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BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY
MARCH 11, 2011

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 85

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Grand jury indicts Big Spring resident

Special to the Herald

A federal grand jury in Lubbock returned an indictment late Wednesday, charging Big Spring resident Douglas W. Arnold Jr., with one count of failing to register as a sex offender.

Arnold has been in custody since his arrest by the U.S. Marshals Service late last month.

According to documents filed in the case, Arnold traveled from Sikeston, Mo., to Big Spring in November 2010. Arnold had been convicted in Delaware on sex offenses in 1994 and again in 2000. In addition to incarceration, as part of each conviction's sen-

See **INDICTED**, Page 3A

Spring forward!



Daylight saving time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, when most states spring forward an hour. Time will fall back to standard time again Sunday, Nov. 6, when daylight saving time ends.

Source: National Geographic

ASKING THE LORD FOR RAIN



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Community members came together Thursday night at First Baptist Church, to pray for rain. The prayer rally lasted about an hour and included members of the community praying together after hearing welcoming messages from the Rev. Mark Lindsey and short messages from former mayor of Big Spring Tim Blackshear and Mayor Tommy Duncan.

A mother's trip to hell ... and back

Former Big Spring resident to sign copies of her book Saturday

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Some nightmares last years, but they all eventually end.

Laura Proctor's nightmare was a parent's worst — her 9-year-old daughter, Christie, was abducted and murdered in the 1980s — and the ramifications lasted for more than a decade.

Proctor, a Big Spring native, wrote about her figurative trip to hell and back in "Desperate Enough To Win," and will sign copies of her book Saturday in Big Spring Mall.

The book signing will occur from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in front of Blum's Jewelers, which is owned by Proctor's brother, Greg Brooks.

Proctor, who graduated from Big Spring High School in 1974, had recently moved to the Dallas

See **BOOK**, Page 3A

BSISD to begin campus demolition

Teacher contract renewal deferred to special meeting set for April 7

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The first outward sign of Big Spring Independent School District construction projects will soon be evident.

During their Thursday meeting, BSISD trustees approved a bid of slightly less than $200,000 to demolish the old College Heights Elementary building, the first of a myriad of projects that will keep contractors and construction workers busy for most of the next two years.

Assistant Superintendent Danny Ferrell said asbestos abatement of the building should begin within two weeks. After that phase, actual demolition of the building will begin immediately. The project should be completed around mid-April, Ferrell added.

Once that particular project is completed, asbestos and other hazardous material will be transported to a special disposal facility in Monahans, while all other building material will be transported to Snyder. Ferrell said there was not enough available room locally.

The College Heights demolition needs to be completed as early as possible, because the new Goliad Elementary campus will be built on that site. Moss Elementary is the next campus slated for demolition, followed by Washington and Marcy.

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

Coming Sunday: Changes at the VAMC

Hundreds killed in tsunami after 8.9 quake

By MALCOLM FOSTER
Associated Press

TOKYO — A ferocious tsunami spawned by one of the largest earthquakes ever recorded slammed Japan's eastern coast Friday, killing hundreds of people as it swept away boats, cars and homes while widespread fires burned out of control.

Hours later, the tsunami hit Hawaii and warnings blanketed the Pacific, putting areas on alert as far away as South America, Canada, Alaska and the entire U.S. West Coast. In Japan, the area around a nuclear power plant in the northeast was evacuated after the reactor's cooling system failed.

Police said 200 to 300 bodies were found in the northeastern coastal city of Sendai, the city in Miyagi prefecture (state) closest to the quake's epicenter. Another 88 were confirmed killed and at least 349 were missing. The death toll was likely to continue climbing given the scale of the disaster.

See **TSUNAMI**, Page 5A

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Obituaries

Rudy Allen Carpenter Sr.



Rudy Allen Carpenter Sr., 48, of Jal, N.M., formerly of Big Spring died Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at Winkler County Memorial Hospital in Kermit. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Michael May and Kevin Gilbert officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

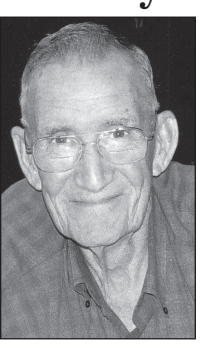
He was born May 30, 1962, in Big Spring. He lived most of his life in Big Spring, graduating from Howard College. He married Amy Gilbert on Sept. 15, 2007, in Big Spring and moved to Jal, N.M., four years ago. He owned A&R Auto Repair. He was a member of the Church of God.

He is survived by his wife, Amy Carpenter of Jal; four sons, Adam Valencia of Andrews, Rudy Allen Carpenter Jr. and wife Maria, Fabian Allen Carpenter and wife Amanda, all of Big Spring, and Gavin Allen Carpenter of Jal; two step-daughters, Kalli Ann Gilbert and Brianna Rene Gilbert of Jal; three sisters, Mary Dean and husband Dan of Lubbock, Angela Morrow and Herlinda Franco of Big Spring; four brothers, Fernando Williams, Joe Carpenter and Benny Smithwick, all of Odessa, Johnny Smithwick of Big Spring and Daniel Garza and wife Shelly of Odessa; and 18 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Esiquio Ruiz.

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

Johnny Moore



Johnny Moore, 74, of Big Spring died Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at his residence. The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Walter McCall, pastor of Vincent Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Johnny was born Sept. 1, 1936, in Big Spring to Frances and Houston Moore. He attended school at Vincent and Coahoma. He grew up on T.L. Griffin and E.T. O'Daniel ranches. He was a veteran of the Korean War, serving in the U.S. Army in an Airborne unit.

He worked as an auto technician and service manager at Jack Lewis Buick & Cadillac and Shroyer Oldsmobile GMC dealerships.

Johnny is survived by his wife, Lallye Moore of Big Spring; three sons, Johnny Moore Jr. and wife Debbie of Big Spring, Gregg Moore and wife Kara of Midland and Don Moore and wife Robin of Lubbock; three step-daughters, Regina Collins and husband David, Vickie Mathews and husband Gary and Tammy Garrison and husband Bradley, all of Big Spring; one sister, Macquline Shortes of Big Spring; 19 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his stepmother, Margaret Moore; one brother, Elick Dale Moore; and a sister, Anita Faye Moore.

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

Lola Rodriguez

Lola Rodriguez, 75, of Big Spring died Thursday, March 10, 2011, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Thelma Lois Yerden Carlile



Thelma Carlile, 75, of Big Spring went to her eternal home Thursday, March 10, 2011. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 12, 2011, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Dr. Greg Hall, president of Warner University in Lake Wales, Fla., and the Rev. Rhonda Thornhill, pastor of Crossway Church in Midland, officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday, March 11, 2011, at the funeral home.

Thelma was born May 28, 1935, on the family farm in Allegan, Mich., to Elmer and Adah Yerden. She grew up bringing in the cows and gathering sap from the maple trees (fondly known as the "sugarbush"). She attended school in Allegan and graduated from Anderson University in Anderson, Ind., where she received a bachelor of arts degree and later a master's degree.

She settled in Plymouth, Mich., to teach second grade and remained there until December of 1969. After the tragic loss of her spouse, she met and fell in love with Cleo Carlile, her knight on the white horse. The fathers of Cleo and Thelma were roommates in college and their friendship helped bring the two together.

After moving to Texas, Thelma taught second, third and fourth grades at Moss Elementary in Big Spring. She was loved by all her colleagues and students. Life after teaching involved having time to explore the many creative avenues she enjoyed: singing and playing the piano, scrapbooking, traveling and participating in many clubs and organizations.

She accomplished a lifetime goal when she created and published a cookbook, "Mealtimes and Memories," and was working on the sequel, "More Mealtimes and Memories." She was always involved in her church, helping out in the Sunday school department and was an integral part of the music team.

She is survived by her loving husband of 41 years, Cleo Carlile; her precious sister-in-law, Linda Lindell of Big Spring; four adoring children, daughter, Cyndee Eastin and husband Darell of Ft. Worth, daughter, Beverly Paul and husband Ervin of Midland; daughter, Deanna Gross and husband David of Keller and son, Joey Carlile of Big Spring; seven grandchildren, Daniel Beauchamp, Dustyn Beauchamp, Kimberley Eastin, Rebekah Hill, Stephen Eastin, Jonathan Gross and Jared Gross; one brother, Paul Yerden of Arizona; one sister, Ruth Albright and husband John of Indiana; brother-in-law, Paul Lindell of Big Spring; and nine treasured nieces and nephews and their families.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Adah Yerden.

The family request memorials be made to the Texas Commission for the Blind, 3016 Kermit Highway No. A, Odessa, 79764.

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

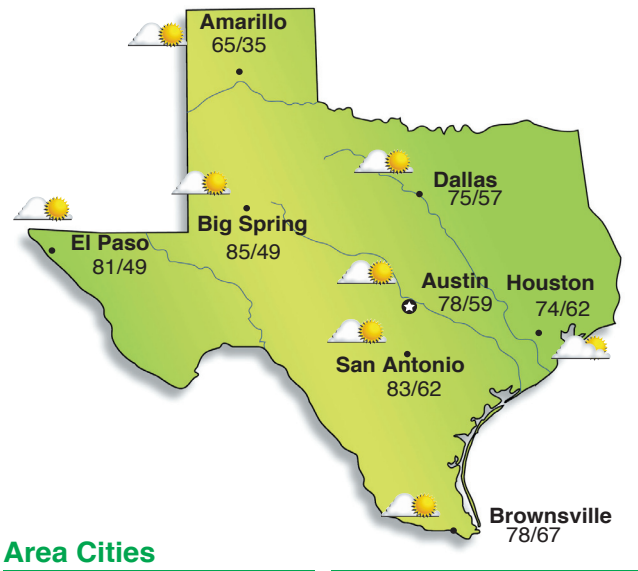
Paid obituary

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 3/12	Sun 3/13	Mon 3/14	Tue 3/15	Wed 3/16
85/49 Partly cloudy skies. Very warm. High near 85F. Winds W at 5 to 10 mph.	**81/49** Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 40s.	**77/51** Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 50s.	**82/53** Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.	**83/55** More sun than clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 50s.
Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 6:52 PM	Sunrise: 6:59 AM Sunset: 6:52 PM	Sunrise: 6:58 AM Sunset: 6:53 PM	Sunrise: 6:56 AM Sunset: 6:54 PM	Sunrise: 6:55 AM Sunset: 6:55 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	79	52	mst sunny	Kingsville	82	64	pt sunny
Amarillo	65	35	pt sunny	Livingston	73	57	cloudy
Austin	78	59	pt sunny	Longview	71	56	pt sunny
Beaumont	72	60	cloudy	Lubbock	74	40	pt sunny
Brownsville	78	67	pt sunny	Lufkin	71	57	cloudy
Brownwood	82	56	mst sunny	Midland	84	49	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	78	65	pt sunny	Raymondville	82	63	mst sunny
Corsicana	73	57	pt sunny	Rosenberg	74	61	cloudy
Dallas	75	57	pt sunny	San Antonio	83	62	pt sunny
Del Rio	86	59	mst sunny	San Marcos	78	59	pt sunny
El Paso	81	49	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	73	56	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	86	53	pt sunny	Sweetwater	81	50	mst sunny
Gainesville	72	53	pt sunny	Tyler	71	56	pt sunny
Greenville	71	54	pt sunny	Weatherford	75	54	pt sunny
Houston	74	62	cloudy	Wichita Falls	75	50	mst sunny

Correction

Thursday's editorial, "Health Fair time is upon us again," indicated there were two booth sizes available for the April 9 Health Fair. In fact, there is only one booth size. Booths are $80 if purchased through today, March 11, or $100 if secured between March 12 and March 25 — the final day to acquire one. The chamber can be contacted at 432-263-7641 for more information regarding booth spaces.

