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VOLUME 115, NUMBER 112

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Inspirational author, speaker Mike Williams to be guest speaker at annual Life Center luncheon

By **ANNA GUTIERREZ**
 Staff Writer

Often times, even with the best precautions, life has other plans. Pregnancy doesn't always follow our schedule. This is where The Life Center - Big Spring can help with life's surprises, and at no cost to their clients.

"The Life Center in Big Spring is a community resource center to help families during pregnancy and with young children," says Tracy Watson, The Life Center - Big Spring Director. "Our goal in Big Spring is to help moms and dads choose life and to support them in their decision. We value education, and so we educate men and women while they are pregnant on what to expect during pregnancy, after birth with newborn care, and as their child grows until the child is 36 months old."

In order to fulfill their mission, there will be a lunch and learn fundraiser on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2020, at 11:45 a.m. at the Hotel Settles. They are currently accepting table sponsorships, and different levels are available. Sponsorship will allow The Life Center - Big Spring to continue pregnancy testing, prenatal and parenting education, material as-



HERALD file photo

The annual Life Center fundraiser event is coming up, Feb. 18 and will take place at Hotel Settles again this year. Sponsorships are still available, as well as tickets.

sistance, and optional prayer and Bible-based mentoring programs.

This year's featured speaker will be Mike G. Williams. Mr. Williams and his family are missionaries in the Dominican Republic serving orphans, trafficked girls and a dump ministry. He is the author of 14 books and 16 comedy projects offering spiritual encour-

agement and inspiration to men, young people and married couples.

"Mike Williams is a well sought after speaker," states Watson. "He was chosen for this fundraiser after he spoke at the Odessa fundraiser last year. Mike has a powerful testimony, and his

See **LIFE**, Page 3

Upcoming Event

Feb. 7

Chamber Extravaganza
 Howard Co. Fairgrounds
 Tickets on sale, call
 Big Spring Chamber of
 Commerce

Feb. 8

Big Spring Symphony
 presents:
 Beethoven is 250
 Municipal Auditorium
 Tickets available at
 various outlets

Feb. 14

Valentine's Day

Keep an eye out for an
 upcoming story with
 community events for
 Valentine's Day!

Feb. 15

Run2Love2Run
 10 a.m.
 Register online at
 permianbasinevents.com

Feb. 18

Life Center Luncheon
 ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

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Schools, City, County enjoyed a Snow Day!



Community Report Photos

Howard County and West Texas saw large amounts of snowfall on Wednesday. Area schools closed along with City and County offices. Students were able to enjoy a late start this morning as well. Pictured above left: Photo submitted by Kimberly Coates picturing the snow that fell Wednesday morning. Pictured directly left is a photo submitted by Laura Prince of her family enjoying the snow, as it began to fall. Pictured above right: Submitted by Natalie Permitter of her son Nathaniel playing with their labs in the snow.



Naz Family Chili Cook-off Champion named Dee Lindsey claims title this past weekend

Herald Staff Report

While many were gearing up for Super Bowl weekend, there were 11 chefs who were vying for the Chili Champion title at this year's Nazarene Christian Academy (NCA) Chili Cook-off. The cooks came together Saturday afternoon at NazFamily Church and one winner - Dee Lindsey - claimed the Champion title.

"This was our first chili cook-off and silent auction," Kaleigh Sullivan, NCA Director, said. "All funds raised will be used for future scholarships to our school. We are looking at making this an annual event."

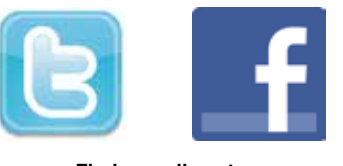
This year, while it was the first year, drew in 11 different chilis, each with their own unique flavor. Each entry had to be cooked before hand within 24 hours of the competition. Judges came together



Courtesy photo

Pictured at right: Dee Lindsey and her family show off their trophy from the recent Chili Cook-off at NazFamily.

See **CHILI**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Charlie Joe Schafer



Charlie Joe Schafer, 88, of Glasscock County passed away Feb. 2, 2020, after a three-and-a-half-year battle with Dementia.

Before Charlie was stricken, he was a very social person, had many friends and was always happy to have company pop in for a visit.

He was an avid Golfer, loved tending to a beautiful yard, and planting an overflowing garden every year. His yard was referred to as a "Garden of Eden" in the middle of a desert. He always made sure to over plant his vegetable gardens each year so friends and neighbors

could enjoy his favorite hobby along with family. He had a true green thumb. He always said he inherited that green thumb from his mother.

He was the grandson of Pioneer Ranchers of Glasscock County, and is the last of the Ben and Maude Carter Schafer family, ranchers in the Glasscock area. Charlie was born at the family ranch March 22, 1931.

Charlie married Barbara Moreland in Big Spring, Texas, in 1951. They were married for 62 years.

Charlie and Barbara had three daughters, Cindy, Penny and Rosie. Those three daughters gave them seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Charlie is pre-deceased by his parents, wife, three brothers, 2 sisters, one grandson.

Graveside services will be held 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7, 2020, at the Garden City Cemetery under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Paid Obituary

James Proctor

James Proctor died February 4, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Joann Cagle



Joann Cagle, 76, died Monday, Feb. 3, 2020, in Grapevine, Texas. Funeral services will be 10 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Joann was born April 12, 1943, in Gordon, Texas, to Tippy and Myrtle Jones. She married Gary Cagle on April 11, 1959 in Stanton, Texas. She enjoyed painting and ceramics in her early years, then loved her some bingo. She moved to Keller, Texas, in 2005 to enjoy her twin granddaughters and did until her last breath. She had a love for her family and was always looking out for them. She was diagnosed with Pulmonary Hypertension in 2007 and was under the

care of UT Southwestern, where they helped her to have a quality of life.

She is survived by her daughter, Cathy Cagle of Pelham, Alabama; her son, Dee Cagle and wife, Jackie of Keller, Texas; son-in-law, Wayne Hudson of Bankston, Alabama; grandson, Randy Hudson and wife, Shertha of Plano, Texas; granddaughters, Jennifer Brackner and husband, Ethan of Pelham, Alabama, Brittney and Courtney Cagle of Keller, Texas; and great-grandchildren, Cadence Hudson of Plano, Texas, and Alex and Calynn Watkins of Pelham, Alabama.

Joann was preceded in death by her husband Gary, January 4, 2004.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like to encourage donations to: UT Southwestern Heart and Lung Clinic, <https://engage.utsouthwestern.edu/donate-now>.

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

Paid Obituary

Darlene (Bristow) Caffey



Darlene (Bristow) Caffey, 82, of Stanton passed away early Sunday morning, Feb. 2, 2020, at her home. She was born on April 12, 1937, at her parent home in Fisher County, Texas, to J.V. and Thelma Bristow. She was a graduate of Ackerly High School.

Darlene married Woodie Caffey of Knott on Feb. 20, 1955, in Ackerly. They lived in Stanton from 1956 to 1969 before moving to Al-

pine to pursue college degrees at Sul Ross University. She earned a business degree and became a business and typing teacher, teaching at several schools in Texas and Oklahoma. After retiring at the age of 70, she and Woodie moved back to Stanton.

She was preceded in death by her parents J.V. and Thelma Bristow; a brother, Wayne Bristow; and a half-brother, Elmer Six.

She is survived by her husband, Woodie of Stanton and six children, son, Lynn Caffey of Fairfield; daughters, Darla Prosis of Stanton; Jana Randles

of Stanton; Ronna Frusher and husband Russell of Hanston, KS; son, David Caffey and wife, Shannon of Seminole; son, Jason Caffey and wife, Nicole of Converse; as well as 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother, Jim Bristow and wife, Judy of Maypearl; sisters, Patsy Shaw and husband, Roosevelt of Sand Springs; sister, Linda Cowan and husband, Gordon of Ponder; sister-in-law Frances Bristow of Big Spring; as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was a member of First Baptist Church of Stanton.

Pallbearers will be Brandon Bristow, Burke Bristow, Jimmie Bristow, Tyler Caffey, Will Carr, Ryan Fleming, Jeff Morris and Jay Shaw. Honorary pallbearer will be Josh Thompson.

The family will receive friends from 5:00PM-7:00PM on Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020, at Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton. Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 7, 2020, at First Baptist Church Stanton. Burial will follow at Evergreen Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com

Paid Obituary

Take Note

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center Volunteers are selling Valentines Day gifts, and they are taking pre-orders now. All arrangements will be available to pick up and go on Friday, Feb. 14, 2020, in the front lobby, from 7:30 a.m. until sold out. The arrangements they will have available are: one single rose in a bud vase; three roses in a vase, six roses (half dozen) with a vase, and a full dozen roses. Also available will be mylar balloons, latex balloon, along with assorted goodies including candy, cup-

cakes, cake pops, cookies and various plush items. All proceeds will go to the Scenic Mountain Medical Center Volunteer Gift Shop. For more information, please call April Arms at 432-268-4906.

• The 38th Annual Midessa Boat, RV, Sport and Gun Show will be held at the Ector County Coliseum Complex in Odessa, Texas, on Feb. 7-9, 2020. Those attending can see the new 2020 model RVs and boats and receive the best buys of the season.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

• 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.

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

• Bring Everyone Into The Zone, or BEITZ Support Group, is a veteran-based peer group. The purpose of the group is to provide peer-to-peer support to service members, veterans and families, especially those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), military sexual trauma (MST) and other traumatic events in their lives. BEITZ meets every Thursday at 6 p.m. at 501 Birdwell Lane. For more information, email francisco.garza@wtcmhmr.org, or call 432-268-3003.

• 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); there is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held three times per year on Thursday evenings, 6 to 8 p.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the GriefShare Ministry of TBC Facebook page. You can also call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

FRIDAY

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Fridays at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Enter at the main entrance of the church.

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

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/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. to 8 p.m.

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's 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 be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town 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.

• Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the

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MEMBER 2020

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weather



Today: Sunny, with a high near 48. Wind chill values as low as 9 early. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 31. Southwest wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 61. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 32.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 55.

Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 38.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 69.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 41.

Monday: A slight chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 58.

Monday Night: A slight chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 41.

(Weather courtesy National Weather Service via forecast.weather.gov)

LIFE

Continued from Page 1

humor and honesty speaks volumes. He is an inspiration, and you will not leave the luncheon disappointed.”

Continues Watson, “The luncheon fundraiser at the Hotel Settles is an event for our center right here in Big Spring. The event will generate funds for our daily operating costs. It will help us provide the necessary services to the families in our commu-

nity. We are also raising capital for our Phase 2 building project which will include a classroom, client rooms, nurse’s station and sonogram screenings.”

Statistics provided by The Life Center – Big Spring show that their impact grew by 38 percent between 2018 and 2019. These services include initial pregnancy tests, parent and prenatal education and/or material assistance. In addition, Prevention Education teams reached 27 percent more students in seventh grade, and those in high school. Plans

for 2020 include RN staffing for a building expansion that will enable the center to offer sonogram services for qualifying clients.

For more information about The Life Center or how to sponsor a table, please call Judy Rouse at 432-683-6072, e-mail judy@thelifecentertx.org, or visit website tldconor.org/events.

Contact Staff Writer Anna Gutierrez at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

CHILI

Continued from Page 1

and cast their votes according to best flavor. The entry fees will be used to help aide students who are needing financial assistance and allow more to attend the school.

