (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring Steer Deryk Renteria shoots for three points during the Steer's loss to Abilene Wylie at home in Steer Gym on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. Big Spring High School men's basketball seniors were honored before their game against Abilene Wylie on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. Pictured from left to right are: Deryk Renteria, Dimas Garcia, John Ibanez and Javone Ford.

Lady Buffs beat Anson

By STEVE BELVIN

Staff Writer

SNYDER - The Forsan Lady Buffaloes answered their first playoff test with a resounding 43-24 win over the Anson Lady Tigers Tuesday night in bi-district action at Western Texas Junior College.

Forsan did it with a strong zone defense that the shorter Lady Tigers couldn't contend with. How is this for defensive dominance? Anson went the first 13 minutes of the second half without scoring a point. Forsan held the Lady Tigers scoreless in the third quarter and stayed at a 36-15 lead going into the fourth.

Forsan was simply too tall for Anson. The front line of Chasidy Grantham, Jenna Evans and Emily Garcia combined for 30 rebounds. The Lady Buffs held a decisive rebounding edge (38-21).

The scrappy Lady Tigers kept it close for a quarter, trailing 11-8 thanks to a couple of three-pointers. Tess Lahawues shot 5-of-9 from the floor and led Anson with 10 points and five rebounds.

The Lady Tigers elected to live from

See LADY BUFFS, Page 13

Lady Steer softballers shut out Tahoka

By STEVE BELVIN

Staff Writer

The season opener for the Big Spring Lady Steers turned out to be batting practice. It was well taken as the Lady Steers hammered the Tahoka Lady Bulldogs 21-0 in softball play at Lady Steer Field.

The Steers worked on their hitting game to the tune of 17 hits, eight of them for extra bases, including six home runs. "I know they are 2A and we are 4A. I expected us to get some hits," said Big Spring coach Chesley Jordan. "The home runs were something we haven't done in a long time. We were very selective and patient. We were looking for good pitches."

It was a good inauguration for pitcher Maddie Daniels, a Coahoma transfer. In addition to pitching a one-hit ballgame over three innings, she and right fielder Jocelyn Olivarez each hit two home runs. Daniels hit a two-run homer in the first inning and a three-run shot in the third. Olivarez hit an inside-the-park homer to start things off for Big Spring, and a two-run blast in the second inning. Catcher Cierra Martinez and third baseman Jocelyn Gonzales also hit homers. Cierra Martinez, Alex Starr and Amber Martinez all had two hit games.

See SOFTBALL, Page 13

Bulldogettes defeat Wall 7-2



Courtesy Photo

MaKynlee Overton hits a ball during the Bulldogettes opening game against the Wall Lady Hawks held Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018 in Forsan. The Coahoma Bulldogettes won the matchup 7-2.

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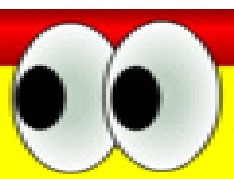
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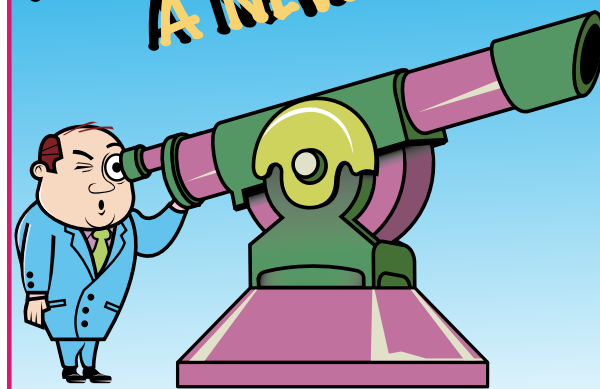
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Tale of the two missing queens

North dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 5 4 2
♥ A 7
♦ K 6
♣ K 8 7 4 3

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

EAST
♠ Q J 9 6 3
♥ 10 6 5
♦ 8 2
♣ 10 9 6

SOUTH
♠ A 7
♥ K 4
♦ A J 9 7 5 3
♣ A J 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
1 ♥ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
4 ♦ Pass 6 ♦