What's Happening

March 25
MHMR Hoops, Dreams & Goals.
Basketball Tournament
Dorothy Garrett Coliseum
Contact **Amy Vidal**
(432) 263-0007 ext. 256

March 26-27
Big Spring Rattlesnake Roundup
For more info contact
Dennis Burns (432) 263-3409
or **Ray Alexander (432) 212-3533**

March 26-27
United Way 3 Man Scramble
Golf Tournament
For more info please contact
United Way
Jeanie Coor 432-267-5201

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Attorney at Law
432.267.7449
608 Scurry St. Big Spring, TX
robertdmillerlaw.com

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Thursday and 7 a.m. today:

• CEDRIC RAY JEFFERSON, 49, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 204, was arrested Thursday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance in a drug free zone.

• TODD WILLIAM COKER, 19, of 210 Moore Rd., was arrested Thursday on warrants for driving while license invalid (two counts), disobeying an official traffic device, failure to appear (9 counts) and three warrants from another agency.

• STEPHANIE ELAINE BAKER, 30, of 1601 Cardinal, was arrested Thursday on a warrant from another agency.

• ANGELA MARIE SAIZ, 24, of 2509 Albrook, was arrested Thursday on warrants for no driver's license – when unlicensed and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• RICARDO DELAROSA, 50, was arrested Thursday on warrants for failure to appear and unlawfgul dog or cat tethering.

• BERNARDO FRAUSTO PEREZ, 46, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt 252, was arrested Thursday on warrants for failure to appear, assault – family violence and a warrant from another agency.

• STEPHANIE SERRATO, 26, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 14, was arrested Thursday on warrants for theft and failure to appear.

• JOHN EHRLICH CRUZ, 64, of 9410 Longshore, was arrested Thursday on charges of driving while intoxicated with open container – second offense and possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

• ASSAULT was reported:
In the 1400 block of Princeton.
In the 1000 block of N. Main Street.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 65 inmates at the time of this report.

• RAYMOND IGLESIA ALVEAR, 32, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation and public intoxication.

• STEPHANIE SERRATO, 26, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of issuance of a bad check and municipal warrants for theft and failure to appear.

• STEPHANIE ELAINE BAKER, 30, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a Midland County warrant for theft by check.

• CLARA RAMIREZ RANGEL, 36, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

• ANGELA MARIE SAIZ, 24, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for no driver's license and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

• RICARDO ORTIZ DELOSRIOS, 50, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for chained dog and failure to appear.

• BERNARDO FRAUSTO PEREZ JR., 46, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a Taylor County warrant for driving while license invalid and municipal warrants for failure to appear and assault – family violence.

• JOHN EHRLICH CRUZ, 64, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated with open container – second offense and possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.

INDICTED

Continued from Page 1A

tence, Arnold was ordered to have no unsupervised contact with any child under age 16, including his own children, and to register as a sex offender for life, three times per year.

As required, Arnold registered upon his release from prison until he failed to verify his information and register in September 2010 and again on or before December 2010. In addition, Arnold left Delaware without advising law enforcement authorities, as required.

When marshals located and apprehended Arnold, he was residing in Big Spring with his fiancé, another couple and their 3-year-old daughter.

Wednesday's indictment is an accusation only by a federal grand jury. The defendant is entitled to the presumption of innocence unless proven guilty. However, if convicted, Arnold faces a maximum statutory sentence of 10 years in prison, a $250,000 fine and a lifetime of supervised release.

The case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. The case was investigated by the USMS, the Delaware State Police, and the Big Spring Police Department, and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven M. Sucsy of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Lubbock.

BOOK

Continued from Page 1A

area in 1986 when her daughter was abducted less than a block from her home on Feb. 15, 1986. Christie's remains were discovered two years later and it was not until 2005 that David Penton, a felon then serving a life sentence for a child abduction in Ohio, pled guilty to the kidnapping/slaying of Christie and two other North Texas children.

The book details Laura's physical and emotional journey throughout her 19-year ordeal. Both the highs and lows are described — her plunge into depression and her eventual victory over despair.

"What I lived through is just about the worst thing a person can go through," Laura said. "Since then, however, life has been very good to me. Hopefully, people can see how you can live through a devastating event and come out the other side … People who suffer though something traumatic in their lives always think that other people can't comprehend what they're go through. Hopefully this book will be an inspiration and provide some hope to them."

Laura kept a journal throughout her ordeal, but never intended to write a book. But through the urging of her husband, Joe Covarrubias, her pastor and friends, she reconsidered.

Proctor, who is now co-pastor (along with her husband) of Twin Rivers Life Church in Allen, credits God with lifting her out of the emotional abyss caused by her daughter's abduction and slaying.

"He delivered me out of that despair," Laura said. "I got to the point where I said, 'I give up and I can't do this on my own.' That's when I began recovering from my despair."

For more information on the book signing, contact Greg or Lisa Brooks at 267-6335 or 935-2646.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

The Washington and Marcy campuses will not be demolished until their replacements are completed.

Also Thursday, trustees announced they will hold a special meeting at 5:15 p.m. April 7 to announce teacher contract renewals.

BSISD and other Texas school districts typically renew teacher contracts in March, but school trustees will put off that action until the budgetary picture coming out of Austin becomes clearer.

Because of state budgetary shortfalls, BSISD stands to lose up to $4 million this coming fiscal year, and with personnel costs accounting for almost 80 percent of the district's budget, there is a great deal of uncertainty concerning teachers' job security.

Superintendent Steven Saldivar has repeatedly said that teacher and staff layoffs will be the option of last resort, but officials are already taking steps to reduce personnel costs.

A one-time $1,000 "early resignation incentive" was offered to BSISD employees who gave notice prior to March 1. Saldivar said 40 employees, including 26 teachers, took the district up on the offer.

Saldivar will now meet with campus administrators to determine the district's next course of action.

"We'll look at the areas the (resigning) teachers came from and look and see what we can do to move existing staff to those positions," Saldivar said. "We don't want to cut any existing staff."

Delaying contract renewals until April will also allow BSISD officials to get a better idea what this year's state budget will be like.

"Right now, we're just dealing with projections," Saldivar said. "As we move forward, if there's newer projections, we'll act accordingly."

Saldivar said he will meet with staff before any relocations or layoffs are announced.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3400 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2100 block of Johnson. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Maurice Bennett, 70, died Monday. Funeral services were at 2 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial with military honors were at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Rudy Allen Carpenter, Sr., 48, died Wednesday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 4 p.m. Saturday with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Johnny Moore, 74, died Wednesday. The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Sunday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

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Mars Needs Mom (PG) Real D Fri.: 4:30 7:30 9:45 Sat.: 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:45
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EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Bill McClellan Managing Editor
Ron Midkiff Publisher
Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Adam Coleman Sports Editor
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer
Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

Retired Air Force Colonel and current Big Spring McMahon - Wrinkle Airport Manager Jim Little for winning the Manager of the Year award and gaining Big Spring good coverage in the Wingtips magazine.

Clarine Brown for her gracious, thoughtful donation to the Heritage Museum and the Permian Basin Area Foundation. Her donations will go towards benefiting education and the preservation of history throughout the area.

Big Spring standout guard Luke Adams for being named district 5-3As Most Valuable Player. Also to Chazzell Robinson who was named Newcomer of the Year, Tristian Clay who made first team all-district, Mike Menefield and Marc Segundo made the second team and Devante Lloyd who earned an honorable mention.

All the volunteers that have taken the time to volunteer as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) and make an impact and lasting impression on a child's life. Serving as a vital part in deciding the child's safe future.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

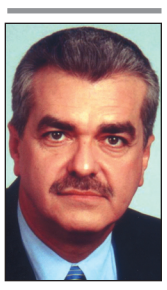
A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we always follow You, Lord, throughout our life for our life.

Amen

A story deemed not fit for the media: The Flores Family



MIGUEL PEREZ

The story of the Flores family apparently was too contradictory to the stories American news media like to promote nowadays. It just didn't fit in the current media climate. It wasn't about North Africa and the Middle East or about the Tucson, Ariz., massacre or about efforts to repeal health care reform. It wasn't about Charlie Sheen's antics or public employees in Madison, Wis., or about undocumented immigrants and the hatred a loud minority of Americans feel for them. It wasn't even about border vigilantes who claim to be protecting us from an invasion of criminals.

The vast majority of the American news media chose to play down or ignore the story of the Flores family, simply (and shamefully) because it went against the flow. This time, it was the criminals who had invaded an American Hispanic home, and they were Minutemen vigilantes.

If you didn't read or hear about the horrific way in which 9-year-old Brisenia Flores was murdered or that jurors wept when they heard the graphic details of the crimes committed against the Flores family, it's probably because during the past month, most of the mainstream media chose to discuss other topics they deemed to be more important. If you don't know about the woman convicted and sentenced to death for the killing of Brisenia and her father, it's probably because you blinked during the few seconds this story was under the spotlight.

Had it been the other way around, had a white American family been murdered by three undocumented immigrants, you know we would have heard about it until we were saturated with the news. In fact, such a case — namely the murder of rancher Robert Krentz, allegedly by a Mexican drug runner — was highly publicized, and it keeps motivating immigrant-bashing politicians to introduce Draconian laws in Arizona.

But the Flores family lived in Arizona, too, 11 miles from the Mexican border. Brisenia was the same age as Christina Green, the girl so tragically shot and killed in Tucson on Jan. 8. We cried for Christina and the other five people killed by, according to police, Jared Loughner. But many of us were not even told about Brisenia.

Arizona has been in the news so much lately. Did someone decide the American public is tired of hearing about Arizona just in time to avoid presenting the Hispanic side of the illegal immigration story?

When the criminals turn out to be Minutemen vigilantes, doesn't that deserve some attention? Aren't these the people who are obsessed about those who break immigration laws? Isn't it ironic (and scary) that they are willing to kill to enforce immigration infractions? And isn't it ironic that they killed Hispanic American citizens instead of killing illegal immigrants?

What happened to the Flores family represents the worst fears of many U.S. Latinos — American citizens — who see that the current anti-immigrant climate could affect them.

Some background: Former Minutemen American Defense leader Shawna Forde was convicted in a Tucson courtroom Feb.

14 for the murders of Brisenia and her father, Raul, and for the attempted murder of Brisenia's mother and Raul's wife, Gina Gonzalez, who survived a gunshot wound in the raid (and botched robbery) of their rural Arivaca, Ariz., home May 30, 2009.

Forde, who also had served as a spokeswoman for the xenophobia-mongering organization known as FAIR (the Federation for American Immigration Reform), also was convicted on burglary, robbery and aggravated assault charges. She was sentenced to death Feb. 22 for masterminding the home invasion. Her two alleged accomplices, Albert Robert Gaxiola and Jason Eugene Bush, still are awaiting trial.

Authorities said the three formed a hit squad that planned to raid, rob and murder drug dealers to finance their anti-immigrant organization. Apparently, they expected these criminal endeavors to gain them notoriety among right-wing extremists and white supremacist lunatics. And even after a murder conviction, it has! Although Forde only led a smaller militia group, which had broken away from the Minutemen, some of her sick followers now consider her a patriot and a Minuteman martyr.

During Forde's trial, prosecutors said she and her accomplices posed as Border Patrol agents, accused Raul Flores of harboring undocumented immigrants and claimed that the house was surrounded by law enforcement officers. Once inside, Bush allegedly shot Flores in the chest and Gonzalez in the leg. Gonzalez survived by shooting one of the invaders with her husband's pistol and calling 911. She testified that her daughter Brisenia was shot as the girl pleaded for her life.

Forde and her accomplices allegedly expected to find a huge stash of either cash or drugs at the Flores home. They found neither.

It's hard to imagine how the dramatic details of the demise of the Flores family, as revealed in the courtroom, could have escaped major media attention. But they did!

There were a few exceptions — CNN's Gary Tuchman did a wonderful report on Anderson Cooper's program, and Spanish-language TV networks covered some of the trial proceedings — but most mainstream newspapers hardly spent any ink on this story.

When the Tucson massacre occurred, some right-wing politicians tried to deny that Arizona's climate of anti-immigrant hatred had anything to do with the shooting of Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. When they claimed not to see the connection, we wondered whether they were blind.

But now that we know about the raid on the Flores home by Border Patrol agent impersonators, now that they picked on Latinos who happened to be American citizens, now that three people allegedly committed murder to finance an anti-immigrant organization, I wonder whether they see the connection now.