“We are excited that we were able to raise a little

ove \$1,000,” she said. “This money will be a big help with our student scholarships.

To find out more about how to support Naz Academy, contact Kaleigh Sullivan, NCA Director at 432-263-0203 ext. 203.

Contact Big Spring Herald Editorial staff at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, ext. 235 or ext. 230, or by email at citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

Take Note

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible?

There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

• Food2Kids will again be providing sack lunches to children in the Big Spring area who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It takes just a couple of hours of your time, and the work is very rewarding. The next sacking event of this 2019-2020 school year will be Monday, Feb. 3 and Tuesday Feb. 4, and they will continue throughout the year on the first Monday and Tuesday of the month. To volunteer, just show up at Lakeview High School located at 1107 N.W. 7th St., at 5:30 p.m. You can follow their Facebook page for additional information <https://www.facebook.com/food2kids/>.

• O’Neal-Kunkle, Chapter #47 of the Disabled American Vets (D.A.V.), meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at 2204 Runnels Street. For more information, please contact Norman Witcher at 432-413-6663.

• Senior and/or mature adults are invited to come to a dance every first and third Friday each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center, located at 100 Whipkey Drive. Come two-step the evening away, or just mingle with old friends and make new friends. Dances are from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live entertainment. No alcohol or smoking permitted. Cost is \$5 per person.

• Home Hospice is looking for volunteers (18+) and junior volunteers (9-16 years old). Applications can be picked up at the Home Hospice office, located at 111 E. Seventh Street, Suite A between 8 a.m and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Adult volunteers will need to complete a training and must be able to pass a background check. Volunteer duties will include home visits; junior volunteers will be helping with office work, community events and holiday activities.

More information can be obtained by calling 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Charlie Schafer, 88, died Sunday. Graveside service is at 2:00 PM Friday at the Garden City Cemetery.

Nelson Burrow, 83, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Gregory Cromwell, 54, died Monday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Inez Petty McGee, died Tuesday. Committal service will be at 3:30 pm Saturday at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church with reception following at the church. A memorial service will be at 5:00 pm Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

James Proctor died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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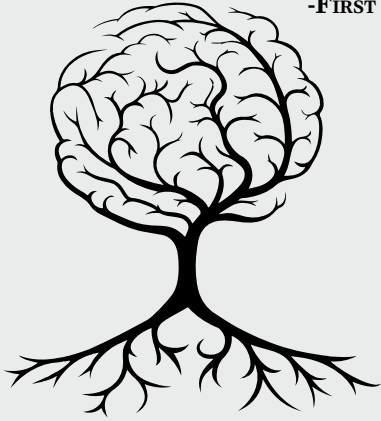
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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT



Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writers and not those of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Form letters, letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
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BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL

DAILY PRAYER

What a marvelous change You make in our lives, Lord, when we accept You and let You into our daily lives.
Amen

Medicine for the Soul

Life's imperfections

Wouldn't it be nice to live in a world where everything is perfect. A world without worry, sadness, loneliness or fear. A world that has no war, only peace; where everyone agreed with one another and had only one opinion. I wonder what a world would be like if we did not have to work to support ourselves and our families. What if we lived in a world without death?

I just recently attended a funeral of an individual who was as imperfect as anyone I know. She was one of the most independent persons I have ever met. She would tell you what she thought of you, had no filter, and to some would seem even mean. If she loved you, although she never showed it, she would give you everything she had including her love.

She was what is known as a survivor. She raised the most amazing family with everything she had. What was amazing about this funeral is that the whole family sat together talked about her life and how she lived and how they remembered her. They talked about how she survived a very hard life that finally came to an end.

The end of life is always difficult. Even though it is said that this individual would have been angry about everyone talking about her, she would have wanted to be remembered. You see everyone's life has to come to an end. I believe everyone you meet touches your soul in some way and leaves an imprint on your

life. When a member of your family, a close friend, or someone you knew in this life passes away, we feel sadness. When a person dies especially if they are important to you it is like ripping away part of your soul.



JOSEPH CHAVEZ

I remember that is what it felt like when my mother passed away. What we must remember is death is a part of life and no one knows the time or date they will pass. I believe when someone passes they leave a part of themselves with everyone they have ever met.

Without death, we have no time limit to do what we must do in life. With death, it gives us gratitude for the life we have and forces us to be grateful for the life of those who have passed.

Our lives are like a glass given to us to fill. What we fill with that glass is up to us. We can fill our glass with negativity, sadness and even fear. We can sit at home waiting for our own death, or we can go out and make memories. We can inspire others to live their best life possible.

A nurse told me once she goes home every night after working a 15-hour day and cries herself to sleep because she believes no one cares. I told her I admire her work ethic. In our workforce there are those who do only what is required of them and go home and only think about the paycheck. Then there are those who actually care about what they do and work every day until they can barely move. They are always refining themselves to make everything, and I must say everyone better even though they don't realize it. That nurse has no idea how important she is because without hard working staff there is no hospital.

I believe, and I have said this in

other articles, without the negative there is no positive. Without death there is no memory of a life. There is no journey.

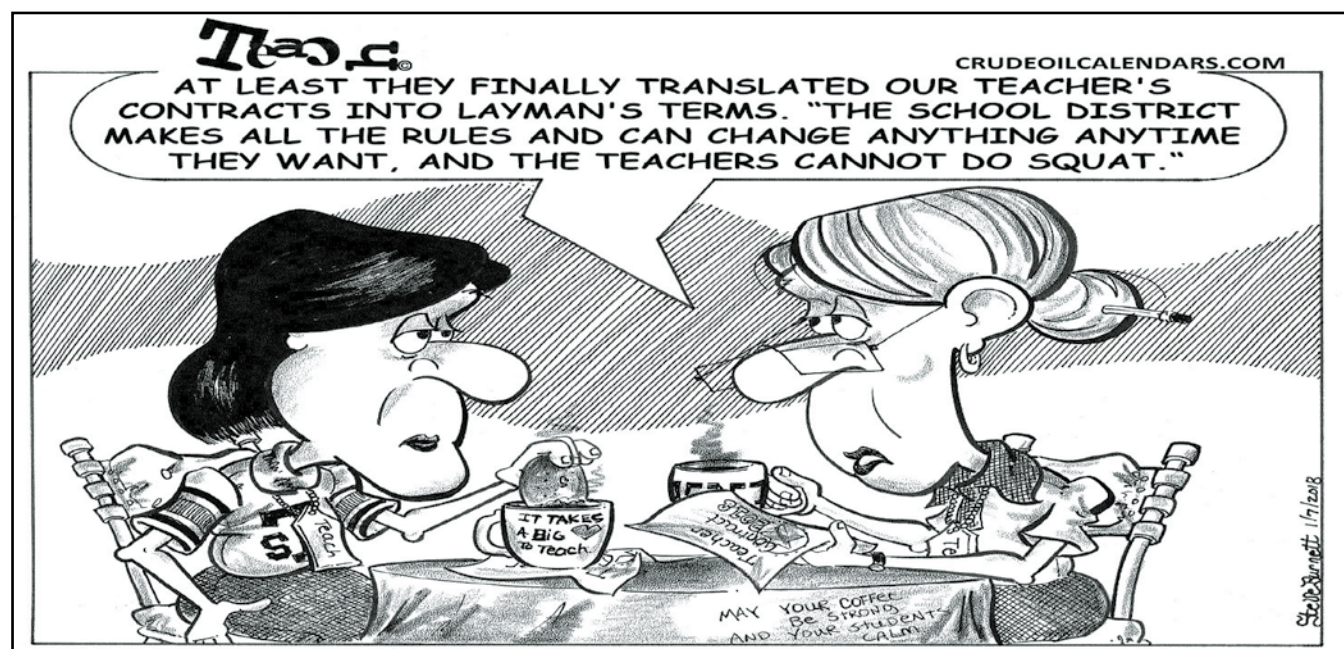
We have to remember those souls and be grateful for those that have passed. A soul or a life that dwells in darkness seeks out the light.

Sadness and loneliness seeks out happiness and companionship. A poet named Khalil Gibran said; 'a river trembles when it reaches the ocean because it believes that all will be lost and forgotten.' When we look back at the journey we went through, like the river through the peaks of the mountains, hitting the bottoms of the swamps crossing other lives and other souls, we must realize there is no other way but forward. We can never go back to yesterday because that is impossible in existence. We must look forward to tomorrow and be grateful that we have a tomorrow.

Like a river we must take the risk of entering the ocean, because only then will fear disappear; that's where the river will learn it's not about disappearing into the ocean but becoming the ocean. Such as life, when we go through our own journey and reach our highs and the lows of our lives, there are moments when we can even hit bottom and at those times we live in fear that that pain will never end.

When we forget that there is a tomorrow to flow forward to like the river that flows to that ocean, we remain stagnant and stuck in a dark place. When we finally move down that dark river seeking out the light we know the journey no matter how hard was well worth taking, and we can finally go home and become part of the ocean.

That is the moment we know life's imperfections lead us to perfection.



The Postscript: Mouse Vomit

Last week I started doing something I've never done before. I started writing fiction.

I realize this does not sound shocking since I'm writing every week. My husband, Peter, says I write fiction all the time—every time I write about him. But the truth is, I have not written a word of fiction since I was in the second grade and wrote, "The 500-Pound Mouse."

I can't take credit for either the title or the protagonist, as they were assigned by my teacher, but I have to take full responsibility for the deeply disappointing conclusion of the story when our hero, the now very large mouse, threw up nearly 500 pounds of mouse vomit on the front lawn and was instantly restored to his original size.

You can now probably appreciate why I have avoided fiction since. What happened last week was that I woke with a particularly vivid dream. I dream a lot and my dreams are usually weird, so this was nothing new.

This time, it was a complete outline to a novel. This was also

not a first. I have terrific stories plotted in my dreams and the moment I am fully awake they fall apart like cobwebs.

"Wait... was I on the couch or in a car? Was I rescuing my sister or a dog?" Poof! The idea is gone. But this time, the idea stuck.

"Nonsense!" I assured myself. I decided to prove to myself what a really dumb idea it was by writing it all down.

To my consternation, the idea looked better on paper than it had in my head. I promised myself I would let that idea slowly evaporate over the next forty-eight hours. I was certain there would be nothing left of it by then.

Two days later, I had characters jumping out of the woodwork and yammering at me night and day.

"Okay, fine!" I grumbled. I sat down and wrote 700 words.

"What the heck is that?!" I said to myself when I read it over.

I generally think of myself as a fairly sunny person. This writing was dark, and ominous, and a little scary, and (at least to me) really funny. So now it appears I'm writing a novel—with no training whatsoever, mind you, and no idea where I'm going. The

story is spooling out faster than I can type it down and it doesn't appear that I am inventing any of it. It feels as if this story has tracked me down, gotten my phone number, taken my pet bunny hostage, and demanded I write it... OR ELSE. (I made up the part about the bunny.) So, I'm writing.

The more I write, the more I have become aware of how much time I spend trying to talk myself into doing the things I think I'm supposed to be doing instead of doing something that doesn't feel like work at all, but feels more like a guilty pleasure, more like eating chocolate than anything productive.