Opening lead — queen of hearts.
Assume you're declarer at six diamonds and you take West's queen-of-hearts lead with the king. How would you play the hand?
The outcome seems to depend on two finesses — one in diamonds, the other in clubs. If either finesse wins and the trumps are divided normally, 12 tricks become certain.
As it happens, both finesses, if attempted, lose. But when the hand was played, declarer found a different approach that did not depend entirely on the location of the minor-suit queens.
At trick two, he led a diamond to the king and returned a diamond to the jack, losing to the queen. After West exited with a heart to dummy's ace, South led a spade to his ace and cashed the ace of trumps, dummy discarding a club and East a spade.
Declarer next led a spade to dummy's king and ruffed a spade, taking particular note of West's failure to follow suit. He then cashed his last two trumps, discarding two more clubs from dummy and retaining dummy's last spade. East's last three cards at this point consisted of the queen of spades and 10-9 of clubs.
South now led a low club to dummy's king and a low club back, East producing first the nine and then the ten. Ordinarily, declarer would have finessed the jack and gone down two, but since East's last card was known to be spade, a finesse could not possibly succeed. So South played the ace, caught West's queen and thus made the slam.
The key to South's success lay in his playing three rounds of spades to force the defenders to reveal their distribution in that suit. Nothing could be lost by investigating the spade situation, but there was much to be gained by trying to get a more precise picture of the unseen hands.

Tomorrow: It only hurts for a minute.
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Aquarian Moon Rules the Day of Hearts BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The Aquarius lunar vibes are associated with friendship, compassion, higher thinking and our better angels. The kind of love that's in the air on this day of hearts might be characterized as the love that bonds humanity. It's a day to appreciate all the people who matter to us, not just the ones who have romantic significance.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's easy to know who is good for you. You're somehow more and better than you thought you could be, and you can trace your progress back to the moment you took this person's hand.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You both know how close you are to one another, though you've never tried to entirely articulate the bond. There's a feeling exchanged in eye contact that is both too simple and too complex to explain.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Life works out. Love happens. You can't force these things, and when you've tried in the past, it only complicated the process unnecessarily. So you take your hands off the controls and enjoy yourself.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). To learn another person is to love. On the other hand, to remain mystified is a missed opportunity. So you give your attention, carefully, non-intrusively, ever more curious.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've changed in order to be the person that another person needs. This, for you, has been the best reason -- not a conscious one, but a reason that kept you magnetized to your best self.


VIRGO (Aug. 23-

subtle and beautiful changes in the way you choose to love others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When it comes to your love ones, you embrace (instead of run from) the chance to give to them in a way that will never come back to you. After all, the chance to prove your love doesn't come along every day.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's not that you're fulfilling a role in another person's life; it's that you're making a connection, building a unique bond, making something happen for each other that couldn't happen with any other person in the world.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 14). You seize the chance to use your talents to make people smile. It won't take long for a new sense of prosperity to drop in. Supportive people are your true wealth. When life doesn't go to plan in March, resist trying to bend it to your will. Relax and observe and you'll soon be able to turn all factors to your advantage. Gemini and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 3, 39, 22 and 18.



Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com.
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SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