The media certainly haven't. They saw the raid on the Flores home as an isolated incident instead of as the consequences of the vitriolic rhetoric expressed in many anti-immigrant stories they do cover.

Gaxiola, 44, who is accused of choosing the Flores home for the group's first raid, is scheduled to be tried in June. Bush, 36, the alleged gunman, goes on trial later this month.

Let's see how long the national mainstream media intend to bury this story.

To find out more about Miguel Perez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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March 7, not the day for me



SUSAN ESTRICH

March 7th is just about the worst day of the year for me. Not really just about — just is. On March 7, 1977, my father died at the age of 53. On March 7, 2000, my best friend, Judy Jarvis, died at almost the same age.

There are 365 days in the year. I lost my mother on Feb. 16, 2006, and my other best friend, Kath, on May 24, 2010. But to lose two of the people you love most in the world on the very same date just doesn't seem fair. I almost crashed my car driving to the airport on March 7, 2010. I just couldn't believe it.

I have had many years to learn to deal with sadness and loss. I have read all the books. I know that my thoughts are just that. I know to breathe in and out. I know to just try to think of something else — a yellow duck, a yellow painting with white borders, anything to stop the thousands of synapses just waiting to connect me to death and doom. I breathe in, and I breathe out, but the sadness stays.

Sometimes, I look around at all the people who have suffered so much more than I have — the parents who have lost children, a loss I can't and frankly won't imagine, the parents who must tell their children that they are dying, a horror I can't think of, and I feel embarrassed at my own weakness. What is wrong with me? I am lucky and blessed.

But sadness is not a competition. There are no scores for suffering, no grades for its intensity.

The fact that it may all seem like such a silly waste a month or a decade or a lifetime later does not make it feel that way at the time.

When I speak at graduations, I always tell the students that it's not the hand you're dealt, but how you play it; that if you assume you're the only one sitting there with a parent missing or pain in your heart, you are just wrong. I was raped 36 hours before I graduated from college. My father didn't come because I didn't have a ticket for his wife, who hated me anyway. By the time I was supposed to graduate from law school, my father was dead, and no one in my family much wanted to go, so I didn't.

The students applaud when I tell them these stories because just the fact that I am standing there, the "speaker," must mean that pain can be overcome, that a rainbow will rise at the end of the storm. As graduation speakers go, I'd have to say I'm right up there. But I don't pretend — not for a minute — that I have the answer.

Judy never met my father. My father never met my children. The best I can do on March 7th is to talk about these people I loved so, to take out their pictures and say a prayer in their memory. I cannot, try as I might, somehow "inject" their spirits into those I love. But I will try my best, even with tears running down my face, to touch their spirits, which I will hold inside of me until my last breath, to hold to our love and to make of it a blessing.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

News in brief

Libya rebels hold out in part of key oil facility

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP) — Rebels are holding out in part of the strategic oil port of Ras Lanouf after fierce fighting with Moammar Gadhafi loyalists in central Libya.

Ibrahim Said, the deputy director of the hospital in the nearby city of Ajdabiya says Gadhafi's forces took the residential part of Ras Lanouf in Thursday's battles.

But he says rebels on Friday continue to hold the port's industrial areas and oil facilities. Four dead and more than 40 wounded from the fighting were brought to Ajdabiya hospital.

In Thursday's battles, government forces rained a barrage of rockets, artillery and tanks shells down on the opposition-held port, driving many of the rebel forces into a frantic retreat further east.

GOP's King: Next terror hearing to examine radicalization of Muslims in American prisons

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee is pressing forward with his public examination of Muslim extremism in America, pointing to his first, tense hearing on the subject as a step toward desensitizing a taboo topic and rooting out terrorists on U.S. soil.

"There's an elephant in the room and nobody wants to talk about it. We talked about it today," King said after the four-hour, emotion-filled session Thursday.

Just holding the conversation, he said, advanced the fight against al-Qaida's efforts to recruit one-man terrorist cells from within American Muslim communities and to suppress any effort to report those activities to law enforcement officials. King next will turn to the issue of Muslim extremism in American prisons in hearings planned later this year.

"I remain convinced that these hearings must go forward — and they will," King said as he opened Thursday's session.

But the conversation — a government examination of one religion in the U.S. — is fraught with distrust and political pandering that reflect the nation's ongoing struggle against terrorism nearly a decade after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Unions to use King anniversary to frame collective bargaining as civil rights issue

WASHINGTON (AP) — Labor unions at the heart of a burning national disagreement over the cost of public employees want to frame the debate as a civil rights issue, an effort that may draw more sympathy to public workers being blamed for busting state budgets with generous pensions.

As part of that strategy, unions are planning rallies across the country on April 4 — the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination. Union officials want the observances in dozens of cities to remind Americans that King was supporting striking sanitation workers in Memphis, Tenn., the night he was shot.

By portraying collective bargaining as a human rights issue, union officials hope the rallies can help fuel a backlash against Republicans in Wisconsin and other states trying to curb collective bargaining rights for public employees.

"This is a fight for workers, this is a fight for the middle class, this is a fight to try to stave off the shift in power and wealth that is starting to become gross," said Harold Schaitberger, president of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

The planned rallies on the 43rd anniversary of King's death are part of a coordinated strategy by labor leaders to ride the momentum of pro-union demonstrations and national polls showing most Americans support collective bargaining rights as Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and other GOP leaders in states fight to reduce or strip those benefits.

Analysis: Huckabee's week of gaffes could have a political upside for any presidential run

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Were Mike Huckabee's recent gaffes enough to doom any presidential ambitions he still harbors? A calculated play for the Republican Party's base? Somewhere in between?

The former Arkansas governor, who won the Iowa caucuses in 2008 and is considering another White House run, had to walk back two widely reported comments he made in radio interviews last week during a national tour to promote his latest book.

First he referred to President Barack Obama's boyhood in Kenya. It was a mistake; a spokesman said Huckabee should have said Indonesia.

Then Huckabee took on Hollywood and out-of-wedlock pregnancy. "One of the things that is troubling," he said, "is that people see a Natalie Portman or some other Hollywood starlet who boasts of, 'Hey look, we're having children. We're not married, but we're having these children, and they're doing just fine.'"

Verbal miscues are nothing new for the Southern Baptist preacher who now hosts a radio show and a weekly Fox News Channel program. He's the first to admit that his mouth sometimes gets him in trouble — and probably will again.

Giffords' doctors to give first update since congresswoman began intensive rehab in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' doctors are giving their first public update on her recovery since she began intensive rehabilitation after being shot in the head.

Although doctors have been tightlipped about her progress, friends and family have provided tidbits of information since she was moved to TIRR Memorial Hermann on Jan. 26.

A news conference on her condition is set for Friday morning.

Giffords was shot in the head Jan. 8 at a political event outside a grocery store in an attack that killed six people and wounded 12 others.

Sheen files $100 million suit against Warner Bros. and 'Two and a Half Men' producers

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Charlie Sheen brought his verbal war against Warner Bros. and the executive producer of "Two and a Half Men" to the courtroom on Thursday, filing a $100 million lawsuit seeking to recoup his salary and wages for the show's cast and crew.

The breach of contract lawsuit alleges production was halted on the CBS sitcom in part to punish Sheen for recent behavior that has included two hospitalizations and, in recent weeks, a series of interviews in which he has attacked executive producer Chuck Lorre. But the suit and Sheen's attorney, Marty Singer, say most of the incidents cited by Warner Bros. for firing Sheen occurred before his tirades against Lorre began.

Later Thursday, attorneys for Sheen and his estranged wife say the former couple have reached an agreement that settles any custody issues and will end her pursuit of a lengthy restraining order.

Attorneys for Sheen and Brooke Mueller issued a statement saying the pair had "reached an agreement that resolves their differences." The statement said the details of the arrangement were being kept confidential for the benefit of their twin sons.

Mueller obtained a temporary restraining order against Sheen earlier this month, claiming he threatened her on a recent trip to the Bahamas. A hearing had been scheduled for March 22.

New version of Apple's iPad hits stores; first sales to come with pre-dawn online orders

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Apple Inc.'s updated version of its iPad tablet computer will be available in stores Friday afternoon but those who can't wait to say they own the gadget can beat the crowds by ordering one online before the sun rises.

The Cupertino company is opening online sales of the iPad 2 at 1 a.m. PST, hours before they will be available in stores nationwide at 5 p.m. local time.

It's hard to predict if many enthusiasts will camp out at Apple stores to be the first to get their hands on the new iPad as they have for previous launches of Apple gadgets.

When the original version of the iPad went on sale in April, Apple said it sold more than 300,000 in the first day.

It ended up selling more than 15 million in its first nine months on sale, including 7.3 million to holiday shoppers during the October-December quarter.

The new iPad model comes with several improvements over the original version but the same price tag — $499 to $829, depending on storage space and whether they can connect to the Internet over a cellular network.

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TSUNAMI

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The magnitude-8.9 offshore quake unleashed a 23-foot (seven-meter) tsunami and was followed by more than 50 aftershocks for hours, many of them of more than magnitude 6.0.

Dozens of cities and villages along a 1,300-mile (2,100-kilometer) stretch of coastline were shaken by violent tremors that reached as far away as Tokyo, hundreds of miles (kilometers) from the epicenter. A large section of Kesennuma, a town of 70,000 people in Miyagi, burned furiously into the night with no apparent hope of the flames being extinguished, public broadcaster NHK said.

"The earthquake has caused major damage in broad areas in northern Japan," Prime Minister Naoto Kan said at a news conference.

The government ordered thousands of residents near a nuclear power plant in Onahama city to move back at least two miles (three kilometers) from the plant.

The reactor was not leaking radiation but its core remained hot even after a shutdown. The plant is 170 miles (270 kilometers) northeast of Tokyo.

Trouble was reported at two other nuclear plants as well, but there was no radiation leak at either.

Even for a country used to earthquakes, this one was of horrific proportions because of the tsunami that crashed ashore, swallowing everything in its path as it surged several miles (kilometers) inland before retreating. The apocalyptic images of surging water and uncontrolled conflagrations broadcast by Japanese TV networks resembled scenes from a Hollywood disaster movie.

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See Website for Details
www.victoryoverdespair.net



Church News

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Stations of the cross will be held every Friday at 6 p.m., followed by a fish dinner. Penance services will be offered March 22 at 7 p.m. The Feast of Annunciation will be celebrated on March 25 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call the church office at 714-4930.

First United Methodist Church

This is a weekend of change. For starters, daylight saving time begins after midnight early Sunday morning. Be sure to set your clocks forward one hour so you wont be late for Sunday morning services.

This will also be the beginning of spring break. Many activities such as Children's Day Out will not be meeting this week. If you have questions regarding the schedule for the week, call the office or check out our website at www.fumcbs.net.

This Sunday at both the 8:30 and 10:50 service our mission team will be in charge. Several members of the team will give their reports and testimonies regarding their experiences in Nicaragua. Slide shows and music will also be a part of the services, which will be lead by our pastor, the Rev. Sharon Wiese, who was a member of the mission team.

Although a number of our activities have been cancelled for spring break there is a very important one that will take place as scheduled — Wednesday noon Bible study and luncheon. This week, our church has the honor of hosting the first of the community wide ecumenical Lenten meals. We will meet in Garrett Hall for lunch and the Rev. Barbara Kirk Norris of St. Mary's Episcopal Church will be the speaker. Join us for this wonderful opportunity to meet and worship with our fellow Christians. The meal will be served beginning at noon.

The Children's Day Out program is asking for old, discarded neckties for a project they have planned. Drop them off at the church office and stay tuned for the surprising outcome of this activity.

Its time to Relay ... Relay For Life, that is. This year, as in all the years past, First Methodist will be participating in this team event to fight cancer. Our church has lost many members to this dreaded disease and on the brighter side has many, many cancer survivors. Bonnie Miller, a survivor, is heading up our team and has announced that Sue and Chuck Bagwell, along with their Sunday school class, Pathmakers, will host our first fund-raiser.