Still, there are now 10,000 words staring me in the face and I know that I will finish this thing—whatever it is. I now wonder how many other ideas I may have discarded because I thought they were silly or I was unqualified or I just didn't have the time. I imagine there have been a lot.

But I'm not going to dwell on that now. Now I've got a book to finish and, while I don't know how it ends, I'm fairly confident it will not involve a single ounce of mouse vomit.

Till next time,

Carrie

Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn." Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.



CARRIE CLASSON

Spring trip preview

By: Macee Hall

Staff Writer

Each spring and summer, Hardin-Simmons University students from all walks of campus participate in departmental trips for competitions, mission work, and even recreation. Though the departments travel for varying reasons, the trips help expand HSU students' global perspective and overall worldview. Below is a small taste of the trips HSU has to offer:

Leadership Studies Program

Throughout the spring and summer of 2019, HSU's Leadership Studies Program will travel coast-to-coast on several trips.

In January, leadership students will complete their ninth long-distance bike ride. Riders will travel 560 miles by bike - from the Red River to the Rio Grande River - to honor friends and family who have or have had cancer, and to raise funds for cancer research.

In February, members of the Leadership Studies Program's Model United Nations team will visit the University of Florida to compete in their third consecutive Florida Crisis Simulation. This year will be the team's third year in attendance. In both 2018 and 2019, HSU was the only Texas university represented at the simulation.

Leadership students in the Great Leaders of History class will also visit several historic sites in Texas to learn about famous leaders.

Baptist Student Ministries

In mid-March, students from HSU's Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) will join forces with other BSM students from Texas to participate in the Beach Reach ministry at South Padre Island. The ministry reaches out to students visiting South Padre Island for spring break.

Among other activities, BSM students will offer free van rides to college students, serve pancakes outside of bars, all while sharing the gospel and love of Christ with students of other universities.

Physician Assistant Program

Over the last week in April, HSU's Physician Assistant (PA) Program will partner with local health providers to provide medical care to those in poverty in Lima, Peru. Healthcare professionals, PA students, and incoming PA students will work through Buckner International's Family Hope Centers to provide services to patients who cannot afford basic healthcare needs.

The team will administer anti-parasite medicine to those affected by the area's tainted water supply; provide check-ups and exams; and hand out glasses, hygiene products, toiletries, and other medical supplies.

Contact USDA Farm Service Agency Now to Enroll in Key Safety Net Programs – Don't Let the March 16 Deadline Pass You By.

By Gary Six

State Executive Director in Texas, USDA Farm Service Agency

The clock is ticking... March 16 is THE LAST day to make what is likely one of the most important business decisions you will make for your farming operation this year.

If you have not already visited your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office to make your election for either the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program and to sign your annual enrollment contract, you should call and make your appointment now.

Many of you are gearing up to head to the field for spring planting, but I cannot stress enough the importance of not letting this deadline get lost in the hectic day-to-day obligations of farm life. If you fail to enroll for 2019 ARC or PLC, you will be ineligible to receive a payment for the 2019 crop year.

ARC and PLC provide financial protections to farmers from substantial drops in crop prices or revenues and are vital economic

safety nets for most American farms. These programs cover 20 commodities produced in the U.S.

FSA anticipates more than 1.7 million producers will enroll in ARC or PLC - that's a lot of producers to assist in a short period of time. As of Feb. 3, FSA records in Texas show 36,433 farms out of an expected 87,593 farms have completed ARC or PLC enrollment for the 2019 crop year.

Want to maximize your time visiting with FSA? Inquire about deadlines and options for also enrolling in 2020 ARC or PLC and updating PLC payment yields. Our staff will help you make the most out of your visit or set you up with a future appointment to help check FSA programs off your lengthy "to do" list.

If you're still unsure about the choice of ARC or PLC, we offer online decision tools to help you determine the best program election for your farming operation. To access these tools, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc.

Call FSA today for an appointment. To locate your local FSA office, visit farmers.gov/service-center-locator.

GLO's historic public outreach yields valuable input, helps shape modifications to state action plan for mitigation funds

AUSTIN - Today Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced the submission of a modified state action plan for Community Development Block Grant for Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These adjustments were guided by input gathered through an extraordinary public outreach effort. The Texas General Land Office (GLO) incorporated valuable feedback from local leaders, residents of affected communities, and other stakeholders, received during a 50-day public comment period - including eight public hearings across a 140 eligible county region, seeking input on the distribution and eligible uses of \$4,297,189,000 to assist eligible communities with mitigation projects. HUD has until April 3, 2020, (60 days from the date of submission) to review the action plan and approve or reject the plan with comments.

"Texas has a long history of rebuilding following natural disasters that have threatened our state for generations," Commissioner Bush said. "Today

we have a rare opportunity to use a monumental allocation of nearly \$4.3 billion in federal funds to not only protect what we are rebuilding, but to also mitigate against the risks we will inevitably continue to face in the future."

In addition, the GLO extended the required 45-day public comment period to 50 days, and the GLO surpassed HUD requirements by hosting eight public hearings - three public hearings prior to the completion of the draft plan and five following publication of the draft plan. HUD rules only require two public hearings to seek input on the draft plan and two following its publication.

The GLO hosted twice the amount of public hearings required by our federal partners because we believe local jurisdictions know best how to protect their communities. This historic level of community input helped shape revisions to a stronger, more robust action plan that will improve the resiliency of Texas homes, business and infrastructure from future storms.

Revisions made to the action plan include:

The minimum application for Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition applications decreased to \$3 million from \$5 million.

For the Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition applicants may submit 3 applications individually and 3 in partnership with other entities.

In the draft plan for the three State mitigation competitions, an entity could not be awarded a second application before every eligible entity had received a first award. This is changed to set a minimum score for applications receiving a first award before anyone receives a second award.

Councils of Governments (COGs) are eligible to apply for the Resilient Communities Program.

About the State Action Plan for Mitigation The state's action plan provides for the distribution of mitigation funds based on HUD's requirements outlined in the Federal Register notice released on Aug. 30, 2019. These funds were appropriated by Congress on February 9, 2018. For additional information on the timeline, please visit recovery.texas.gov/mitigation.

TxDOT shows teens deadly reality of not buckling up 42% of teens killed in crashes in Texas in 2018 were not wearing a seat belt

Special to the Herald

AUSTIN - Nearly half of Texas teens killed in vehicle crashes in 2018 were not wearing a seat belt. Vehicle crashes are the leading cause of deaths among teenagers, but one simple click could help change that. That's why TxDOT's "Teen Click It or Ticket" campaign urges teens to click it each time they are in a vehicle.

In 2018, of the 264 teen drivers and passengers killed in vehicle crashes in Texas, 111 were unrestrained.

"For teens, getting a driver's license is a rite of passage, but when they start driving, they aren't thinking about how their lack of experience places them at greater risk of getting in a crash," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. "Tragedy can strike in an instant which is why we hope all

parents, teachers and other influencers are urging teens to buckle up each and every time no matter how short the trip may be."

The "Teen Click It or Ticket" campaign will reach out to Texas teens through TV, radio, digital advertising and social media. The campaign will also feature interactive events at six Texas high schools, a virtual reality game and an augmented reality experience to share the campaign's safety message in a highly engaging manner.

Students will also see a mangled truck from a roll-over crash where two teens were able to walk away with only minor scratches thanks to wearing their seat belts.

Texas law requires drivers and all passengers to wear a seat belt. Unbuckled drivers and passengers - even those in the back seat - face fines and fees of up to \$200.

Seat belts prevent drivers and passengers from getting ejected from a vehicle, which is almost always deadly. Wearing a seat belt reduces the risk of dying in a crash by 45%. That number jumps to 60% for pickup truck crashes.

Teen Click It or Ticket" is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel, like wearing a seat belt, driving the speed limit and never driving after drinking or doing drugs. Nov. 7, 2000 was the last deathless day on Texas roadways. #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to driving safely to help end the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.

To learn more about "Teen Click It or Ticket," visit <https://www.txdot.gov/driver/kids-teens/teen-clickit.html>.

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Scenes from NazFamily Chili Cook-Off



Courtesy photos

NazFamily held the first Chili Cook-off fundraiser. There were 11 contestants in the Saturday competition. The money raised totaled a little more than \$1,000 and will help with scholarships for those students attending the Naz Academy. Judges sampled each of the chilis and then selected the Champion according to best tasting chili.

Senate so far split neatly along party lines on impeachment

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate is so far cleaving neatly along party lines in advance of Wednesday's virtually certain votes to acquit President Donald Trump on two impeachment charges, with just two or three undecided members even considering breaking with their party.

A leading GOP moderate, Susan Collins of Maine, announced she will vote to acquit Trump, leaving Utah Sen. Mitt Romney as the only potential GOP vote to convict Trump of abusing his office and stonewalling Congress.

Collins said "it was wrong" for Trump to ask Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to investigate his political rival, Joe Biden, but that Trump's conduct, however flawed, does not warrant "the extreme step of immediate removal from office." Collins voted to acquit former President Bill Clinton at his trial in 1999.

More typical of the GOP side was Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, who again slammed the impeachment drive of House Democrats as "the most rushed, least fair and least thorough" in history and confirmed that he will vote to acquit Trump.

The trial is cruising to impeachment tallies that will fall short of even a majority of the GOP-held Senate, much less the two-thirds required to remove Trump from office and install Vice President Mike Pence.

The final days of the trial have focused attention on a handful of senators in both parties who were viewed as potential votes to break with their party. GOP Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska called the president's actions "shameful and wrong" in a powerful speech late Monday, but she also derided the highly partisan process.

"I cannot vote to convict," she said, though she also sees blame within the Senate.

"We are part of the problem, as an institution that cannot see beyond the blind political polarization," Murkowski told reporters after her speech.

Other Republicans, such as Sens. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, Marco Rubio of Florida and Rob Portman of Ohio, also say Trump's actions to withhold military aid from Ukraine while pressing Zelenskyy to announce an investigation into Biden and his son Hunter were inappropriate, but fell

short of warranting his removal from office, especially in an election year.

"The aid went; the investigations did not occur," Portman said.

Democrat after Democrat took to the Senate floor to announce they would vote to convict Trump, with senior Democrat Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., outraged by the conduct of White House lawyers, who he said performed for an audience of one — meaning Trump — while playing fast and loose with the facts.

"The presentation by White House counsel was characterized by smarminess, smear, elision, outright misstatement, and various dishonest rhetorical tricks that I doubt they would dare to pull before judges," said Whitehouse.

West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin, perhaps the only Democrat seen as a likely vote to acquit Trump, has floated the idea of censuring Trump instead, though the idea doesn't seem to be gaining much traction. Sen. Doug Jones, a former federal prosecutor and Democrat seeking reelection in strongly pro-Trump Alabama, told reporters he's likely to announce his vote Wednesday morning.

No member of either party has indicated yet that they will break with their party colleagues. Republicans hold a 53-47 majority in the Senate.

McConnell said the two charges against Trump — that he abused his power and obstructed Congress' ensuing investigation — are "constitutionally incoherent" and don't "even approach a case for the first presidential removal in American history."

The Kentucky Republican opened the Senate with a scathing assessment of the case presented by House Democrats, but he did not address whether Trump's actions were inappropriate or wrong, as some Senate Republicans have conceded.