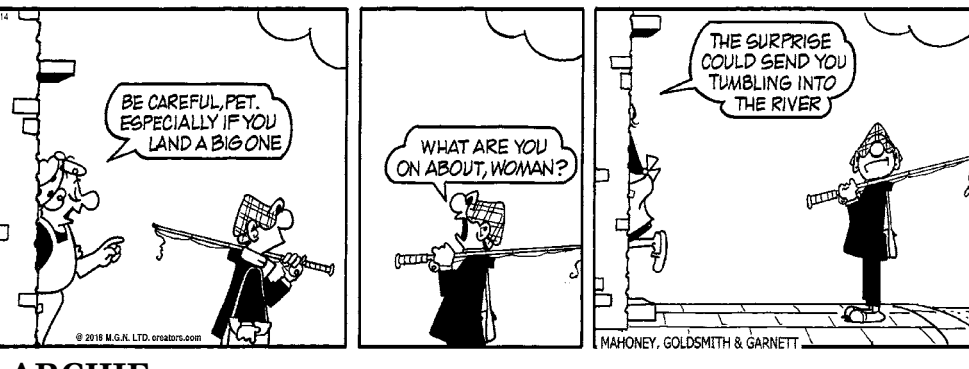
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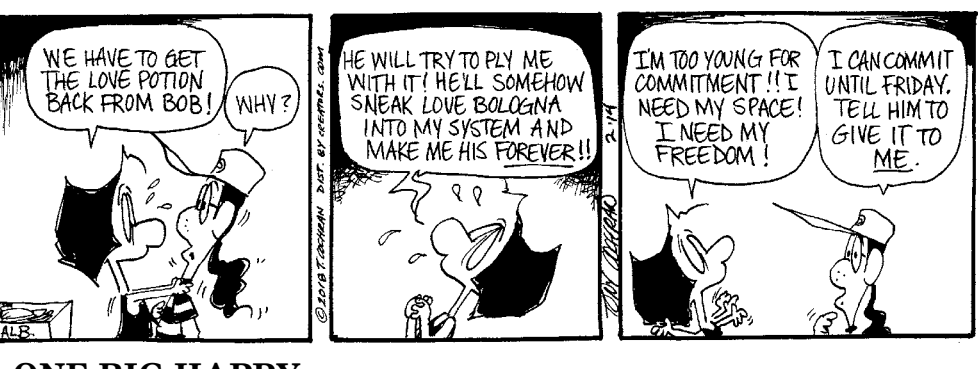
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AGNES



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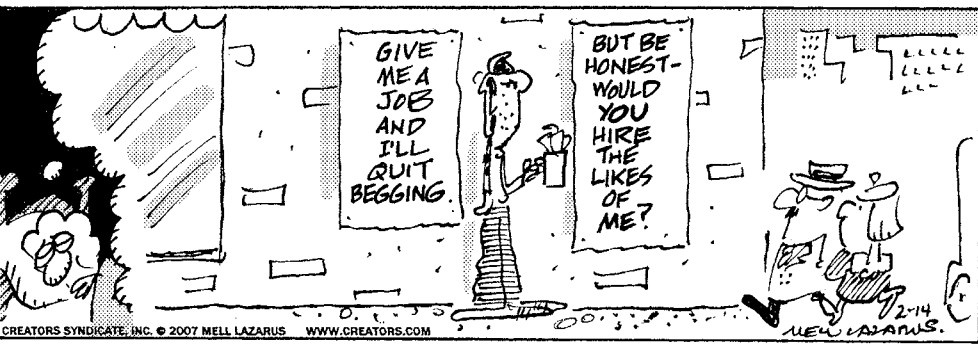
ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today is Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, the 45th day of 2018. There are 320 days left in the year. This is Valentine's Day. Today's Highlights in History: On Feb. 14, 1918, Russia converted from the Old Style Julian calendar to the New Style Gregorian calendar, "losing" 13 days in the process...

In 1990, 92 people were killed when an Indian Airlines passenger jet crashed while landing at a southern Indian airport.

Ten years ago: A former student dressed in black walked onto the stage of a lecture hall at Northern Illinois University and opened fire on a packed science class; the 27-year-old gunman killed five students before committing suicide.

Five years ago: Double-amputee and Olympic sprinter Oscar Pistorius shot and killed his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp, at his home in Pretoria, South Africa; he was later convicted of murder and is serving a 13-year prison term.

One year ago: Authorities lifted an evacuation order for nearly 200,000 Northern California residents living below the Oroville Dam after declaring that the risk of catastrophic collapse of a damaged spillway had been significantly reduced.

Today's Birthdays: TV personality Hugh Downs is 97. Actor Andrew Prine is 82. Country singer Razyzy Bailey is 79. Former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is 76. Jazz musician Maceo Parker is 75.