March 27, following the 10:50 service, you can pick up sack lunches in Garrett Hall for just $6. These lunches include one of those great Al's Barbeque sandwiches and chips. Take it home or sit down with friends in Garrett Hall. It is just one of the ways our congregation will be supporting our team in the fight to find a cure. Our local, prize-winning Relay For Life will be at Blankenship Field May 6 and 7.

First United Methodist Church is located in the heart of downtown Big Spring. We hope you will join us; the welcome mat is out at Fourth and Scurry.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Greetings from the congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church! We invite you to worship with us Sunday at 9 a.m. in our sanctuary at 810 Scurry with Pastor Don Rosentreter. Sunday school with lively discussion follows in the parish hall.

Ladies, our Wednesday noon luncheon study is studying the Twenty-third Psalm. Lunch is served, followed by thoughtful discussion.

Wednesday nights are movie nights at St. Paul. We gather at 5:30 p.m. for popcorn, fellowship and discussion. The movie begins sharply at 6 p.m., following with a brief discussion of the designated topic. Recent movies include: "Stagecoach," "Dave," "Zulu," "To Kill A Mockingbird," "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" and "Heaven Can Wait." Join us.

We hope you will join us in spirit as we pray throughout the week for safety for our military, comfort for those in need, wisdom for our leaders, good stewardship for our environment, seasonable rain, and joy in the message of Jesus Christ.

Baptist Temple Church

Baptist Temple Church meets at 11th Place and Goliad. We have Sunday school at 9:45 and worship at 11 a.m. Sunday night worship will be starting at 6 p.m. and prayer time Wednesday is at 7 p.m. Due to water damage to the sanctuary during the last freeze, worship is being held in the fellowship hall. As soon as the ceiling and the carpet are replaced we will be back meeting in the sanctuary.

We try to stay true to the Bible in all our worship services. You will find a friendly and warm welcome. Our prayer is that those who see no need to worship would come and find that need.

Chapel of Faith

You are invited to attend Chapel of Faith church, located at the corner of E. 14th and Goliad streets, as we learn more about God's Word and His love for each of us. Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. each week and 5 p.m. Sunday evenings. We are starting a new Bible study on the book of Matthew.

The Rev. Scott Willis will be preaching this Sunday. The title of his sermon, "Life Instead of Death," is based on Romans 5:12-19.

Encouraging Words: "Art thou lonely, o my brother? Share thy little with another! Stretch a hand to one unfriended, and thy loneliness is ended." —John Oxenham

We encourage you to attend the church of your choice. However, if you are looking for a church home, we invite you to visit the Chapel of Faith. You will be warmly welcomed! Remember, God loves each of us so much that He sent His son to die for our sins that we might live for Him now and with Him eternally.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

Our motto is "Celebrating and sharing God's love and grace in our lives." We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive. Our phone number is (432) 264-7818. Our website is http://www.lutheransonline.com/aliveinchristbstx.

We would love to have you join us for church Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday school at 10:15.

Remember to "spring forward" Sunday morning at 2 a.m. Daylight Saving Time is here again. Bobby Roever will be preaching Sunday. His sermon will be from Today's Lessons.

Angela Newton is our organist. Thank you, Karen Thibeault, for playing last Sunday. This week's acolyte will be Hannah Alsobrooks. Our elders are Richard Knocke and Richard von Hassell. The liturgy will be read by Dolline Budke. The readings are Genesis 3:1-21, Psalm 32: 1-7, Romans 5:12-19, and Matthew 4:1-11.

The flowers this week are given in God's glory from Alan and Audrey Abel and Kathy Laning. If you are interested in donating flowers, please sign up on the flower chart. Flowers are $50 for both vases.

Sign up on the kitchen door to be a "door greeter" Sunday mornings before church. We need one or two individuals to sign up for a two-week period and come ready Sunday to "greet" everyone, hand them a bulletin, and welcome them to our church family.

Sundays, the adults and youth are studying from the "Growing in Christ" series. Feel free to join our Sunday school classes to learn more about our Lord and Savior. Monday the LWML will serve refreshments at the VA.

Mid-week school is beginning a study preparing us for the last days of Jesus' ministry. Last Wednesday evening, we studied "The Last Supper" from Luke 22:7-20. Wednesday we will study "The Garden of Gethsemane" from Luke 22:39-53. We would love to have your children join us. There will be no Mid-week school or Wednesday night supper during spring break. However, we will have Lenten services at 7 p.m. March 16.

The meals are being served from 6:30-7. The March 9 meal was prepared by Audrey Abel. We still need volunteers to sign up for the preparation of Wednesday's meal for March 23. If you are interested with helping with a meal, please contact Dana Byrd.

The focus for this Wednesday is the "The Miraculous Tearing of the Temple Curtain" from the text "And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom." (Matthew 27:51a). Lenten services will continue until April 13.

The Elders meet March 17 at 7 p.m Last Saturday, several of our members attended the Circuit 4 Convocation hosted by Higher Things Inc. The presentation was very informative and interesting. This campus ministry could be helping our own college campuses, Howard College and SWCID, and their students or remembering our own students who attend other universities. For more information, pick up a brochure or talk to Bobby Roever or Bo Vizcaino.

The Board of Education met last Tuesday and discussed Sunday school, Mid-week school and the Easter festival which has been scheduled for Saturday, April 23. More information will be following.

Last Wednesday evening, we began our Lenten services with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday sermon was titled: "The Miraculous Darkness" from the text "Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour." (Matthew 27:45). Thank you, Dr. Alan Abel, for delivering the message. You gave a very powerful sermon.

The Board of Assimilation will meet March 22 at 7 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma

The friendly folks at First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma invite anyone to come and worship with us. We meet at 11 a.m. Sunday to share the scriptures, sing, pray and worship, led by Commissioned Lay Pastor Tom Koger.

The weekly lectionary Bible study did not meet Wednesday because of the ecumenical Ash Wednesday service, which was held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Our next family frolic will be this Saturday at 7 p.m. in the church social hall. We will have a light supper before enjoying the best in amateur entertainment. Everyone is invited.

The lectionary for the First Sunday in Lent is Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11. Please remember that our time changes this Saturday night; move your clocks forward an hour.

See CHURCH, Page 7A

Truth always stands

Truth never changes. It never becomes obsolete. It never has to be updated. Truth stands!

For centuries, presidents, philosophers, diplomats, poets and others have written words of wisdom that stand because of their truthfulness sprinkled with a bit of humor and perhaps a pinch of satire.



BONNIE WHEAT

Consider the truth of this statement from the pen of humorist Will Rogers: "Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in."

On a similar topic, Mark Twain, who told the truth mostly, gave us this bit of wisdom: "A man who carries a cat by the tail learns something he can learn in no other way."

The great American poet, Robert Frost offered a valid definition of diplomacy. He wrote, "A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman's birthday but never remembers her age."

A great English poet, Alfred Lord Tennyson, who completed life while America was still in its infancy, pointed out this truth: "The shell must break before the bird can fly."

On the home front, George Washington quipped, "Worry is the interest paid by those who borrow trouble."

Another great president, Abraham Lincoln, offered the following rock-solid observation: "If you call a tail a leg, how many legs has a dog? Five? No, calling a tail a leg doesn't make it a leg."

A later president, perhaps not as well remembered as Washington and Lincoln, gave us some pithy, ain't-it-the-truth comments. President Herbert Hoover said, "A good many things go around in the dark besides Santa Claus." He also noted, "About the time we can make ends meet, somebody moves the ends."

Yet another American president, Ronald Reagan, made this factual inquisition: "A tree's a tree. How many do you need to look at?" He also truthfully confessed, "I never drink coffee at lunch. I find it keeps me awake for the afternoon."

Yet another great American, Benjamin Franklin, who said that a penny saved is a penny earned, made this accurate assessment of human nature: "A man wrapped up in himself makes a very small package."

Whatever the subject, truth, even when it is denied, stands the test of time. For those who read and believe the Bible, God's word stands when all else fails: "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever" (Isaiah 40:8 NASB).

Even things that seem obvious are sometimes challenged, but the word of God is forever. Truth stands!

Bonnie Wheat is an author and a minister's wife. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net.

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Courtesy Photo

Twelve-year-olds Jordan Qualls, Hannah Jensen and 8-year-old Elisabeth Sorensen enjoy the festivities at a pancake supper for Shrove Tuesday held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 6A

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's this Sunday. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist will be at 10:30 a.m. in the church. Sunday we are having our "Second Sunday" luncheon. Join us after the service in the parish hall for this time of fellowship and good eats!

The vestry of St. Mary's will meet Monday, March 14 at 6 p.m. in the church library.

There will be a Lenten, meatless supper at St. Mary's Wednesday, March 16, beginning at 6 p.m. After the meal, the deacons will do a presentation on the Stations of the Cross.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

The lectionary Bible study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, did not meet Wednesday because of the ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Part of the Lenten celebration will be a series of Lenten lunches shared with several other churches. The lunchtime services will begin at noon and end at 1 p.m. The schedule for the first three weeks is March 16 at First United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Barbara Kirk-Norris preaching; March 23 at Big Spring First Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. Sharon Wiese preaching; March 30 at Immaculate Heart Catholic Church, with Tom Koger preaching.

The Church Life Committee met after worship last Sunday for lunch and its regular monthly meeting. The membership committee had its initial meeting at noon Tuesday, March 8. This committee hopes to help promote inclusiveness in our church family by producing a church directory. The service committee met Thursday afternoon in the church parlor.

Lucy Odom will provide refreshments for "Take Ten" Sunday. Liturgist is James Little. Communion servers for last Sunday were Lane Reynolds, Dick and Janie Conley, and Paschal and Lucy Odom.

The lectionary for the first Sunday in Lent is Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11. The Rev. Holstedt will deliver the sermon. The choir will offer an Owen Griffin arrangement of "David's Psalm" and during the offertory they will sing "With a Voice of Singing" by Martin Shaw.

If you cannot attend worship, listen on KBST 1490 AM. at 11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: www.fpcbs.org. On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Rev. Holstedt.

First Baptist Church

The Men's Collegiate Choir from the Moody Bible Institute will be presenting a concert in the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church at 7 p.m. Monday, March 21. Our community is invited to come that evening and be blessed by this choir. The concert is free. A love offering will be taken.

The Awana Club continues to grow. It's so wonderful to see children from all over our city come and participate. Our church is thankful for the work that Rhonda Hoffman has done to organize this program.

First Baptist Church has a place for you to come and study God's Word and worship. If you need a church home, come and worship with us.

Remember to continue your prayers for rain.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church meets each Sunday for worship at 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pastor Billy Bates leads each service.

Sunday school for all ages is at 9:30 a.m. The adult class discussion will be on "Qualifications of worship leaders" taken from first Timothy 3:1–13.

The purpose of the lesson is "To grasp that God expects Chrisitian leaders to be not only transparent and accountable, but also holy and humble."

The lesson discussion will be led by Jacque Mauch.

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday so don't forget to set your clocks forward Saturday night.

March 27 will be a fellowship luncheon and regular administrative board meeting. The luncheon will be immediately following the worship service and the board meeting will follow the luncheon.

Our food pantry has been very active so check to see what is needed so we can continue to be in mission to members of our community.

See **CHURCH**, Page 8A

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LONE STAR DISTRICT
Friends of Scouting Dinner
Investing Into The Character Of Your Community
Please Join The Lone Star District
Friday, March 25th
6:30pm at the Colorado City Opera House

The Annual Friends of Scouting Leadership Dinner is given in honor of major contributors. This year we are privileged to have join us retired Army Air Corps and Eagle Scout, Edward (Shannon) Covington



Colonel Covington was born July 31, 1921 in Ardmore, Oklahoma, but spent much of his youth in Goodrich, Texas. He earned his Eagle Scout in Troop 47 on January 21, 1941 in Livingston, TX. Covington attended Sam Houston Teachers College in Huntsville, TX. In 1942 he joined the Army Air Corps. In 1946 he got out of the service and resumed studies at Sam Houston Teachers College. In 1948 he received in BS and Masters in Education. In 1948 he moved to Houston, TX and did advanced studies for 32 years. In 1981 he retired and became active in the Confederate Air Force (now called Commemorative Air Force), which is flying museum for WWII aircrafts. He presently resides in Colorado City where he stays active with his friends and family.