McConnell has dodged question about whether Trump's actions — pressuring Zelenskyy to announce an investigation into the Bidens — were inappropriate. He led an effort last week to deny Democrats any opportunity to call witnesses before the Senate, and he has worked closely with the Trump White House in shepherding the case through the Senate.

Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer of New

York weighed in immediately after McConnell's remarks, accusing the Republican leader and his GOP colleagues of sweeping Trump's misconduct under the rug.

"The administration, its top people and Senate Republicans are all hiding the truth," Schumer said. The charges are extremely serious. To interfere in an election, to blackmail a foreign country, to interfere in our elections gets at the very core of what our democracy is about."

The Senate is scheduled to vote on the two impeachment articles Wednesday afternoon. Trump is delivering his State of the Union address Tuesday night, a platform in which he appears before Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., the powerful House speaker who orchestrated last year's House impeachment drive.

Also Tuesday on the Senate floor, Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., repeated a question that Chief Justice John Roberts, who is presiding over the trial, refused to read last week. Roberts' staff communicated to McConnell's staff that he did not want to read the whistleblower's name, according to a Republican familiar with the situation who wasn't authorized to speak on the record.

Paul denies trying to out the whistleblower and notes his question didn't use the word. He questions whether the whistleblower may have conspired with House staff aides in writing the August complaint that triggered impeachment.

U.S. whistleblower laws exist to protect the identity and careers of people who bring forward accusations of wrongdoing by government officials. Lawmakers in both parties have historically backed those protections.

The Associated Press typically does not reveal the identity of whistleblowers.

Separately, Trump's approval rating, which has generally languished in the mid- to low-40s, hit a new high of 49% in the latest Gallup polling, which was conducted as the Senate trial was drawing to a close.

The poll found that 51% of the public views the Republican Party favorably, the first time the GOP's number has exceeded 50% since 2005.

News Briefs

Texas court holds hearing on fight over baby's life support

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — An appeals court heard arguments Tuesday in the case of a Texas mother who does not want a hospital to end life-sustaining treatment for her 1-year-old daughter.

Texas' Second Court Court of Appeals in Fort Worth is considering the case after a lower court said Cook Children's Medical Center could remove Tinslee Lewis from life support. The appeals court has said the child will remain on life support until it makes a final ruling in the case.

Doctors at the Fort Worth hospital have said Tinslee is in pain and will never recover.

Her 20-year-old mother, Trinity Lewis, has said she doesn't think Tinslee, who turned 1 Saturday, is suffering.

Lewis' attorney, Joe Nixon, told the three appellate judges that Lewis has the right to decide whether her daughter lives or dies.

Amy Warr, an attorney for Cook Children's, said that doctors have a right to decline care for a patient if that care "causes suffering without medical benefit."

Doctors at Cook Children's had planned to remove Tinslee from life support on Nov. 10 af-

ter invoking the state's "10-day rule," which can be employed when a family disagrees with doctors who say life-sustaining treatment should be stopped. The law stipulates that if the hospital's ethics committee agrees with doctors, treatment can be withdrawn after 10 days if a new provider can't be found to take the patient.

The hospital and groups working on behalf of Lewis have reached out to other facilities but so far none have agreed to take her.

The hospital has said Tinslee has a rare heart defect and suffers from chronic lung disease and severe chronic high blood pressure. The hospital has said she has been on a ventilator since going into respiratory arrest in early July and requires full respiratory and cardiac support, deep sedation and to be medically

paralyzed.

The appeals court did not give a deadline for when they'll make their decision.

Arizona man accused of threatening congressman Adam Schiff

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — A March 9 trial date has been set for an Arizona man accused of making a threatening phone call to California U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff last year.

Federal court records released Tuesday said Jan Peter Meister was indicted on accusations that he called Schiff's Washington office from Tucson around Oct. 1 and left an expletive-laden voicemail saying he

planned to injure Schiff.

U.S. Capitol Police determined through caller ID and investigation that Meister left the voicemail, authorities said.

Prosecutors say police went to Meister's home on Oct. 3 and he said he was intoxicated when he made the call and didn't remember specifics of the incident. Court documents say Meister told authorities that he "strongly dislikes Democrats" and that he was probably upset about something he saw on Fox News.



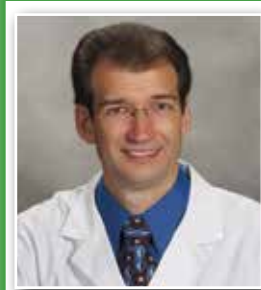
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2+2=4 ☺ The Education Page ABC

The Buffalo Bulletin



By JUAN RIOS

Special to the Herald

I believe that the study of a foreign language is beneficial because you are not just only learning a new language, but you are also improving your knowledge of one's own language.

Like English, Spanish also has parts of speech that are very similar.

There are also many words (cognates) that look and mean the same in English as they do in Spanish.

At Forsan High School, I encourage students in Spanish I, II and III to read, write and speak Spanish on a daily basis. I want students to have an understanding and appreciation of Spanish speaking cultures.

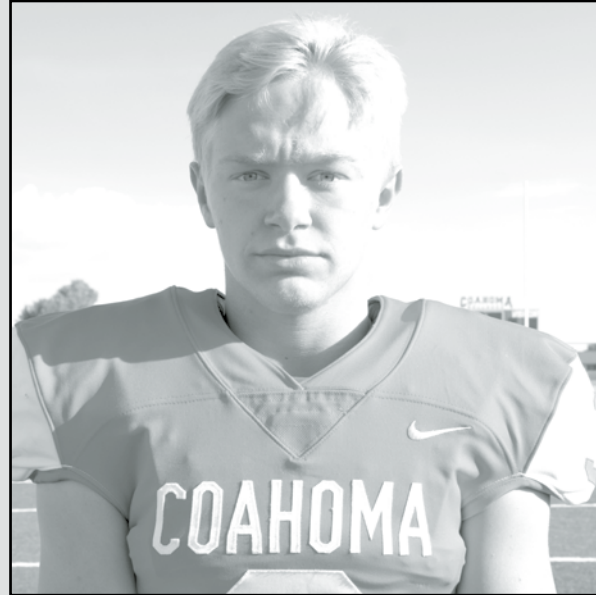
I am ecstatic about how hard my Spanish students work.

Academic Star Student of the Week Coahoma Senior, Braxton Chandler

Braxton "Mr. Sunshine" Chandler is always ready to support and cheer on his fellow Bulldog teammates.

The CHS senior participates in varsity football, basketball, baseball, track, and FFA. This year, Braxton was named to the 5-3A District 1st Team Wide Receiver, and 2nd Team Defense.

After graduation, Braxton plans to enlist in the U.S. Navy. He is the son of Rex and Roylyn Rainey.



Congratulations Braxton!

THE BULLDOG REPORT

CES Academic Team comes in first at UIL meet



Little Buffs



Courtesy photos

Forsan Elementary Kindergarten classes celebrated the 100th day of school on Friday, January 24th. Four classes rotated between classrooms where they participated in eight different activities. Students painted a 100 picture, put a 100 piece puzzle together, did 100 exercises, made a 100 bead necklace, played a 100 coverup game, made a 100 piece LEGO creation, built a 100 cup structure, and made a 100 crown with 100 stickers. During the day of fun, students took a break and ate a 100 piece snack. Mrs. Rhodes, Mrs. Teston, Ms Hirt, Mrs. Walker and student teacher Miss Franklin were thankful for the parents who helped students with the fun activities. Forsan Elementary has been celebrating the 100th day of school for many years. It is a great way to reward students for being 100 days smarter.



STANTON — The Coahoma Elementary School academic team blew away the competition at the West Zone District 5-3A UIL meet held recently.

The CES team finished with a total of 649.5 points which was 282 points more than its nearest competitor. Liam Ryan and Andrea Rochelle won two events individually. Ryan tied for first in second grade storytelling contest and won the spelling event while Rochelle tied in the fifth grade maps, graphs, and charts competition and won the music memory event.

Rochelle and Ryan were joined by Landry Thompson, Landry Brooks, Chloe Collier, Kinzlyn Kemper, Lilly Dugan, Emmitt Alexander, Adelia Martin, and Olivia Baccari whose stellar, individual performances led the Coahoma team to capture first place in 10 events.

The CES Academic team consisted of students in both CISD's Academy and traditional programs.

STORYTELLING — 2ND Grade — 1. Liam Ryan and Landry Thompson, 6. Paige McJimsey.

ORAL READING — 3RD Grade — 3. Channing Musgrove, 4. (Tie) Alyssa Youngbauer — 4TH Grade — 1. Landry Brooks, 2. Hayden Walker, 3. Bentli Wright, 4. Kinzlyn Kemper — 5TH Grade — 3. Blake Hamby and Ava Alaman, 5. Lillian Orosco.

SPELLING — 2ND Grade — 1. Liam Ryan, 2. Ethan Batson, 3. Landry Thompson; — 3RD Grade — 3. Dallas Perry, 4. Aiden Colson, 6.

Addison Woodard — 4TH Grade — 2. Kian Mukley, 3. Brooklyn Beck — 5TH Grade — 4. Ava Alaman.

CREATIVE WRITING — 2ND Grade — 3. Karen Guo, 4. Zayne Smith.

READY WRITING — 3RD Grade — 1. Chloe Collier, 2. Elizabeth Mashburn, 4. Emmalyn Hooser, 5. Braxton Harmon — 4TH Grade — 1. Kinzlyn Kemper — 5TH Grade — 1. Lilly Dugan, 2. Carley Crisp.

DICTIONARY SKILLS — 5TH Grade — 2. Lillian Orosco, 4. Andrea Rochelle, 6. Kaylor Freeman.

LISTENING SKILLS — 5TH Grade — 3. Lanson Moore, 4. Bryce Vadney, 5. Emmett Alexander.

MAPS, GRAPHS, and CHARTS — 5TH Grade — 1. (Tie) Andrea Rochelle, 4. Lanson Moore, 6. Alex Davies.

NUMBER SENSE — 4TH Grade — 2. Dante' Reguejo-Minter, 4. Zylee Lozano, 6. Hudson Wegner — 5TH Grade — 1. Emmitt Alexander, 3. Jett Archer.

ART — 4TH Grade — 4. Dallas Perry, 5. Hayden Walker — 5TH Grade — 2. Ava Alaman, 3. Lillian Orosco, 4. Lenora Nixson.

MUSIC MEMORY — 3RD Grade — 1. Adelia Martin, 3. Phinly Harrison, 4. Elizabeth Mashburn, 5. Alyanna Sanchez, 6. Hydi Abrego — 4TH Grade — 1. Olivia Baccari, 2. Andy Edmonson, 3. Daniela Lopez, 4. Emmalyn Hooser — 5TH Grade 1. Andrea Rochelle, 2. Brooklyn Beck, 3. Kayleigh Edmondson, 4. Amanda-Jo Roberts, 5. Hayden Musgrove.

Lady Buffs trounce Ozona 54-18



HERALD photos/Shawn Moran

The Lady Buffs took on the Ozona Lady Lions on Tuesday evening before the bad weather snuck in. Pictured above the team gathered together before heading out on the court. Pictured above right: The Lady Buffs faced off with the Ozona Lady Lions heading down court.

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

FORSAN — For the second time this season the Forsan Lady Buffs handled the Ozona Lady Lions. This time it was in a blowout 54-18 win that was never in doubt.