Movie director Alan Parker is 74. Journalist Carl Bernstein is 74. Former Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H., is 71. TV personality Pat O'Brien is 70. Magician Teller (Penn and Teller) is 70. Cajun singer-musician Michael Doucet (doo-SAY) (Beausoleil) is 67. Actor Ken Wahl is 61. Opera singer Renee Fleming is 59. Actress Meg Tilly is 58. Pro Football Hall of Famer Jim Kelly is 58. Singer-producer Dwayne Wiggins is 57. Actress Sakina Jaffey is 56. Actor Enrico Colantoni is 55. Actor Zach Galligan is 54. Actor Valente Rodriguez is 54. Rock musician Ricky Wolking (The Nixons) is 52. Tennis player Manuela Maleeva is 51. Actor Simon Pegg is 48. Rock musician Kevin Baldes (Lit) is 46. Rock singer Rob Thomas (Matchbox Twenty) is 46. Former NFL quarterback Drew Bledsoe is 46. Actor Matt Barr is 34. Actress Stephanie Leonidas is 34. Actor Jake Lacy is 32. Actress Tiffany Thornton is 32. Actor Brett Dier is 28. Actor Freddie Highmore is 26.

Thought for Today: "Age is something that doesn't matter, unless you are a cheese." Jack Benny American actor-comedian (born this date in 1894, died in 1974).

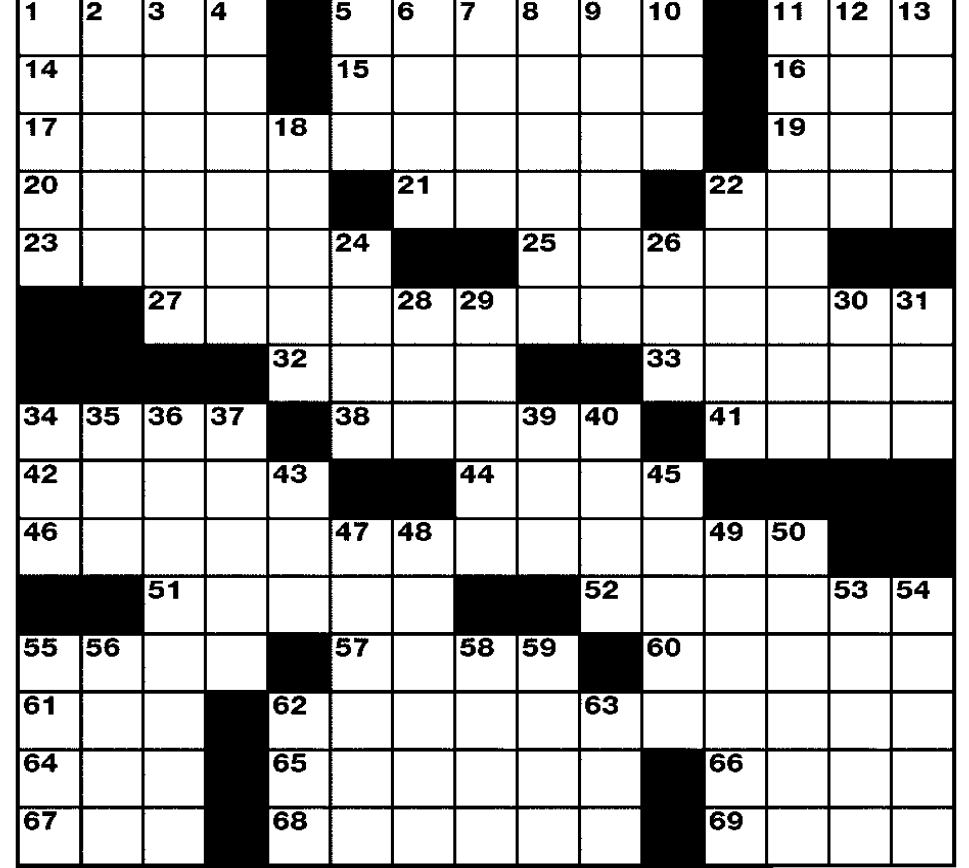
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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Just bought 5 Piña ___ (rum cocktail) 11 Quick punch 14 Sonnet creator 15 Fruits in Greek salads 16 In the past 17 Athlete's liquid booster 19 Teachers' org. 20 Low point 21 Word on a concert ticket 22 Top-quality 23 Tennis great Edberg 25 Lake near Reno 27 Courtroom representative 32 Easy running pace 33 Bring out dinner 34 Cupid's Greek alias 38 Colgate competitor 41 Achievement 42 Jeweler's magnifier 44 House top 46 Something brushed on a hall wall 51 Mont ___ (highest of the Alps) 52 Sounds of contempt 55 USAF no-show 57 Physician's "Now!" 60 Italian love 61 Witch's curse 62 Magnolia, for Mississippi 64 Urban rd. 65 Mexican Mrs.