The registration fee is $20, which includes the cost for the dinner and money raised goes into the districts FOS campaign. Funds raised will provide the Scouting program to more-than 500 youth members in the Lone Star district. Scouting continues to thrive in our area largely due to friends like you who support the mission "to instill values in young people that will last a lifetime.

With an operating budget of nearly $2.49 million, the Council could not meet the needs of our Scouts and community without the generous contributions of all our Friends of Scouting

To reserve your seat contact Brian Sweeney
(432) 212-3577

Space is limited and RSVP is appreciated
Visit www.buffalotrailbsa.org

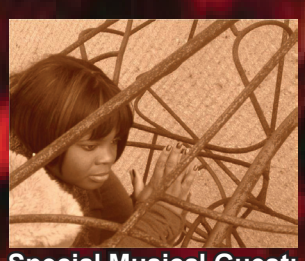
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7:00 p.m. Nightly

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Thursday Speaker: Pastor Jimmy Pruitt Grace Point Church

Friday Speaker: Pastor Jarrod Dugger Fresh Fire Fellowship

Saturday Speaker: Asst. Pastor Martin Johnson City of Refuge Church

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News in brief

Vatican review of orders near end

HAMDEN — Major work has been completed on a Vatican-ordered investigation of U.S. Roman Catholic sisters.

Mother Mary Clare Millea, who is leading the review for the Vatican, announced Tuesday that the on-site visits of American women's religious orders have been finished.

The review began in 2008 and was "intended as a constructive assessment and an expression of genuine concern for the quality of the life" of roughly 59,000 U.S. Catholic sisters, according to a Vatican working paper sent early in the inquiry to leaders of 341 religious congregations.

Tennessee church drops name 'Baptist'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — One of the most prominent churches in the Southern Baptist Convention is changing its name and dropping the word Baptist.

The Nashville congregation that is now the Two Rivers Baptist Church will become the Fellowship at Two Rivers, effective March 20.

Executive Pastor Len Taylor calls the change an attempt to "reboot" the church, saying its name had been disparaged.

Former senior pastor Jerry Sutton left in 2008 because of a dispute that began with the selection of music and ended with a lawsuit over finances.

CHURCH

Continued from Page 7A

Remember that the First Church of the Nazarene is now taking the orders for the Angel Food ministry. Angel Food is a non-qualifying food program open to anyone wishing to use it.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church is located at 2702 N. Birdwell and welcomes all who wish to serve the Lord through study and service. For more information, call 267-2203. If no answer, leave a message.

First Christian Church

You are invited to attend the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), at 911 Goliad St. Each Sunday starts with a time of fellowship at 9:30 a.m. before Sunday school for all ages at 9:45 a.m. The worship service begins at 10:50 a.m.

Sunday, our pastor, the Rev. Dr. Kenneth McIntosh, will deliver the message, "The truth about choices," from Genesis 2:15-17 and 3:1-7. We celebrate the Lord's Supper each week. Our communion table is open to all who believe in Jesus Christ, regardless of denomination.

The season of Lent began March 9 with Ash Wednesday. The First Christian Church will be participating in a series of Lenten luncheons hosted by six congregations. The luncheons will start at noon on Wednesdays beginning March 16 and continuing through Holy Week, April 20. There is no charge for the meal, and the public is invited to attend.

The Rev. McIntosh will be roaming Big Spring bagging trash for Trash Drugs Two during spring break, March 15-17. This program was started in 2010 by the Rev. McIntosh in an effort to help combat drugs in Big Spring. Pledges per bag collected or donations are tax deductible and can be made by contacting the church office or by calling KBST during the daily broadcasts March 15-17. All funds collected will be given to the Big Spring Drug Awareness Fund and used to strengthen the drug education and awareness efforts at Goliad Intermediate School.

The Outreach Committee will meet Saturday at 1 p.m. The Evangelism and Membership committee will meet Saturday, March 19, at 11 a.m. Other weekly opportunities include TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meetings on Mondays at 5:30 p.m., volunteering at the Isaiah 58 food pantry Mondays and Tuesdays and choir practice at 6 p.m. each Wednesday. Our youth group meets with youth from the First Presbyterian and St. Mary's Episcopal churches each Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will be no youth meeting March 16 due to spring break; meetings will resume March 23 at First Christian Church.

We believe the church is built by people worshipping together. We welcome you to visit with us at any time. For questions or further information you may call the church office at 432-517-4821 or view our website at www. fcbs125@yahoo.com

Midway Baptist Church

Excitement is in the air! The wind and sand are not going to slow down the congregation. We look like "flicker movie characters" hurrying around town. Please stop and read the posters in the businesses all over Big Spring. We want the worried, the wounded, the sick, the seeking to know there is a place for them. We open our doors and hearts to all. "Illuminate" will be here March 20-23 at Midway Baptist. Come hear God's word proclaimed by a mighty messenger, Evangelist Ken Freeman. Today, we are sharing the bio of the music worship leaders: Klint and Lauren Bratcher — The Northern Light Band.



Courtesy photo

Klint and Lauren Bratcher

Klint and Lauren have been leading worship together since they started dating in 2008. Klint has been playing guitar and singing since he was 13 years old. He began leading worship for youth at his home church while in high school. He started writing his own worship songs in high school and college.

Lauren has been singing since she learned to talk. She took piano lessons her freshman year at Coahoma High School, but didn't play again until she took up keys in 2009.

Klint and Lauren met at The Journey Church in its beginning days in 2008, by leading worship on the same worship team. They have been leading worship at various churches, youth events, retreats and revivals ever since. Klint and Lauren started dating in January 2008 and were married in December 2008. They were blessed with a son in October 2010. Klint is a worship leader and Lauren is the children's director at The Journey Church in Abilene.

The Northern Light is a worship ministry that has two faces. The first and original face is of Klint and Lauren. The second face is of the four-piece band including the Bratchers. The Northern Light Band was organized in 2010. God brought together the group — Klint, Lauren, Jonathan and Joe — and they began traveling in 2010. They have done several youth events and weekend events since. Their first album of all original songs was released Tuesday, March 1. They could not be more excited about what God has in store for The Northern Light as ministry.

Sunday, our pastor, Jim Binnix, will be bringing the message, "The King is Coming!" It will be taught directly from the word of God, the Holy Bible. Come join us. Let us worship together, singing praises and declaring Jesus is Lord!

Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. and worship service is at 11 a.m. You will be blessed and we can't wait to greet you. There is a special place for you at Midway Baptist Church.





Courtesy Photo

Forsan's Ambra Hill made first team all-district in 3-2A.

3-2A honors for girls basketball released

The all-district honors for 3-2A girls basketball have been announced.

The Forsan Lady Buffs and Coahoma Bulldogettes have a lot to be excited about.

Forsan's Hill and Coahoma's Castilaw made first team all district as juniors.

Stanton's Selah Ramsey and Tara Peterson, both juniors, made second team all-district. Coahoma junior Joanna Gonzales, Forsan's Morgan Forshee joined them on the second team.

Hill was one of Forsan's key players and Castilaw had a huge impact in the post for Coahoma.

Ramsey and Peterson were two of Stanton's top players. Gonzales was Coahoma's leader on the floor.

Forsan's Kay'C Stanley, Stanton's Ashton Snellgrove and Coahoma's Kaley Pace made the district's all-defensive team.

Forsan, Stanton and Coahoma are particularly young squads.

All three teams missed out on the playoffs this season.

Mavs not 'soft' vs Knicks, win 127-109

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki insisted he saw right through coach Rick Carlisle's motivational ploy. Tyson Chandler said it didn't bother him one bit.

Sure thing, guys. It had to be something else that turned the Dallas Mavericks from "soft" one night to as dominant as they've been all season the next.

Nowitzki scored 23 points, Shawn Marion added 22 while playing with ribs so sore he wasn't sure if he'd play a half hour before tipoff and Jason Terry had 21 and the Mavericks ended a string of disappointing games with a 127-109 rout of the New York Knicks on Thursday night.

"You can't win them all so you have to come back the next day and compete and that's what we did today," Nowitzki said. "We didn't run away with it, but at least we didn't let them right back in it. We were still able to close it out, so it was definitely a good win."

In the three previous games, Dallas let a pair of big leads melt into one-point losses and narrowly beat lowly Minnesota. Carlisle was so frustrated that he dropped the sword on his club after a loss to New Orleans on Wednesday night. It's especially damning for a club that's often been described that way while seeing a decade of 50-win seasons result in zero championships.

Carlisle obviously did it to see how his club would respond. He had to like the answer: season highs for points in a quarter (41), half (72) and game. The 18-point margin of victory was a point shy of their best, and it came against a New York club that had won three in a row.

"A win is a great response, to anything," Marion said. "What more can you ask? No reason to dwell on it. ... We all get caught up in the heat of the moment at times. That's what he felt at the time. You've just got to learn from it and do it."

Carlisle was pleased.

"I thought we really attacked," he said. "Overall, I thought it was a really good effort, and it was a good win for us."

The Mavs needed this not only to scrub the bitter taste of the past few days, but also to reboot for what's coming next: the Lakers on Saturday night in a showdown for second place in the Western Conference (Dallas has a 1½ game lead), followed by games at Portland and Golden State, then at home against the rival Spurs.

New York's Amare Stoudemire scored 36 points while playing through a bruised left shoulder sustained in the opening minutes. Despite needing ice during timeouts, he scored 18 points in the third quarter to prevent the Mavericks from pulling away.

He also picked up his 16th technical foul, which would trigger an automatic one-game suspension if it's upheld. It was a marginal call, so it could become the third time this season he gets a tech revoked by the league office.

"I feel confident they can rescind it," he said. "We laughed about it later and the official agreed with us it wasn't that bad. ... We got tangled up, that's it."

Landry Fields scored 19 points and Toney Douglas added 18; those

See **MAVS**, Page 2B

Loubeau, Holmes lead Texas A&M past Missouri 86-71

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — There's nothing like a quick start and a big early lead to fill a team with confidence and pep.

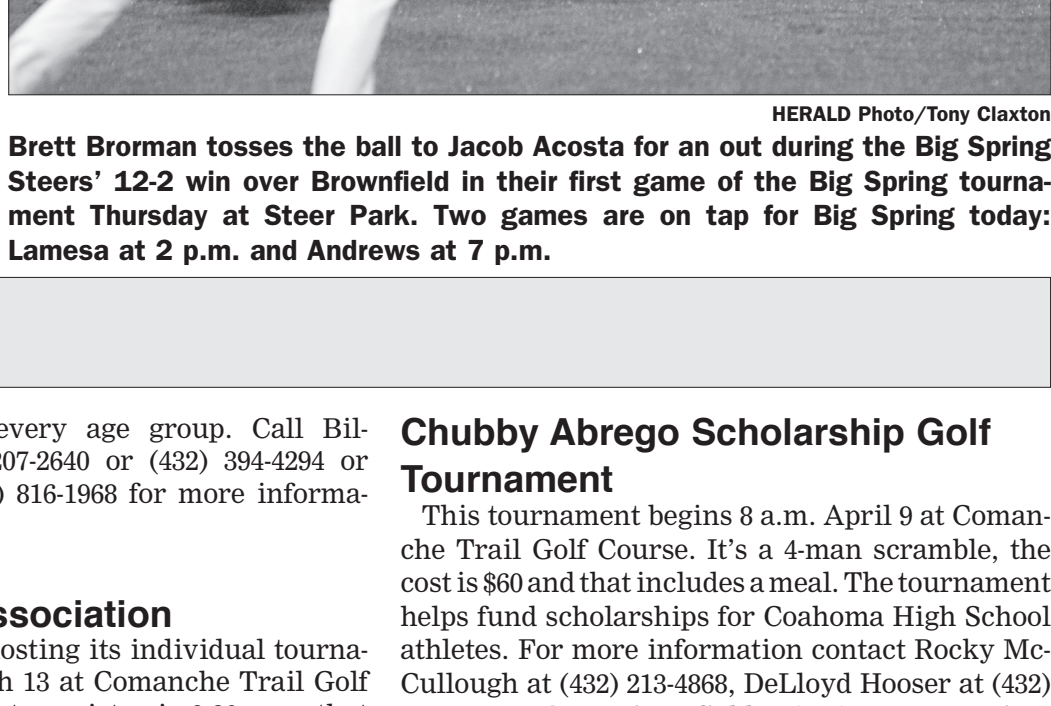
Texas A&M, which squeaked past Missouri 91-89 in overtime on Jan. 15, roared off the starting pad Thursday night and romped to an 86-71 victory in the Big 12 quarterfinals.