Forsan defeated the Lady Lions at their own gym last month by a score of 48-31. In that game, the Lady Buffs were lethal from beyond the arc but struggled to stop the offensive prowess of Ozona guard Shelbie Galindo.

Tuesday evening's matchup told a different story. "We talked about playing to our level and not to the level of our opponents," Forsan coach Lloyd Vedder said. "I thought we came out with a lot of fire and intensity."

From the opening tip the Lady Buffs controlled the pace of the game and were able to jump out to an eye-popping 31-4 lead at the halftime break.

Lady Buffs' guard Taryn Spivey was able to get to the free-throw line four times in the first quarter and five of eight in the stripe. Her hard-charging mindset heading towards the basket paired with Vedder's quick-twitch defense that grabbed 10 first half steals was enough for the game to quickly get out-of-hand.

All five Lady Buffs starters grabbed at least one steal in the first half and were led by point guard Rylee Evans' four.

Forsan was also able to knockdown four shots from deep in the first half and completely took the energy out of the Ozona roster heading into the second half.

Both teams started the second half off with sloppy play. The first points scored in the quarter came courtesy of the free-throw line following over five minutes of scoreless basketball. Turnovers and bad shot selection hurt Forsan in the third quarter but their lead had become insurmountable.

Forsan charged into the fourth quarter holding a

39-8 lead following a disappointing third from both teams.

The final eight minutes were routine with both teams trying to produce as much on offense as possible. Forsan outscored Ozona 15-10 in the fourth quarter and finished the game strong.

Vedder would just like to see improvement at the free-throw line from his team heading into the next game against district rival Christoval.

"Against Christoval, at that place, we didn't execute at the free throw line and at the basket. Today, at least we were scoring more around the basket," Vedder said.

UP NEXT: The Lady Buffs will host the Christoval Lady Cougars on Friday night and try to avenge their 41-33 loss from earlier this season at 6:30 P.M.

Shawn Moran is the sports writer at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, email sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Texas A&M downs Missouri 68-51 behind Nebo

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M finally was able to exhale at home.

"It felt good to back in the flow of things," said forward Josh Nebo, who led the Aggies with 18 points.

A&M snapped a three-game home losing streak and defeated Missouri 68-51 on Tuesday night.

The Aggies (11-10, 5-4 Southeastern series 2-0 over the Tigers (10-12, 2-7 SEC) following A&M's 66-64 victory at Missouri on January 21. Missouri on Tuesday scored 18 first-half points - its season low in a half - in falling behind by seven at the break.

A&M led 18-14 with five minutes remaining in the first half before finishing the half with a flourish - at least compared with both teams' poor shooting over the first 15 minutes. A&M guard Wendell Mitchell smoothly drained a 3-pointer from the left corner and was fouled on the play with 3:15 to go before halftime. Mitchell missed the resulting free throw, but the Aggies grabbed the of-

ensive rebound, and drained more time off the clock. A&M added a dunk by Andre Gordon and a layup by Savion Flagg in the final 1:37 to grab a 25-18 lead at the break.

Four minutes into the second half, Missouri closed to 30-29 with 16:05 left, before the Aggies outscored the Tigers 13-2 in a little more than four-minute span. In that time A&M guard Quentin Jackson made a 3-pointer, collected a dunk and sank 3 of 4 free throws.

Both teams shot poorly from the field (35% the Aggies compared with 31% for the Tigers), but A&M held a 49-30 rebounding advantage.

"The lessons these guys are learning relative to how hard we have to play ... that's good for this team and good for our program's future," A&M first-year coach Buzz Williams said of putting away the game in the second half.

Mitchell Smith led the Tigers with nine points. The Aggies' Emanuel Miller led all rebounders with 13.

"We missed quite a few shots in

the corners," Missouri coach Cuonzo Marti said of the Tigers' biggest drawback on Tuesday. "If that's what you do, you've got to defend them down. And Miller and Nebo did a great job of being physical - those two guys set the tone."

Miller also scored 10 points and said of his first career double-double, "Just getting a 'w' in the column, that's what's most important. We did a great job of coming out and competing."

BIG PICTURE

Missouri: Halfway through SEC play the Tigers continue to disappoint under Martin in his third season. Martin led Tennessee to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament in his third season with the Volunteers in 2013-14, but the Tigers are long shots to make the postseason at this point.

Texas A&M: Williams has five more league wins than some predicted when the Aggies were losing consecutive games to Harvard, Temple and Fairfield in late November and early December. While the NCAA Tournament or even the National Invitation

Tournament appears a stretch for A&M midway through league competition, the idea that the postseason is a possibility seems a victory for the Aggies.

HIGHLIGHT REEL

A&M guard Wendell Mitchell collected his first block of the season in a spectacular manner, in swatting away a Kobe Brown attempted layup a little more than two minutes into the game.

STAT OF THE NIGHT

The Aggies shot more than twice as many free throws as the Tigers (25-37 to 14-18). A&M made only 67.6% of its free throws to Missouri's 77.8%, but had 19 more opportunities at the line.

HE SAID IT

"When you work really hard, you tend to have confidence in what you do."

Texas A&M coach Buzz Williams

UP NEXT

The Tigers host Arkansas on Saturday. The Aggies play at South Carolina on Saturday.

AP sources: Covington, Capela on move in 4-team trade

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Basketball Writer

Robert Covington is going to the Houston Rockets and Clint Capela is going to the Atlanta Hawks as the headline moves in a complicated trade that was struck early Wednesday involving four teams, 12 players and at least three draft picks, two people familiar with the situation told The Associated Press.

Among the key components, according to the people who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the trade has not received league approval: Covington and Jordan Bell will join the Rockets from Minnesota, Capela and Nene are leaving the Rockets for the Hawks, the Timberwolves added soon-to-be restricted free agents Malik Beasley and Juancho Hernangomez from Denver and the Nuggets got Shabazz Napier from Minnesota plus a first-round pick from Houston.

ESPN and The Athletic first reported the trade. Covington told Houston television station KRIV Fox 26 upon his arrival at the airport Wednesday that he was looking forward to a new opportunity.

"It's all over the place right now," Covington said when asked about his emotions. "Just kind of getting adjusted to life changing - drastically - in such a short amount of time."

It was not immediately clear if a call with NBA attorneys to review and approve the trade would happen on Wednesday or Thursday. The league's trade deadline is 3 p.m. EST Thursday.

Also in the deal: Jarred Vanderbilt is leaving Denver for Minnesota, and the Nuggets are getting Keita Bates-Diop and Noah Vonleh from the Timberwolves as well as Evan Turner from the Hawks. Gerald Green - who is out with a seasonlong foot injury - also goes to Denver from Houston to help make the math work and is likely to be waived once

the deal is final, and Atlanta will also have to make another move to finalize the trade since it must first clear a roster spot. ESPN reported Wednesday that the Hawks would waive Chandler Parsons to clear the necessary space.

Parsons is in the final year of his contract, is making just over \$25 million this season and has been away from the team while dealing with injuries suffered in a car crash that attorneys believe has threatened his ability to play at all going forward.

The biggest takeaway from the deal would seem to be that this commits Houston to keeping the small-ball lineup that it has employed with much success of late. Capela was the only center that the Rockets have consistently played this season - and they're 10-1 in games without him. Houston could still look to acquire another big man for depth through another trade or potentially after a buyout, and this trade gives the Rockets some financial flexibility to do so.

Covington started his career in Houston and has become one of the NBA's top defenders, and it's hard to envision him being anything but a strong complement alongside Rockets stars James Harden and Russell Westbrook.

Denver - currently No. 3 in the Western Conference - gets some flexibility as well, in part because it now won't have to decide this summer what to do with Beasley and Hernangomez. The Nuggets also picked up a first-round pick for this year in the deal and that could become a chip in any other trades Denver tries to execute before the deadline.

Capela is under contract for three more seasons and joins Atlanta's young core of Trae Young, Kevin Huerter and John Collins. The Hawks will have cap space to use this summer, will likely have a top-five pick in this year's draft and now have

two well-regarded bigs alongside the backcourt of Young and Huerter.

Hernangomez and Beasley each played heavy minutes during a 127-99 win over Portland on Tuesday in what turned out to be their last time wearing a Nuggets uniform. After the final horn, they casually chatted with teammates in the locker room before leaving.

Soon after the trade details began to emerge, Hernangomez and Beasley reappeared to hug teammates.

Beasley had a stunned look on his face as he walked along the hallway. He briefly popped into the media room to issue a friendly proclamation.

"Next time I see (the Nuggets) I'm gonna drop 50," he teased.

In Beasley, Hernangomez, Turner and Vanderbilt, the Wolves are receiving four players on expiring contracts, allowing them ample flexibility for further maneuvering either before the deadline on Thursday or in July once the market reopens. They tried last summer to acquire guard D'Angelo Russell, another close friend of Towns, but he went to Golden State instead. And there were more talks involving Russell to complete this deal, but he remained with the Warriors and Denver became the fourth team involved in this complex mix.

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Contact Amanda Duforat 432-263-7331 Ext. 230 or email editor@bigspringherald.com for questions or to submit your resume.

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Annie's Mailbox

Extending Generosity to 'Stingy' Parents

Dear Annie: I'm having a difficult time accepting my parents for what I perceive as stinginess. They are retired, upper-middle class (at least), have paid off their nice home and have money to travel. My dad grew up upper-middle class and so did mom. My problem is that they have never been generous. They didn't pay a cent for college for any of their five children. Hence, only two have a degree. They paid \$3,000 to each of two daughters' weddings and gave \$5,000 to each child for the purchase of a house. That's where it ends.

We were raised to be independent, and we are. However, I and a sibling have come on hard times at different times in the past, and

they refused to help with monetary gifts unless it was a loan. They loaned me \$5,000, which I paid off within two years, and my sister paid off a similar loan within a year. They see their grandchildren (who are local) only on holidays or birthdays and never seek them out. Although the kids are well-behaved, my parents never babysit. When they see other grandparents babysitting on a regular basis, my parents, with disdain, call them crazy.

They have told us that there won't be an inheritance. I understand that they can do whatever they want with their money and time, but I'm so resentful. Each of us kids would never dream of asking for help from them, since the underlying tone is not to, but as a single mom with no support from the dad, I struggle. Is there another

way I can look at this so I'm not so resentful? My dad tells me about their trips and expensive new toys, and I just can't be happy for them. -- Feeling Guilty for Being Resentful

Dear Feeling Guilty: You have nothing to feel guilty about. We all dream of having perfect parents. You know, the ones who are totally unselfish and giving of all their time, money and love. The reality is that parents are people, too. They have their own faults and shortcomings, and therein lies (SET ITAL) your(END ITAL) choice as an adult. You can focus on all that you perceive they did wrong, and are still doing wrong, and feel very resentful and angry. Or you can accept (in this case, it does seem like a small amount)

what they have to offer. Grandchildren are one of life's greatest pleasures, and it is a shame that they are missing out on theirs. But in the end, that is their loss, and they have to come to that realization on their own. Best of luck to you.