CABINET QUARTET by Mark McClain Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- 11 Charlotte Brontë novel 12 Long time periods 13 Watercraft 18 Horticultural transplant 22 Acknowledged applause 24 Cruel Roman emperor 26 Keeps 28 Likewise not 29 Beatle usually seated 30 First mother 31 Signal to stop 34 Manning of football 35 Director Howard 36 Defeated in the ring 37 Witch's curse 39 Chop (off) 40 Snakes that squeeze 43 Named time period 45 Ultimate 47 Upper part of a foot 48 Gas pump number 49 "That's enough!" 50 Mason's tool 53 Lock of hair 54 Sealy alternative 55 Melville captain 56 Pronoun/verb contraction 58 Electron's home 59 Prefix meaning "trillion" 62 IRS ID issuer 63 Devoted follower



Answer to previous puzzle: PANGS ABLY CATS OHARA ERILE ORAL PAPAL SOFA MILO BELOWTHEBELT ADA SIP SASSY REGIME TOUT BALANCE DOOR PCS BALANCETHBOOKS YEN ONES OLDIE ANTS UNSEEN CHESS ASA DDT BREAKTHEBANK REDS AIDE ZEBRA EDGE NYET APRIL WOES TANS STROP

'DOGS

Continued from Page 7

made two huge blocks to keep the Wolves from scoring. At the end of the third, Clark released a successful shot before the buzzer sounded giving the Bulldogs an emotional boost heading into the fourth.

Cline earned 11 points for the Bulldogs with 6 of those coming in the first quarter alone. Cline also netted a 3-point shot during a very important third quarter for the 'Dogs. Zack Schneider scored 2 points in the game and made a block and steal which the Bulldogs turned toward their advantage.

Overall, Coahoma outscored the

Wolves 42 to 36 in the second half. Coahoma had 19 in the third and 23 in fourth while Colorado City earned 16 and 20 respectively. The Wolves ended the first quarter with a slim 19-17 advantage but broke open the game in the second. The Wolves scored 19 points while holding Coahoma to 10.

As well as being the final game of the season for the Coahoma boys

team, Tuesday night mark the last basketball game Moore and his fellow teammate Bracy Bacon will suit up for as Bulldog. The two along with the entire Bulldogs team and their parents were recognized before the game during Parent Night.

LADY BUFFS

Continued from Page 7

the outside; they couldn't get inside the Forsan defense. After that slow start Forsan gradually found its rhythm as guards Rylee Evans and Macey Evans made a few from the outside. The sisters combined for 22 points for the game. Grantham had a strong game posting a game-high 16 points and 12 rebounds.

"We were trying to force the issue (defensively) instead of letting the offense flow. Then we started taking what they would give us and we got some easy points," said Forsan coach Lloyd Vedder. "At least we are getting the shots, so hopefully Friday night they'll fall. We made sure we didn't start ball watching and turning around and looking. We gave up seven points in the second half, I'll take that."

The details of Forsan's next game is to be announced.