"We were good from the beginning," said Aggies coach Mark Turgeon. "Our defense was good. Our rebounding was pretty good. Our execution was at a pretty high level. We made shots. When you make shots, you look better."

David Loubeau scored A&M's first eight points and combined with B.J. Holmes for 31 points in a first half that ended with A&M leading 46-33. Loubeau and Homes each finished with 20 points.

The Tigers (23-10), who have lost eight in a row to A&M, will nervously await Sunday's announcement by the NCAA tournament

See **AGGIES**, Page 2B



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Brett Brorman tosses the ball to Jacob Acosta for an out during the Big Spring Steers' 12-2 win over Brownfield in their first game of the Big Spring tournament Thursday at Steer Park. Two games are on tap for Big Spring today: Lamesa at 2 p.m. and Andrews at 7 p.m.

Sports in brief

Big Spring Girls Softball Association

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will conduct sign-ups for girls ages 4 to 14 to play. Sign-ups are each Saturday through March 12 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Big Spring Mall. The registration fee is $80 with no fundraiser. It will cover the full uniform.

Late registration after March 12 is $10 extra. For more information, contact Lucy Ramirez at 466-3670.

Coahoma girls softball sign-ups

Sign-ups are March 10-12, 17-19 and 24-26. Times for those days are 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and the locations are the same.

The fee is $60, no fundraiser. Shirts and shorts will be provided. There will be a tournament hosted for every age group. Call Billy Newton at (325) 207-2640 or (432) 394-4294 or Amy Overton at (432) 816-1968 for more information.

Chicano Golf Association

The association is hosting its individual tournament at 10 a.m. March 13 at Comanche Trail Golf Course. The deadline to register is 9:30 a.m. that day.

Ragball tournament

The tourney takes place from 6 p.m. to midnight on March 11, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on March 12 and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on March 13. The cost for a team of 10 is $100 or $125 for as many as you want. This helps support the Big Spring Junior High School science trip. Contact Katrina Gonzales at 816-6752 for more information.

Chubby Abrego Scholarship Golf Tournament

This tournament begins 8 a.m. April 9 at Comanche Trail Golf Course. It's a 4-man scramble, the cost is $60 and that includes a meal. The tournament helps fund scholarships for Coahoma High School athletes. For more information contact Rocky McCullough at (432) 213-4868, DeLloyd Hooser at (432) 816-9051 or Gene Piercefield at (432) 816-1134. Prizes will be included.

Pony League baseball

Pony League baseball sign ups will be held at the Big Spring Mall on March 19 and 26 and on April 2. Times are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., age 13 to 15. Birth certificate is required.

Cost is $80 and includes full uniform (except cleats). For more information call Bryan Kligora @ 816-2582.



Hamilton leads No. 10 Texas past Oklahoma

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Allowing big leads to disappear cost No. 10 Texas dearly during the regular season. The 10th-ranked Longhorns were determined not to let it happen again Thursday night in the quarterfinals of the Big 12 tournament.

Oklahoma sliced seven points off a 23-point halftime deficit but could get no closer as Jordan Hamilton and Tristan Thompson each turned in a double-double to lead Texas to a 74-54 victory.

"At halftime, Coach Barnes told us that we might be up by 23 but we had to come out in the second half with intensity and do what we do," Thompson said. "There have been some situations in the past where, you guys know the result. We wanted to keep pressure on them and extend the lead if possible."

The second-seeded Longhorns (26-5) beat Oklahoma for the third time this season and 11th in 13 meetings overall. They led by as many as 25 in the first half and never let the Sooners (14-18) get closer than 13 after that.

"Playing with the lead is sometimes hard, because you have to worry about some stuff," Texas guard Jai Lucas said. "We had to find a way to keep playing like the score was 0-0."

Hamilton had 22 points and 10 rebounds, and Thompson totaled 13 points and 11 boards for Texas, which lost three of its last five in the regular season to finish second in the Big 12 behind No. 2 Kansas.

Oklahoma got 17 points from Cade Davis in a foul-plagued game. Officials called 21 fouls on Oklahoma and 14 on the Longhorns, who had a 39-23 rebounding edge and held the 10th-seeded Sooners to 3-of-13 shooting from behind the 3-point line.

> ***"We had big leads a lot this year and let them go. I could say it's human nature. As Jai said, it's difficult to play with a big lead. I say that, but I don't know if I believe it."***
>
> Rick Barnes,
> UT men's basketball coach

"We've had big leads a lot this year and let them go," Texas coach Rick Barnes said. "I could say it's human nature. As Jai said, it's difficult to play with a big lead. I say that, but I don't know if I believe it.

"If you play your game and execute, you have to continue to attack."

Hamilton had a bucket and Lucas connected on the game's first 3-pointer as the Longhorns got off to an 11-2 start, setting the tone for the entire evening.

The Texas defense, which held Oklahoma to a season-low 46 points in a 66-46 blowout on Jan. 15, forced the Sooners into 23 percent shooting. The Longhorns gave up only one conventional basket over the first 8:38. Davis had a field goal early in the half and that was the Sooners' only true bucket until Davis scored at the 11:22 mark to make it 11-6. In between, Andrew Fitzgerald was awarded two points on basket interference.

"I think we just kind of rushed ourselves," Davis said. "Their pressure got to us.

"We were kind of forcing shots. We weren't able to make the open shots that we did get, and it knocked us back on our heels. They have tremendous depth. When they come in, there's really no drop-off on the post play and even in the guard play."

The Sooners made a mild run in the second half, chipping a 43-20 halftime lead down to 53-39 with an 8-0 spurt that included Davis' 3-pointer and three free throws by Steven Pledger after J'Covan Brown fouled him behind the arc.

A few minutes later, Calvin Newell's two foul shots got Oklahoma to 65-52.

But Thompson answered with a huge dunk off a nifty feed from Brown, and Gary Johnson converted a three-point play to quickly build the lead to 70-52.

Fitzgerald had 10 points for Oklahoma.

MAVS

Continued from Page 1B

guards were the only New York players to make more than half their shots. Carmelo Anthony had 18 points, 10 rebounds and five assists.

"It's one of those things, and we were just tired at the start," coach Mike D'Antoni said. "Amare was huge in the second half. There was no quit in him. He played. But they just beat us."

Dallas blew an 18-point lead at home Sunday against Memphis, then let a seven-point lead get away in the final minute against the Hornets. This time, the lead peaked at 26 midway through the third quarter and was cut in half within a few minutes. The Mavs regained control, however.

They showed plenty of feistiness on both ends of the court, from newly added reserve Corey Brewer making a pair of backcourt steals — the first leading to a powerful dunk — to Jason Kidd turning an errant pass headed out of bounds into a three-point play for Brendan Haywood.

Dallas' defense limited the Knicks to making 43 percent of their shots. The Mavs made 51 percent. Their effort showed up in other areas, too, such as 30 second-chance points and grabbing 10 more rebounds.

Marion was a surprise starter, both because Carlisle likes him coming off the bench and because he hurt his ribs while absorbing a flagrant foul the night before. He made 10 of 15 shots and grabbed eight rebounds in 30 minutes.

Nowitzki was only 7 of 19, but added nine rebounds. Rodrigue Beaubois had 14 points and six assists. Haywood had 12 points and eight rebounds in extended playing time because Chandler got in foul trouble. Chandler still added nine points and eight rebounds.

AGGIES

Continued from Page 1B

selection committee. Ranked as high as ninth earlier this season, they've dropped three of their last four and fallen out of the poll.

Marcus Denmon had 22 points, Laurence Bowers 13 and Kim English 12 for Missouri. The Tigers tried to slow the Aggies with full-court pressure but nothing worked.

"I thought we just seemed like we were moving in mud tonight," said Missouri coach Mike Anderson. "Just couldn't generate that energy that we always talk about."

In Friday night's semifinals, the third-seeded Aggies (24-7) will hook up with ancient enemy and second-seeded Texas in the 220th game between the two, the most-played rivalry in Texas A&M history.

The No. 10 Longhorns swept the season series this year in convincing fashion, winning by 21 at home and by 20 at Texas A&M.

"It seemed a lot worse than that," Turgeon said. "We've just got to play better. I think we've become a better team since that whipping at home that humbled all of us."

A&M outrebounded Missouri 35-27 and held them to 34 percent shooting.

The Aggies also got a strong performance from Nathan Walkup. He had 16 points.

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. Thas means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Double-Dummy Problem

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

WEST
♠ K 10 7
♥ 9
♦ Q 10 8 3
♣ Q J 10 9 7

EAST
♠ 8 6 4 3 2
♥ Q 7 6 2
♦ J 6 2
♣ 6

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 9
♥ A K J 10 4 3
♦ 9 5 4
♣ —

This double-dummy problem was composed many years ago by Sidney Lenz. The object is to make Seven Hearts against the queen-of-clubs lead. Best defense is assumed, and, of course, declarer is allowed to see all 52 cards.

* * *

Win the queen of clubs with the king, discarding a diamond, and continue with the ace of clubs. Then:

1. If East ruffs, overruff, cash the ace of spades and lead the queen through West's king. He must play the king of spades on this trick or the next one, whereupon you ruff in dummy and finesse the ten of trumps to score the rest of the tricks.

2. If East discards a spade on the ace of clubs, trump the ace, play the A-Q of spades as before and take a trump finesse. Then cash your remaining spade or spades, enter dummy with a diamond to the king and ruff another club, reducing your hand to the A-K-J of trumps and nine of diamonds. Lead a diamond to the ace, lead anything at all from dummy, and East's Q-7-6 of trumps succumb to your A-K-J.

3. If East discards a diamond on the ace of clubs, discard your nine of spades and take a trump finesse. Then enter dummy with a diamond and repeat the trump finesse. After you cash the A-K of trumps, this becomes the position:

North
♠ 5
♦ A 7
♣ 8 5 4

West
♠ K 10
♦ Q 10
♣ J 10

East
♠ 8 6 4 3 2
♦ J

South
♠ A Q J
♥ 4 3
♦ 9

When you now play the four of hearts, West can discard the ten of clubs as dummy also discards a club, but when you next play the three of hearts, West is caught in a three-suit squeeze. No matter which suit he discards, the rest of the tricks are yours.

Tomorrow: Doing what comes unnaturally.

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Zumba Camp "For Girls"

Spring Break Zumba Camp

- When: March 14th-16th
- Who: Grades 3rd and Up
- Where: Big Spring YMCA
- Time: 9:00am-12:00pm
- Cost: $30.00

THE CAMP SCHEDULE

- MARCH 14TH-LATIN ZUMBA
- MARCH 15TH- INTERNATIONAL ZUMBA
- MARCH 16TH - HIP-HOP ZUMBA

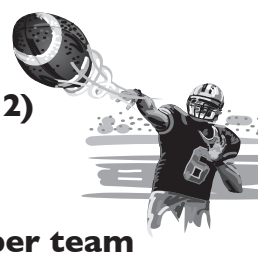
EACH DAY THE GIRLS WILL BE GOING OVER DIFFERENT TYPES AND STYLES OF ZUMBA, PLUS, GETTING A GREAT WORKOUT TO HELP FIGHT OBESITY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT DATHAN JONES OR ELVIRA CONNER AT THE BIG SPRING YMCA, (432) 267-8234

Spring Break Additional Activities

6 ON 6 FLAG FOOTBALL (CO-ED)

Time: 11:00am-1:00pm
When: March 14th-17th
Girls and Boys Age (10-12) and ages (13 & up)
Cost: $7.00 person
Team: Only 10 -players per team



5 ON 5 BASKETBALL (MEN, WOMEN, (CO-ED)

Time: 6:00pm-9:00pm
When: March 14th-17th
Cost: $7.00 person
Team: Only 10 -players per team, each division has to have at least 3 teams to make.
Age: Girls and boys age (10-12), and ages (13 & Up)



DODGEBALL (CO-ED)

Time: 9:00pm-11:00pm
When: March 14th-17th
Cost: $7.00 person
Age: Open
Team: Only 10 per team

IF YOU PLAY ALL THREE EVENTS IT'S ONLY $15.00
ALL TEAMS MUST REGISTER BY MARCH 13TH, 2011

220647

Rhetoric rises, clock ticks down on NFL talks

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Back on the brink.