Dear Annie: A lot of people are complaining about robocalls. We live in rural Iowa and are members of a rural phone cooperative. They offer a solution that stops those kinds of calls. It costs us \$3.50 more in addition to our regular phone bill per month. When a caller dials our number, they get a message that says: "The number you have reached does not accept calls from telemarketers. If you are a telemarketer, please add this number to your "do not call list" and hang

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Dear No More Telemarketers: That's a great question! Thanks for sharing this helpful service. If any of my readers can offer insight as to why this isn't a regular feature on most phone plans, I'd be very interested.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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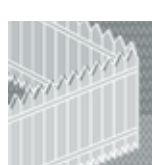
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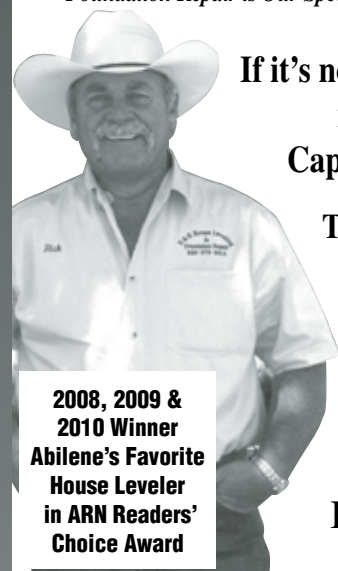
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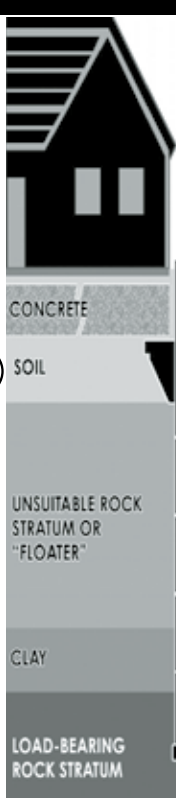
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Rumination Moon

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Can love that's not put in motion really be love? Yes. What's happening is internal -- thoughts and considerations, ideas and intentions all churning around in a stew of potential that could someday be turned into love as a verb.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Helping feels good to you, serving feels comfortable, assisting feels right. But if you don't feel good if you're (SET ITAL)not(END ITAL) doing those things, this indicates a problem. Make sure you're taking turns, serving and being served.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You can make a difference in someone's life just by talking about what you know and love. The passion you feel is tangible. Your giddiness is the rising tide that carries all ships.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's not that you need to network or want to be more popular. Such things have little to do with your friendliness. You're genuinely curious about people, and they will return the interest today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When what you're selling makes sense to people, and they happen to also want it very badly, the sale is merely a transaction: You provide it; they buy it, no show, no influence, no convincing involved.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Don't let anyone waste your time with catastrophizing a noncatastrophe. Unless there's actually a tornado involved, the best approach is being calm and reasonable with the intent to enjoy, help or improve.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Not everything you do takes energy. Some things give energy. With the right sort of tasks on the list, you can schedule

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



yourself densely and be massively productive, gaining vitality as you go.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Navigating values can be tricky. It helps to have an organizing principle to keep you aligned. This question serves well: What would happen if everyone were doing it the way you're doing it?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Other people's preferences matter, but how much? That is the question of the day. You'll think about your loved ones when you're not together, though you'll resist or deny their ability to control from a distance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Stay playful. Keep everything loose, creative and flowing in a productive direction. If you feel yourself getting too serious, then leave the scene for a few minutes to do something as close to fun as you can find.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). That person who can subtly and consistently nudge you in the right direction is invaluable in your life. A few degrees off of the trajectory, over time, totally changes the journey and drastically alters the destination.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If it's been a long while and you're still not achieving your goal, consider that it might be the wrong aim. Get out into the world with the intent of finding something new to want. Better to wander than to go stale.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 6). This solar journey emphasizes self-expression and you'll share yourself in different mediums, genres, colors and tones. One of your many gifts will be communicating with hard-to-reach people. Your willingness to bridge gaps will also grow your influence. There's a financial element to this you'll love. Sagittarius and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 22, 28, 16 and 30.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "I'm a Sagittarius, and my co-workers don't like me. I've learned this because I read an email that was accidentally forwarded to me that included some snarky comments about me. When I confronted the sender of the email, my boss called a meeting of a few of the people involved. They apologized, I accepted, but I'm seriously thinking about trying to find another job. I gather they think I'm pushy, bossy, selfish and loud. I think they are just intimidated because I have ideas and am not afraid to make things happen. What do you think?"

In many settings, your fire sign boldness and passion are an advantage, but your ability to work in a group is also an essential part of your package, professional and otherwise. So before you start applying elsewhere, see if you can't take this upset as a challenge to gain some political savvy. Regardless of your co-worker's motives, or how off-base they may be, this is the perfect excuse to work on interpersonal skills that will serve you well beyond this situation. Start with some soul-searching. Is there a grain of truth here -- a behavior you can adopt or one you might curb? If you can turn this scene around, then you'll be invincible!

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By Steve Becker
All finesses are not the same

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

sees that one finesse offers something more — or something less — than the other.
Consider this deal where South is in four hearts and West leads a spade, dislodging dummy's only entry. The contract can be made if declarer chooses the right finesse to take at trick two. If he leads a diamond to the queen, he winds up with 10 tricks; if he tries the trump finesse, he goes down one.
Granting that either finesse has a 50 percent chance of winning, the diamond finesse is clearly the proper one to take — not because it succeeds on this particular deal, but because it offers a better chance to make the contract.
If the diamond finesse works, the play is essentially over; declarer loses at most a heart, a diamond and a club.
But even if the heart finesse succeeds, the contract is not assured. If East were dealt K-x-x or K-x-x-x of hearts, declarer still has a trump loser. Therefore, the diamond finesse, which settles the issue outright if it works, is superior.
In the actual deal, best defense — where West withholds his ace of clubs until the proper moment — will defeat declarer if he takes the heart finesse at trick two.

Suppose declarer has two finesses to take but, due to a lack of entries, can only try one of them. How does he decide which one to attempt? A great many considerations can influence such a decision, like clues from the bidding or the possibility of developing extra tricks in the suit even if the finesse fails.
Sometimes, though, the problem can be resolved by applying simple common sense, whereby declarer

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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!

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

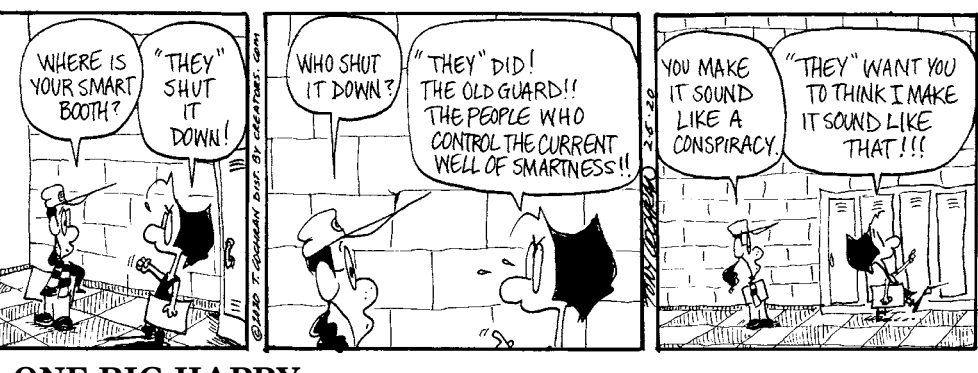
ANSWER:

	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWTT (14)	KWES2 (15)	WTBS (33)	TNT (34)	ESPN (35)	ESPN2 (36)	FSN (38)	USA (55)	A&E (58)	DISC (60)
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Midland	Atlanta	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Sports	New York	New York	Discovery
5:PM	Big 2 ABC	Noticiero	Broke Girl Mom	CBS 7	Tele	News	The	Ready Jet	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Bones	SportsCenter	Daily Wager	Horned	SVU	The First 48	Homestead Rescue
6:PM	News	Noticiero	Big Bang	CBS 7	Noticias	News	Behind	Mind	Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	NBA Pre-game	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	Bear Bryant Award Show '20	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Homestead Rescue
7:PM	Station 19	Ringo	Last Man Standing	Sheldon	Exatlon Estados Unidos (SS)	News	HaYesod	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Miracle	NBA Basketball: 76ers at Bucks	30 for 30	College Basketball: USC at Arizona.	NBA G League Basketball: Clippers at Legends	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48	Homestead Rescue
8:PM	Grey's Anatomy	Amor eterno	Deputy	Uncorn	La Doña (SS)	Will	Light of	Steve Backshall	Andy G.	Katy Keene	Big Bang	30 for 30	College Basketball: USC at Arizona.	NBA Basketball: Grizzlies at Mavericks	NBA Basketball: Clippers at Legends	The Sinner	Alaska PD	Reclaimed
9:PM	Million Little	Rubi	FOX 24 News at 9	Tommy	Indebted	Law & Order: SVU	Light of Southwest	African Americans	Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang	NBA Basketball: Rockets at Lakers	SportsCenter	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	NBA Basketball: Grizzlies at Mavericks	Briarpatch	(:01) 60 Days In	Building Off the Grid
10:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	Zion	Amanpour-Co	C. Burnett	black-ish	Conan	SportsCenter	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	NBA Basketball: Grizzlies at Mavericks	NBA Basketball: Grizzlies at Mavericks	(9:57) Chicago P.D.	(:05) The First 48	Homestead Rescue
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Words of	This Old House Hr	Perry Mason	black-ish	Miracle	SportsCenter	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	NBA Basketball: Grizzlies at Mavericks	NBA Basketball: Grizzlies at Mavericks	(10:56) The Sinner	(:03) The First 48	Reclaimed
12:AM	Nightline	Noticiero	Funny	James Corden	Seth Meyers	Freedom	Being	Finding Your Roots	Tw. Zone	Gold	Conan	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	High School Football	Mavericks	(11:56) Briarpatch	(12:03) Alaska PD	Building Off the Grid
1:AM	Mel Robbins	Destilando amor	Two Men	Simpsons	Late-Lilly	Being	Behind	Hitchcock	Hitchcock	Live PD	Brooklyn	SportsCenter	Now/NeV.	NBA Basketball: Rockets at Lakers	NBA Basketball: Rockets at Lakers	(:03) Chicago P.D.	(:04) 60 Days In	Homestead Rescue