FORSAN- Rylee Evans 4-0-10; Chasidy Grantham 6-2-16; Macey Evans 5-1-12; Emily Garcia 3-0-6; Jenna Evans 1-0-2; totals 19-3-43.

ANSON- Trista McIntyre 2-0-5; Mollie Hagler 2-1-7; Tess Lahawues 5-0-10; Hayven Drinnon 0-2-2; Jaylissa Lozano 1-0-2; totals 9-3-24.

Forsan 11-13-12-07 - 43

Anson 8-7-0-9-24

Records - Forsan (25-5); Anson (17-7)

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page 7

Daniels finished her three innings with eight strikeouts and two walks. Kynleigh Joy pitched the last two innings.

Jordan didn't have much to complain about in this game, Although she did see a few flaws.

"We missed a few signs, made a couple of base running mistakes but I'm pleased," she said.

The Lady Steers will host Lamesa next Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

JV Bulldogs lose to C-City



Sean Striegler, No. 3, reaches for the hoop during the Bulldogs JV Red team verses the Colorado City Wolves game held Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, in Coahoma.

Courtesy photo

Jokic's triple-double leads Nuggets over Spurs, 117-109

By MICHAEL KELLY

Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — San Antonio has dominated the Nuggets for four seasons, so Denver wasn't apologizing for finally beating the depleted Spurs.

"A win is a win," Nikola Jokic said. "We're going to take it."

Jokic had 23 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists, Will Barton scored 20 points and Denver beat the struggling Spurs 117-109 on Tuesday night.

Jokic notched his fourth triple-double of the season to lead the Nuggets to their fifth win in six games and finally one against San Antonio. The Spurs had won 15 of 16 against Denver, including the first two meetings this season.

"I know they're banged up, they have some guys out, but so do we," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "They have the best coach in NBA history. They're always going to play the right way."

Denver outscored the Spurs 30-19 in the fourth quarter to rally from seven down late in the third.

Joffrey Lauvergne scored a career-high 26 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, and Tony Parker had 17 points for San Antonio. The Spurs have lost five of six heading into their All-Star break.

"We made some poor choices offensively," Spurs forward Pau Gasol said. "We had a couple of turnovers in a row and they capitalized on easy transition points and that's when they broke the game open."

San Antonio was again without its top two players in Kawhi Leonard and LaMarcus Aldridge. Leonard has missed all but nine games and Aldridge sat for the second straight night to rest his sore right knee.

Things got worse when Manu Ginobili left the game in the third quarter and didn't return.

"He just felt something in the bottom of his foot and he didn't want to take any chances," coach Gregg Popovich said. "It's a sprain."

Lauvergne stepped up in Aldridge's absence and sur-

passed his previous high of 22 points for the Nuggets nearly two years ago. His 11 rebounds were a season high.

Lauvergne's layup early in the fourth gave the Spurs a 100-99 lead but Denver closed out on an 18-9 run. Gary Harris had seven of his 15 points in the last 7:28 and Jokic got his 10th assist on Wilson Chandler's driving layup with 3:19 left that gave Denver a 114-103 lead.

Jokic has 10 career triple-doubles. "I was aggressive and then they started collapsing on me and I just made an extra pass," he said. "That was an easy, easy game for me."

Jamal Murray scored 17 points after missing Monday's practice and Tuesday's morning shootaround with chest discomfort. He was a game-time decision but played 38 minutes.

TIP-INS

Spurs: University of Colorado coach Tad Boyle was on hand to see his former player, Derrick White, now with San Antonio. White had two points in two minutes. ... Aldridge will participate in All-Star weekend despite sitting out Monday and Tuesday. ... The Spurs' bench outscored the starters 66-43.

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SPURS

Continued from Page 13

play even though he was bedridden for a couple of days.

Murray didn't miss a game as a rookie last season despite playing with a core-muscle injury that re-

quired offseason surgery.

"I don't miss a lot of games," he said. **FAMILIAR FACE**

Lauvergne played his first two seasons in Denver, including 59 games in 2015-16, Malone's first year as coach. So Malone jokingly took credit for Lauvergne's play Tuesday night.

"Well, we developed him. He learned

all that here," Malone said. "I'm happy for Joffrey. I've always been a big fan of his. He's a hard worker and obviously he took advantage of the opportunity."

Lauvergne has played sparingly this season but averaged 20.5 minutes the last two games.

"I understand how the game goes in

the NBA," he said. "Of course I would like to play more because I know I can play. I know I can be a good player. But I also understand this part of it."

UP NEXT

Spurs: At the Denver Nuggets on Feb. 23.

Nuggets: At the Milwaukee Bucks on Thursday night.

Randolph keys big first half, Kings top Mavericks 114-109

By **DAVE JACKSON**

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — American Airlines Center was once the most hostile road arena for the Sacramento Kings.

Not anymore.

Zach Randolph scored 22 points, Bogdan Bogdanovich added 19 and the Kings used a big first half to beat the Dallas Mavericks 114-109 on Tuesday night.

Sacramento has won four of five in Dallas after losing 22 in a row here from 2003 to 2016.

"We were sharing the ball," Randolph said. "Once we were moving the ball, we were getting attacks. That's what good teams do — move the ball."

While the Kings were taking charge early, the Mavs played like a team that was starting the All-Star break one game early.

Randolph scored 18 in the first half, helping Sacramento to a 65-44 lead at the break. The Kings dominated the paint in the first two quarters, scoring 40 points, while the Mavericks shot just 35 percent.

At one point in the second quarter, coach Rick Carlisle replaced his entire lineup, only to see the Kings beat the Mavs to two offensive rebounds that resulted in a Garrett Temple 3-pointer that made it 46-28.

"Bad first half, good second half, have a great break," Carlisle said to open his postgame press conference. He then walked away from the podium before coming back to answer a few more questions, saying, "Our job is to compete, and we didn't compete in the first half, and that's a problem."

J.J. Barea led the Mavericks with 19 points, and Harrison Barnes and Dwight Powell each scored 18.

The Kings had a 26-point lead early in the third quarter before the Mavericks put together a 17-3 run fueled by four 3-pointers. But Sacramento had an 88-71 advantage after three, and then opened the final quarter with a 9-0 run to match its largest lead.

The Mavericks kept chipping away for the entire quarter and closed with a 30-11 run to make the fi-



nal score close.

"The season got off to a little bit of a tough start, but we've been fighting and staying together," Barea said. "We've got to help the young guys out, get better as a team and finish the season as best as we can."

MR. SMITH GOES TO LOS ANGELES

The only Mavericks player attending All-Star weekend is rookie point guard Dennis Smith Jr., who will play in the Rising Stars game on Friday night and then join three others for the Verizon Slam Dunk contest Saturday.

"I always wanted to be in the All-Star Game, not so much the dunk contest," Smith said. "But to be in it is a blessing and I'm looking forward to it."

Smith scored 17 points against Sacramento, but it was a former dunk contest winner, 41-year-old Vince Carter, who put down the night's most emphatic slam after he stole the ball and went in uncontested in the second quarter.

TIP-INS

Kings: Finished with 56 points in the paint. "I thought we did a good job finishing around the rim," coach Dave Joerger said. "Certainly our bigs were terrific." Post players Randolph, Willie Cauley-Stein and Kosta Koufos shot 19 for 28. ... Eight minutes into the game, Randolph had outscored the cold-shooting Mavericks all by himself, 11-8. ... Carlisle said Carter's longevity was "beyond belief. ... He's still playing at a good level. You've got to guard him." Carter played for the Mavericks from 2011-14.

Mavericks: Dirk Nowitzki, Wesley Matthews and Barea returned after missing Sunday night's loss to Houston due to various minor injuries. ... Matthews became the seventh Dallas player to hit 500 3-pointers with the team with his two in the first half.

UP NEXT

Kings: At Houston on Wednesday for the second half of a back-to-back.

Mavericks: Nine days off before visiting the Lakers on Feb. 23.

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