ANDY CAPP



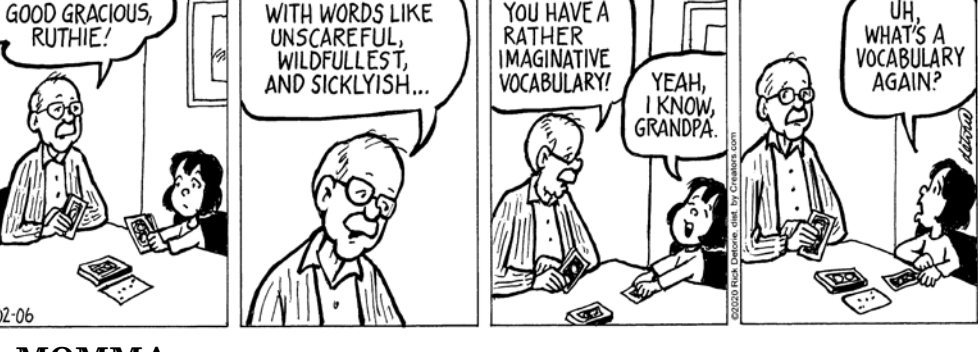
AGNES



ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today in History
 Today is Thursday, Feb. 6, the 37th day of 2020. There are 329 days left in the year.
 Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 6, 2003, edging closer to war, President George W. Bush declared "the game is over" for Saddam Hussein and urged skeptical allies to join in disarming Iraq.
 On this date:
 In 1756, America's third vice president, Aaron Burr, was born in Newark, N.J.
 In 1778, during the American Revolutionary War, the United States won official recognition and military support from France with the signing of a Treaty of Alliance in Paris.
 In 1788, Massachusetts became the sixth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.
 In 1862, during the Civil War, Fort Henry in Tennessee fell to Union forces.
 In 1911, Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th president of the United States, was born in Tampico, Illinois.
 In 1933, the 20th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the so-called "lame duck" amendment, was proclaimed in effect by Secretary of State Henry Stimson.
 In 1952, Britain's King George VI, 56, died at Sandringham House in Norfolk, England; he was succeeded as monarch by his 25-year-old elder daughter, who became Queen Elizabeth II.
 In 1995, the space shuttle Discovery flew to within 37 feet of the Russian space station Mir in the first rendezvous of its kind in two decades.
 In 1998, President Bill Clinton signed a bill changing the name of Washington National Airport to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. Pop music star Falco, who had a 1986 hit with "Rock Me Amadeus," died in a traffic accident in the Dominican Republic; he was 40. Carl Wilson, a founding member of The Beach Boys, died in Los Angeles at age 51.
 In 2005, The New England Patriots won their third NFL championship in four years, defeating the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XXXIX (39) by a score of 24-21.
 In 2008, the Bush White House defended the use of the interrogation technique known as waterboarding, saying it was legal — not torture as critics argued —

and had saved American lives. The Phoenix Suns acquired Shaquille O'Neal in a stunning blockbuster deal that sent four-time All-Star Shawn Marion and Marcus Banks to the Miami Heat.
 In 2014, Jay Leno said goodbye to NBC's "The Tonight Show" for the second time, making way for Jimmy Fallon to take over as host.
 Ten years ago: Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, delivering the keynote address at the first national convention of the tea party coalition in Nashville, declared, "America is ready for another revolution." American missionary Robert Park headed home after North Korea released him from six weeks' detention for crossing its border on Christmas Day to protest religious suppression in the totalitarian regime. Jerry Rice and Emmitt Smith led a class of seven new members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.
 Five years ago: A message purportedly from the Islamic State group said an American hostage, 26-year-old aid worker Kayla Mueller (MYOO'-lur), had been killed in a Jordanian airstrike in Syria. Jordan dismissed the claim as "criminal propaganda." (Her death was later confirmed by U.S. officials.) President Barack Obama warned against American "overreach" as he outlined a new national security blueprint for his last two years in office; Obama said the threat of terrorism against the homeland had "diminished, but still persists" and vowed to degrade extremist groups using counterterrorism operations and global coalitions, not large-scale, American-led ground wars.
 One year ago: The Italian fashion designer Gucci apologized for marketing a black wool sweater with an oversize collar bearing what looked like giant red lips; critics said the garment resembled blackface. A California woman went public with a sexual assault accusation against Virginia Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax; the state's gov-

ernor, Ralph Northam, was already battling to hang on to his office amid an uproar over a racist photo in his 1984 medical school yearbook.
Today's Birthdays: Actress Mamie Van Doren is 89. Actor Mike Farrell is 81. Former NBC News anchorman Tom Brokaw is 80. Singer Fabian is 77. Actress Gayle Hunnicutt is 77. Actor Michael Tucker is 75. Producer-director-writer Jim Sheridan is 71. Actor Jon Walmsley is 64. Actress Kathy Najimy is 63. Rock musician Simon Phillips (Toto) is 63. Actor-director Robert Townsend is 63. Actor Barry Miller is 62. Actress Megan Gallagher is 60. Rock singer Axl Rose (Guns N' Roses) is 58. Coun-

try singer Richie McDonald is 58. Singer Rick Astley is 54. Rock musician Tim Brown (Boo Radleys) is 51. "Good Morning America" co-host Amy Robach is 47. Actor Josh Stewart is 43. Actor Ben Lawson is 40. Actor Brandon Hammond is 36. Actress Crystal Reed (TV: "Teen Wolf") is 35. Actress Alice Greczyn (GREY'-chi-

hn) is 34. Actress Anna Diop is 32. Rhythm and blues singer/actress Tinashe is 27.

Thought for Today: "Life is just one grand sweet song, so start the music." — President Ronald Reagan (1911-2004). Copyright 2020, The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

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Newsday Crossword

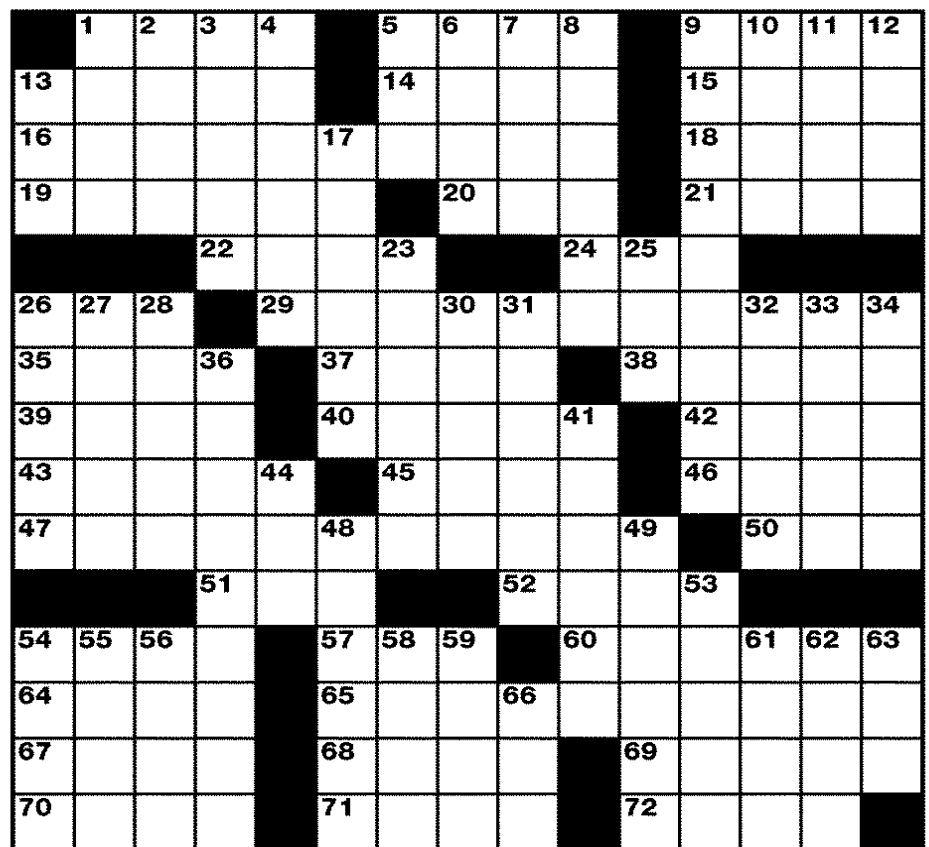
DOUBLE-LETTER DUETS by Mark McClain

Edited by Stanley Newman

www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mess maker
 - 5 Fashionable
 - 9 Depict unfairly
 - 13 Emotionally charged
 - 14 Sleek, in auto-speak
 - 15 Starter like
 - 16 Canadian superstar singer
 - 18 Vividly bright
 - 19 Checkout counter correction
 - 20 Small bill
 - 21 Cub Scout groups
 - 22 Iconic buccaneer
 - 24 Undercover asset
 - 26 Rescue squad procedure
 - 29 Most-awarded country music artist
 - 35 Pub staples
 - 37 Residential overhang
 - 38 Ardent lover
 - 39 Wood-shaping tool
 - 40 What "pearls" precede in Matthew
 - 42 Musical opener
 - 43 Garlic cousin
 - 45 Sicilian spouter
 - 46 Gaping mouths
 - 47 Blues/rock superstar singer
 - 50 Metaphor for a mess
 - 51 A disappointment
 - 52 Consults with
 - 54 Macaroni salad ingredient
 - 57 Solemn commitment

- 60 Cannon's kick
 - 64 Not fully shut
 - 65 Rock-and-roll pioneer
 - 67 Buck or bull
 - 68 What to call a countess
 - 69 Clear, as a board
 - 70 Hewn
 - 71 Other than that
 - 72 Vocalist from Donegal
- DOWN**
- 1 ___ qua non
 - 2 One contact
 - 3 Electrolux alternative
 - 4 How some bills arrive
 - 5 Amtrak unit
 - 6 Courageous figure
 - 7 It's west of Afghanistan
 - 8 Maximally modest
 - 9 Common garden soil
 - 10 Spot for a tot
 - 11 Town near Windsor
 - 12 Record stat usually mentioned first
 - 13 A long way off
 - 17 Cancels out
 - 23 Desk slider
 - 25 ___ excellence
 - 26 Chocolate substitute
 - 27 City near Dallas
 - 28 Epoxy ingredient
 - 30 Madonna musical role
 - 31 Court sport
 - 32 Community rec ctrs.
 - 33 Food box stat.
 - 34 Making a racket
 - 36 Underwritten
 - 41 Diner or deli
 - 44 Actress Vardalos
 - 48 Fit for food
 - 49 Snickering sound
 - 53 Dismissive attitude
 - 54 Family nickname
 - 55 Ally of Achilles
 - 56 ___ Bowl (New Haven stadium)
 - 58 Minimally multiple
 - 59 Wagering consideration
 - 61 Cosmetics brand that sounds encouraging
 - 62 Casablanca woman
 - 63 Chemical in oven cleaners
 - 66 Cosmetics ingredient



Answer to previous puzzle

I	R	A	O	W	A	N	N	A	C	A	L	M	
M	E	N	U	I	R	O	N	S	A	B	E	E	
P	L	A	N	E	T	I	D	E	T	A	B	L	E
S	L	A	B	H	A	S	R	U	L	E	R	S	
E	N	D	C	O	R	E							
F	A	R	C	O	R	N	E	R	A	C	T	E	
A	W	E	S	A	U	D	I	L	A	R	V	A	
C	A	N	T	W	R	I	T	S	R	U	I	N	
T	I	E	R	S	T	I	N	G	C	T	N		
S	T	E	E	P	E	S	C	A	P	E	K	E	
S	L	I	D	P	S	I							
I	N	K	P	A	D	L	I	P	T	H	A	I	
S	E	N	A	T	E	P	A	G	E	H	A	R	
L	A	O	S	A	T	S	E	A	E	L	A	L	
A	R	T	S	L	A	S	T	S	R	O	B	E	

2/6/20

LeBron gets 36 in 3-point barrage

By GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — LeBron James absorbed contact and tumbled to the court while his fifth 3-pointer in a three-minute span dropped through the net. The Los Angeles Lakers' entire roster left the bench and crossed the court, gleefully picking up their leader while a sellout crowd roared.

"That's what we're all about," James said. "Our team, anytime anyone is having success in the game, we cheer like it's our own. So having that camaraderie, having that brotherhood, even though they're beating you up, it's just a pretty cool feeling."

Nine days after Kobe Bryant's death, the Lakers finally had an evening that felt like a return to normalcy.

Well, as normal as anything can be when King James is performing feats of basketball brilliance.

James scored 19 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter with that incredible 3-point barrage, propelling the Lakers to a 129-102 victory over the San Antonio Spurs on Tuesday night.

James added nine assists and seven rebounds, while Anthony Davis and Kyle Kuzma had 18 points apiece as the Lakers beat San Antonio for the third time, sweeping the season series.

After the Spurs chipped away at the Lakers' big lead late in the third quarter, James and Kuzma put the game away with a combined seven 3-pointers in 3 1/2 minutes to start the fourth. James' shots seemed to increase in difficulty with each possession, but he buried them all.

"When the guy gets hot like that, it's always fun to watch him," Davis said, laughing at the Lakers' group celebration after the final 3. "It wasn't the plan. We all just kind of ran over there and jumped on him."

DeMar DeRozan had 28 points, nine rebounds and seven assists in his hometown for the Spurs, who have lost five of seven.

San Antonio was outrebounded 58-28 by the bigger Lakers, and the Spurs grabbed only three rebounds in the fourth quarter while the Lakers went 16 of 24 from the field.

When asked what the Spurs can do when James gets rolling, coach Gregg Popovich quipped: "Make sure you get good pictures."

Bryn Forbes added 13 points, but one night after the Spurs blew a late lead in a three-point loss to the Clippers, they returned to Staples Center and fell to 0-2 at the start of San Antonio's eight-game road trip while a rodeo occupies AT&T Center.

"As a competitor, it's what you want to play against," DeRozan said of the LA back-to-back. "I don't look at it like it's being tough. It's part of the job, part of the game, and as a competitor you want to compete against the best. You worry about the toll afterwards."

The Lakers returned to a semblance of normalcy at Staples Center in their first home game since their emotionally charged return last Friday for their first game following Bryant's death.

Bryant's two retired jerseys still remain isolated in a spotlight on the wall high above the court, and the Lakers crowd broke into a spontaneous chant of "Kobe! Kobe!" in the third quarter, and the chant returned in the final seconds of the game.

TIP-INS

Spurs: They don't return home until Feb. 26. ... Dejounte Murray scored 12 points.

Lakers: JaVale McGee had 14 points. ... James was asked about the analytics theory that a hot hand doesn't exist: "I guarantee the analytics person or people has never ever been in a zone in their life."

THINKING OF KOBE

Before the game, Popovich gave a stirring answer to a question about Bryant's place in the game. The U.S. Olympic team assistant coach said Bryant "was special to all of us in different ways. ... He was like a superhero who was actually human. There

aren't any superheroes that are really human, but we kind of thought of him as one of those kind of people."

"When somebody's sick for a long time and you expect it, you deal with that. But when somebody is taken the way that he and his daughter and all the other people were taken, that makes it a tragedy and more painful in some ways," Popovich said.

KUZ EXCELS

Kuzma, the subject of numerous trade rumors with the deadline approaching, added 12 rebounds in one of his most impressive recent performances. Lakers coach Frank Vogel said the third-year pro "just had a little extra pop the last few games, and it showed up in the mindset to play hard."

Kuzma professed ignorance of the trade deadline looming Thursday, saying he has grown immune to the constant speculation about his future throughout his LA career.

"Kobe would always tell me, 'If they're not talking about you, you should be worried,'" Kuzma said. "And I'm the talk of the town, so ..."

DWIGHT'S REGRET

Dwight Howard had 12 points and 11 rebounds while shooting 5 for 5 in another strong all-around performance for the Lakers.

Howard also revealed Bryant had agreed to help him in the dunk contest later this month during All-Star weekend in Chicago. Howard had recently made it known that he wanted to do a dunk with Bryant involved.

"I didn't get a chance to tell him how appreciative I was for our time together, how thankful I was," Howard said of Bryant, his teammate with the Lakers in the tumultuous 2012-13 season. "That was pretty hard for me. I took it pretty hard. ... It still doesn't even seem real."

UP NEXT

Spurs: Visit the Portland Trail Blazers on Thursday.

Lakers: Host the Houston Rockets on Thursday.

Red Sox agree to trade Betts, Price to Dodgers

BOSTON (AP) — Banking on Mookie Betts to be the missing piece in their World Series pursuit, the Los Angeles Dodgers finally pulled off a blockbuster deal with the cost-cutting Red Sox.

Boston agreed to trade the 2018 AL MVP to the Dodgers on Tuesday night, according to two people with knowledge of the deal, packaging Betts with left-hander David Price in a salary dump designed to save the Red Sox tens of millions of dollars and help them dip below baseball's luxury tax threshold.

The Dodgers, eager for a World Series title after losing in the 2017 and '18 Fall Classics, are sending outfielder Alex Verdugo back to the Red Sox. The deal also involves the Minnesota Twins, who are getting right-hander Kenta Maeda from the Dodgers and sending pitching prospect Brusdar Graterol to Boston. Los Angeles will also get cash from Boston to offset some of the \$123 million owed to Betts and Price, but the exact amount was not yet known.

The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the trade, pending the exchange of medical information, had not been announced.

Betts, who will earn \$27 million this season, has spurned nine-figure offers from the Red Sox for a long-term deal and expressed eagerness to test the free agent market. Boston decided to move him now — a century after selling Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees — rather than let the four-time All-Star walk after the 2020 season.

One of baseball's best all-around talents, the popular Betts should fit nicely into a Dodgers lineup that also includes reigning NL MVP Cody Bellinger. Los Angeles has won seven straight NL West titles but hasn't celebrated a World Series championship since 1988. They fell in 2018 against Betts and the Red Sox, a year after being defeated by the

Houston Astros in seven games.

Price is due \$96 million over the final three years of a \$217 million, seven-year deal he signed before the 2016 season. The 2012 AL Cy Young Award winner missed time last year with a wrist issue and went 7-5 with a 4.28 ERA in 22 starts.

The Dodgers finally pulled off the kind of splashy offseason deal that has eluded them in recent years. They lost out on two primary offseason pursuits when pitcher Gerrit Cole signed with the New York Yankees for \$324 million over nine years and third baseman Anthony Rendon signed a \$245 million, seven-year contract with the rival Angels.

Until now, the Dodgers' top addition this winter was reliever Blake Treinen.

Adding Betts' bat to a lineup that includes Bellinger, Justin Turner, Max Muncy and Corey Seager makes the Dodgers even more fearsome. Their offense led the National League with 886 runs and 279 home runs last year.

Verdugo, a left-handed hitter, batted .294 with 44 RBIs and 12 home runs in 106 games before a back injury in August ended his season early. His outfield defense is average, but at 23 he has time to improve.

Betts' departure deepens the disappointment in Boston, where the New England Patriots sat out the Super Bowl for the first time in four years and face the prospect of quarterback Tom Brady leaving as a free agent. The Red Sox are now without the best player, the top executive and the manager who led them to a franchise-record 108 wins and the World Series championship a year ago.

The deal makes sense only in the complicated economics of baseball's collective bargaining tax, which penalizes a team for spending over a preset limit — \$208 million for 2020. What's more, a ballclub that surpasses the threshold in three straight years pays a top rate of 95%; on the other hand, if a

team goes under the limit for a season, the penalty for their next violation resets to the lowest rate of 20%.

This deal is expected to get Boston below that threshold.

Owner John Henry said in September, after the team missed the playoffs for the first time since 2015, that the Red Sox "need to be under the CBT." Team president Sam Kennedy later walked back the comments and said that was "a goal but not a mandate." After he was hired, Chief Baseball Officer Chaim Bloom said: "The goal remains to be competitive always. 2020 is important. So are 2021, 2022 and beyond."

Undoubtedly, the focus is now on the future.

The Red Sox remain without a manager three weeks after firing Alex Cora for his role in the Houston Astros 2017 sign-stealing scandal; Major League Baseball has not announced the results of its investigation into whether Cora implemented a similar scheme when he took over in Boston in '18. Pitchers and catchers are due to report to spring training in one week.

The new manager will need to sort out a lineup that is missing a player who batted leadoff and won four straight Gold Gloves in the outfield, as well as Price, a five-time All-Star.

Red Sox slugger J.D. Martinez was among the first to react to reports of the deal on social media, sending out only a sad-face emoji.

Graterol is a hard-throwing righty who ranked 83rd on MLB.com's most recent list of the top 100 prospects in baseball. He made his major league debut last season with the Twins and posted a 4.66 ERA in 10 relief appearances. A starter in the minors, he faces questions about his durability but could get a chance to pitch in Boston's rotation. If not, he's thrown as hard as 102 mph and could be an effective late-inning reliever.

AP sources: Covington, Capela on move in 4-team trade

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Basketball Writer

Robert Covington is going to the Houston Rockets and Clint Capela is going to the Atlanta Hawks as the headline moves in a complicated trade that was struck early Wednesday involving four teams, 12 players and at least three draft picks, two people familiar with the situation told The Associated Press.

Among the key components, according to the people who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the trade has not received league approval: Covington and Jordan Bell will join the Rockets from Minnesota, Capela and Nene are leaving the Rockets for the Hawks, the Timberwolves added soon-to-be restricted free agents Malik Beasley and Juancho Hernangomez from Denver and the Nuggets got Shabazz Napier from Minnesota plus a first-round pick from Houston.

ESPN and The Athletic first reported the trade.

Covington told Houston television station KRIV Fox 26 upon his arrival at the airport Wednesday that he was looking forward to a new opportunity.

"It's all over the place right now," Covington said when asked about his emotions. "Just kind of getting adjusted to life changing — drastically — in such a short amount of time."

It was not immediately clear if a call with NBA attorneys to review and approve the trade would happen on Wednesday or Thursday. The league's trade deadline is 3 p.m. EST Thursday.

Also in the deal: Jarred Vanderbilt is leaving Denver for Minnesota, and the Nuggets are getting Keita Bates-Diop and Noah Vonleh from the Timberwolves as well as Evan Turner from the Hawks. Gerald Green — who is out with a seasonlong foot injury — also goes to Denver from Houston to help make the math work and is likely to be waived once the deal is final, and Atlanta will also have to make another move to finalize the trade since it must

first clear a roster spot. ESPN reported Wednesday that the Hawks would waive Chandler Parsons to clear the necessary space.

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Mustang's Basketball highlights



The Sands Lady Mustangs won the girls game 49-23 last week. The Mustangs on the boys game ended with a score of 52-49.

Courtesy photos

Forsan sweeps season series with Ozona

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

The Forsan Buffaloes (13-16, 4-2) used a big third quarter to defeat the Ozona Lions 55-49 for their 27th home district victory in-a-row on Tuesday night.

Facing a 23-20 halftime deficit, the Buffaloes stomped through the third quarter but out scoring the visiting Lions 24-12. This switched their three-point deficit into a nine-point lead going into the fourth.

Forsan has now won three of their last four games and are setting themselves up for another strong district finish. The Buffaloes will face off against the top team in the district the next time they take the court when they host the Christoval Cougars (17-10, 6-0) on Friday night.

The Buffaloes will also be putting their home district winning streak on the line against their toughest rival opponent. Forsan lost their first matchup of the season last month 50-39 on the road and will undoubtedly be looking to avenge the loss.

UP NEXT: The rematch against the Christoval Cougars on Friday night at 8 p.m.

Shawn Moran is the sports editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, email sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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