The NFL and the players' union headed into the final 24 hours of their twice-extended collective bargaining agreement with little apparent progress on key economic issues. And a public series of back-and-forth barbs made it sound as if the league is close to its first work stoppage in nearly a quarter of a century.

"Everyone knows where the calendar is," lead NFL negotiator Jeff Pash said Thursday night. "Everyone knows what's potentially on the table tomorrow."

The league's labor contract originally was to expire last week. The sides agreed to push that deadline to Friday; if a deal isn't reached, there could be another extension.

What certainly appeared more likely, given Thursday's tone, was that talks could break off, leading to a lockout by owners or decertification by the union, followed by antitrust lawsuits by players — actions that could threaten the 2011 season.

"Things can come together quickly," Pash said after the sides spent a 15th day in mediation. "Things can fall apart quickly,"

Nine of the 10 members of the owners' labor committee joined NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell at the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service — but, the union complained, none of the owners met with any of the players on hand.

Even though there were small-group talks between NFL and union representatives Thursday, no one gave any indication that there was movement on the key issues. Indeed, the loudest words came in the evening, sparked by comments from Pash.

"I've said it many times: If both sides have an equal commitment to getting this deal done, it will get done," he said. "I don't know if both sides have an equal commitment. ... Obviously, we have the commitment."

When that was relayed to NFL Players Association spokesman George Atallah, he responded with an e-mail to The Associated Press that said: "Jeff Pash was part of an executive team that sold the networks a $4 billion ticket to a game they knew wouldn't be played. The only thing they've been committed to is a lockout."

That is a reference to a court ruling last week, when the federal judge overseeing NFL labor matters sided with players in their case accusing owners of improperly negotiating TV deals to prepare for a work stoppage.

NFLPA executive director DeMaurice Smith then went back to the mediator's office to respond to Pash's statement himself.

"We have been committed to this process. But for anyone to stand and turn to the American people and say they question that?" Smith said. "Look, I understand that there's probably some things Jeff Pash just has to say, but this is the truth: We know that as early as March of 2009 ... the National Football League engaged in a strategy to get $4 billion of television money ... even if the games weren't played."

Joining in, NFL spokesman Greg Aiello tweeted: "When is union going to respond to our 150 pages of draft CBA provisions that they received eight days ago. Waiting."

Smith also tweeted that he would inform the players where things stand at 2 p.m. EST Friday, saying "Players stay strong! Stay informed."

The NFL hasn't lost games to a work stoppage since 1987, when a strike shortened the season and some games included nonunion replacement players. The foundation of the current CBA was reached in 1993 by then-Commissioner Paul Tagliabue and union chief Gene Upshaw. It has been extended five times as annual revenues soared above $9 billion, the league expanded to 32 teams, and new stadiums were built.

The 2006 contract extension was the final major act for Tagliabue, who then retired, succeeded by Goodell. An opt-out clause for each side was included in that deal, and the owners exercised it in May 2008 — three months before Upshaw died. Smith replaced Upshaw in March 2009.

Two months later, Smith wrote Goodell a letter, asking for detailed financial statements from each of the 32 teams and the league as a whole. The NFL offered to turn over other economic data this week, and the NFLPA rejected that proposal, saying the investment bank advising the union determined the information would be "utterly meaningless" during the negotiations.

The NFL, meanwhile, said the union was offered unprecedented financial data, including some the league doesn't share with clubs.

Pash indicated there hadn't been movement on that issue Thursday.

The dispute centers on money: how to divide the billions in revenues, how much of that should go to owners off the top to cover certain costs, and the union's demand for what it calls "financial transparency."

Under the old CBA, owners received an immediate $1 billion to go toward operating expenses before splitting remaining revenues with players. Owners initially tried to add another $1 billion to that, and while they have lowered the up-front figure they want — at least down to an additional $800 million — Smith said it is still too much.

The labor committee members present Thursday were Jerry Richardson of the Panthers, Pat Bowlen of the Broncos, Jerry Jones of the Cowboys, John Mara of the Giants, Art Rooney II of the Steelers, Clark Hunt of the Chiefs, Mark Murphy of the Packers, Dean Spanos of the Chargers and Mike Brown of the Bengals. Eagles president Joe Banner and Redskins general manager Bruce Allen also were there.

85-year-old Berra falls; treated and released

The Associated Press

CLEARWATER, Fla. — Yogi Berra was released from a hospital Thursday, hours after the 85-year-old Hall of Famer tripped and fell in the New York Yankees' clubhouse before a spring training game.

The Yankees said Berra went by ambulance to the hospital as a precaution after landing on his backside. He was released around 4 p.m.

Earlier in the day, Berra said he was OK.

"Feeling fine," Berra said in comments relayed by the team. "Resting comfortably. Hoping to be released later today."

General manager Brian Cashman said Berra caught one of his sneakers on the carpet and fell at Philadelphia's complex, where the Yankees played the Phillies.

"Yogi is resting comfortably. Things are going well. They're running the battery of tests. Things are good right now from we hear," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said after the Phillies beat New York 7-0.

"He landed on his rear end, which is probably the best place you can actually land.

"He did not want to go to the hospital, but we've got to make sure. When he left he was in good spirits, laughing," he said.

Girardi said paramedics asked Berra questions and took his blood pressure several times.

"He wasn't really excited about that," said Girardi, who rode with Berra to the game.

Berra, a former catching great who is an instructor at spring training, did not want to go to the hospital, Cashman said. The GM said Berra spoke to his wife, Carmen, before leaving.

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net





Howard County Junior College District
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
Exhibit 2
Year Ended August 31, 2010

	2010
REVENUES	
Operating revenues	
Tuition and fees (net of discounts of $2,895,488)	$3,371,951
Federal grants and contracts	2,204,119
State grants and contracts	926,249
Local grants and contracts	292,299
Nongovernmental grants and contracts	660,411
Sales and services of educational activities	299,897
Auxiliary enterprises	444,634
Other operating revenues	456,318
Total operating revenues	8,655,878
EXPENSES	
Operating expenses	
Instruction	$12,041,598
Public service	753,444
Academic support	1,505,472
Student services	2,890,973
Institutional support	5,986,974
Operation and maintenance of plant	4,092,383
Scholarships and fellowships	3,818,885
Auxiliary enterprises	1,939,160
Depreciation	1,054,323
Total operating expenses	34,083,212
Operating loss	($25,427,334)
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	
State appropriations	13,575,960
Property taxes for operations	4,360,575
Property taxes for debt service	1,813,160
Payments in lieu of taxes	131,537
Federal revenue, non operating	5,595,263
Investment income (net of investment expenses)	45,765
Interest on capital related debt	(107,445)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(3,134)
Other non-operating revenues	357,670
Net non-operating revenues	25,769,351
Income before other revenue	342,017
Other revenue	
Capital contributions	94,995
Increase in net assets	437,012
Net assets - beginning of year	32,706,557
Net assets - end of year	$33,143,569

220710

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(Phillippians 4:7)

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Pray about everything. And don't skip Paul's ingredient of gratitude. "Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done."

(Phillippians 4:6)

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I will wait for the Lord to help us... My only hope is in him.

Isaiah 8:17

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Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

John 6:35

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Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

Psalm 107: 8-9 NIV

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Remember this: "God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."

(Romans 5:8)

Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

(Psalm 91:1)

I will wait for the Lord to help us... My only hope is in him.

(Isaiah 8:17)

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GARAGE SALE, Friday 8am-?, 208 Little Rd., south 87 to Trinity Memorial Cemetery, left on Todd Rd., 2 miles on top of 2nd hill, road on right. Couch, Dining Room suite, Queen mattress and bed frame, women's clothing, books, lamps, lots of home interior, and end table, etc.

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IMMEDIATE OPENING now available for mature, Christian person to work in private, Christian childcare facility. Prefer experience in early childhood education, but will train right person. Part-time or full-time applications being accepted, New Hope Christian School, 118 Cedar Rd.

Help Wanted

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Golf Course Assistant-Superintendent
For more information go to www.mybigspring.com, or apply in person in the Human Resources Office located at 310 Nolan.
(432)264-2346.

COASTAL TRANSPORT is seeking **Owner-operators** with a Class A CDL. Must be 23 years, X endorsement with 1 year experience. **For More Information, Call 888-527-7221 between 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday.**

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EXPERIENCED WAIT-STAFF needed for day and evening shift. Apply in person at Big Spring Country Club. No phone calls please, previous applicants need not apply.

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FRITO LAY is seeking hard worker to fill full-time Route Sales Position in the Big Spring, area ($40,300-$43,000/yr) Benefits include: 401K/retirement/stock options, health/dental/vision insurance and vacation leave. Some travel involved. Candidates must have a solid work history, strong communication skills and an excellent driving record. No prior experience required. Please apply online at www.fritolayemployment.com for consideration.
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PARKPLACE RETIREMENT Living is seeking a outgoing individual for the position of waitstaff. The position is part-time, working Thursday and Fridays. Job duities include preparing drink orders, preparing salads, busing tables and cleaning dishes. Apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street.

PARKPLACE RETIREMENT Living is seeking a night front desk clerk. This position is part time week end shift work from 12:30am to 8:30am. Must be able to read, write, and understand written instructions, and follow directions. Duties include overseeing facility, light housekeeping, and assisting in during meal times, etc. Must be able to multitask and be active. Apply in person at 501 W. 17th Street.

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehab now hiring charge Nurse for 10pm-6am shift. Competitive pay plus benefits. Great family working environment. Apply in person at 3200 Parkway or on-line at www.parkviewnursing.net

PARKVIEW NURSING and Rehab now accepting applications for Dietary, you may apply online at www.parkviewnursing.net or in person at 3200 Parkway.

TOP JOBS

PLANT EXPANSION- Needing gas processing plant operators in Midland area willing to do shift work. Computer experience a plus. Please send resume to PO Box 50307, Midland, TX 79710 or email MMGMeters@feagangc.com

THE COLORADO River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following position.
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Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720, by calling (432) 267-6341 or our website www.crmwd.org

PUMP REPAIR person needed for D & W Pump Company. Must be able to lift 70 lbs. Drug free, high school diploma or GED, good driving record, background check. Mail resume or fax to 432-267-5421, PO Box 1710 Big Spring TX,79721. Call 432-267-5422.

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The Brogdon Company Inc. is seeking **CDL DRIVERS** with a min 1yr experience to move Heavy Equipment in the Permian Basin area. Great Pay & Benefits. Call (940)447-6787 leave message.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

transits into Aries, the firstborn zodiac sign of youth and springtime, where he will stay until May 15, 2018. It's an invigorating cycle for Uranus, the rebel, whose primary aim will be to liberate. Uranus will work on throwing off the mental chains, financial restrictions or institutional confines that keep us from freedom.


HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You need a viable strategy for turning your idea into an event on everyone's calendar. You would be wise to spend at least two hours planning. If the planning takes more time than the actual work, it's a great plan!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). All predictions, even the ones made by the most seasoned authorities, are merely opinions. You'll take the reins and lead the action in spite of, or perhaps because of, what the "experts" say.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It will be challenging to slip into work mode. If only you could send an avatar to do your job for you. Alas, there are certain things that require your human touch, which is unlike any other.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You will teach someone what it means to be responsible. This you'll mostly do through example, though it would also help to give clear instructions about what the other person needs to do in order to fulfill his duty.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll get the first small sign that magic is on the horizon. A love grows inside you and will blossom into a great affection. When you put your feelings into action, something wonderful is set in motion.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It may feel as though you are in the wrong lane fighting the oncoming traffic. Remove yourself from the road and assess the situation. It only makes sense to travel with those who are headed in the same direction.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll get news that affects you so directly, it's almost as though it has been catered especially for you. It won't be enough to hear things once. Pore over new information several times to make sure you really get it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It will seem to those around you that you are getting all of the good luck. And though they won't exactly point at you like surly kindergarteners declaring "no fair!" they'll do the grownup equivalent.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will be drawn in by complicated people. There's a spark of excitement and creativity there that holds your interest. Complicated isn't negative, but it will be tricky to navigate this relationship without too much stress.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll get the feeling that someone is watching over you and protecting you. Indeed, you can go about your business in a relatively fearless fashion because someone does have your back.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If you're late, you'll cause another person to be late, as well, and that will affect yet another and another. Be on time, and you'll contribute to the peace and order of the universe.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Listen up for negativity so that you can avoid getting dragged into situations that are clearly bad news. Stick to those who praise what is good and seek out what is beautiful.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 11). You will know that you are loved. Your year is made joyful through simple pleasures and heart-warming gestures. You'll reconnect with old friends and make new ones this season. After May, you'll better your fortunes by connecting with colleagues after work hours and also at conferences and conventions. Libra and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 19, 32, 22, 17 and 49.

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Dear Margo: When you don't owe a child free rein

Dear Margo: Our daughter got a job at a local pizza place when she was 16. She is now 17 and a senior in high school. While working there, she met a 29-year-old man we've come to find has been convicted on two drug charges, an assault charge and a theft charge. While lying to us about her relationship, as well as his age, we've now found out she had a sexual relationship with this person for a year and a half. I filed charges and had him arrested. Both admitted the inappropriate relationship to the police, and the trial is scheduled.


MARGO HOWARD

The problem I am having is that she is "in love" with this person and wants to have a relationship with him again. They made a "plan" to wait until she is 21 and almost finished with college to try it again. Until then, she is supposed to see other people so that she will know what she wants. I have told her that as long as her father and I are responsible for her, she will have nothing more to do with him, and I refuse to drop the charges. Her father is ready to kick her to the curb when she turns 18, but I cannot find it in me to turn her away. Am I doing the right thing? — *Stressed to the Limit*

Dear Stress: Encourage her "plan" to wait until she's 21 and well into college life. In the next four years, if she can't come up with a better love interest than someone who's 13 years older with a rap sheet, then there's nothing to be done. If she sticks to the bargain, things are in your favor — well, really in her favor. You and your husband would be doing the right thing by using tough love (the curb thing) if she doesn't uphold her end of the bargain. — *Margo, watchfully*

Stinky "Friends"

Dear Margo: I am 47, the mother of three great kids, with a wonderful husband. Now that my kids are older, I've decided to pursue the career I always wanted: nursing. I was accepted into a nursing program, and it turned out that I was able to get financial aid to help pay for it. I couldn't be happier that I have been given this amazing opportunity.

The problem? I had every intention of keeping my job as a teacher's aide at a high school in another town, but after attending a few of the nursing classes and speaking with the career counselor, I realized the workload would be too much and I needed to choose one or the other. I chose nursing. I knew it was last minute, so I offered to work until a replacement was found, but they accepted my resignation "effective immediately."

Now my former colleagues, who I thought were my friends, will not call me back. I have called and sent e-mails and Facebook messages asking how they are doing, but I have yet to receive an answer. Needless to say, I am heartbroken. My husband says there is nothing more I can do and I should just let it go, but I am struggling with this, feeling both guilty and sad. — *Future Nurse*

Dear Fu: I hope you can bag feeling guilty, because you have not only chosen a noble profession, but it was your dream. Being a teacher's aide, in your situation, would not give you the satisfaction that nursing would. People are allowed to change jobs. The short notice is unfortunate, but there you are. The colleagues, alas, were not really friends, and your husband is correct. I find it rather unattractive that the people at school could not see the big picture and be happy for you. — *Margo, fulfillingly*

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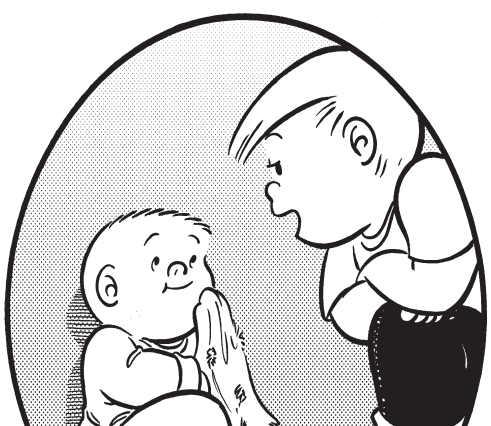
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5 :PM	News	Alma	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Faye H.	World	Lyrics!	Cash Cab	**Movie:** *Highlander: Endgame*	(4:56) Gang-land	Law & Order	*106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live*	Wizards		SportsCenter
5 :30	ABC	Notic.	Lopez	News	Noticiero	News	Seinfeld	Lars L	Business	Lyrics!	Cash Cab					Wizards	Score.	
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Llena de Amor (SS)	Two Men	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	King	Sala	PBS News-Hour	70s Show	Flying Wild Alaska		Ways Die	Bones		Wizards-Place	College Basketball	College Basketball
6 :30	Wheel		Two Men	Ent		Millionaire	King	House		70s Show			Ways Die					
7 :PM	Supernanny	Eva Luna (SS)	Kitchen Nightmares	The Defend-ers	Aurora (SS)	Who Do You	**Movie:** *The School of Rock, Mike White*	Door-Wis-dom	Wash.	Smallville	Flying Wild Alaska	**Movie:** *From Dusk Till Dawn*	1,000 Ways to Die	Bones	Game	Wizards		
7 :30									Need to Know						Game	Fish		
8 :PM	Primetime: What	Triunfo del Amor	Fringe	CSI: NY	Herederos-Monte	Dateline NBC		Light of the Southwest		Supernatural	Flying Wild Alaska		Ways Die	**Movie:** *I Am Legend*	Together	Phineas	College Basketball	College Basketball
8 :30									Originals				Ways Die		Together	Good		
9 :PM	20/20	Rosa de Guadalupe	Simpsons	Blue Bloods	La Reina del Sur				Faces of America	Married	American Loggers	**Movie:** *From Dusk Till Dawn*	Ways Die		**Movie:** *Paid in Full, Kevin Carroll*	Wizards		
9 :30			How I Met				(:40) **Movie:** *The School of Rock, Mike White*			Married			CSI: Crime Scene Inves-tigation	(:45) **Movie:** *I Am Legend*		Wizards		
10 :PM	News	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticiero	News		Cortes	Charlie Rose	King	Flying Wild Alaska					Wizards	Score.	SportsCenter
10 :30	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Titulares	Jay Leno		Alewine		King								
11 :PM	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night		Dr.	World	South Pk	Flying Wild Alaska	**Movie:** *Graveyard Shift*	(10:47) **Movie:** *Belly of the Beast, Tom Wu*	(:45) **Movie:** *The Invasion*	*Wendy Wil-liams*	Wizards	College Basketball	
11 :30								Brad	T. Smiley	South Pk						Wizards		
12 :AM	Extra	Tontas Cielo	Paid				(12:10) **Movie:** *Envy,* Rachel Weisz	Upd	(Off Air)	Cops	American Loggers				**Movie:** *Paid in Full, Kevin Carroll*	Wizards-Place		SportsCenter
12 :30	Paid		Faith	Insider	Pagado	News		CCM		Drive TV								
1 :AM	Paid	Mujer...	TMZ	Ent	Pagado	Poker After Dark		Best of Light of the		Youthbyt	The Colony	**Movie:** *Otis,* Kevin Pollak	*MAN*			Wizards	Final	SportsCenter
:30	Paid	Cero	King-Hill	Jewelry	Pagado					Passion			(:42) Entou-	(:45) **Movie:**		**Movie:**	NBA	

DENNIS THE MENACE



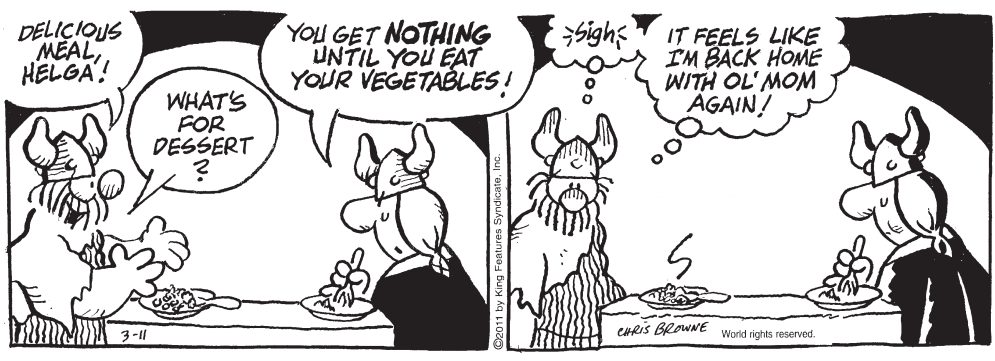
"OF COURSE HE CLEANS *HIS* BOWL. HE NEVER HAS TO EAT VEG-TABLES."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

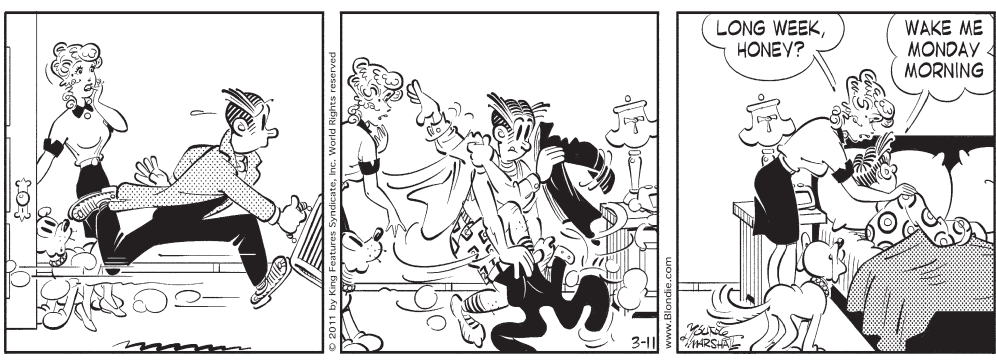


"You're lucky, PJ. Your only job around here is to be cute."

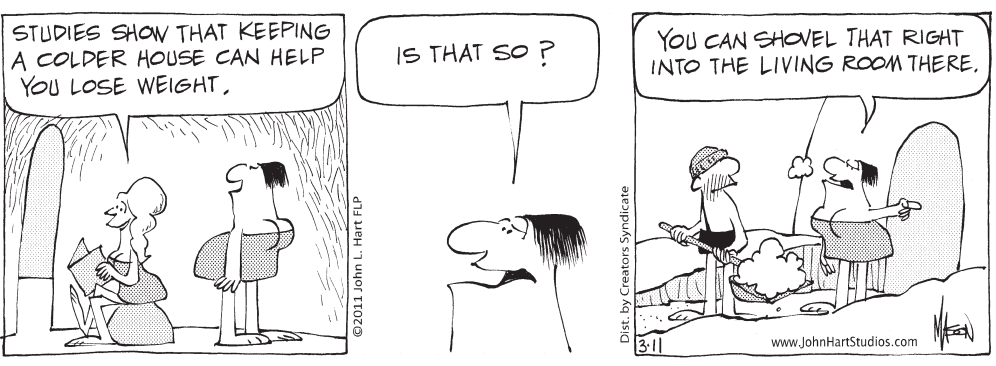
HAGAR



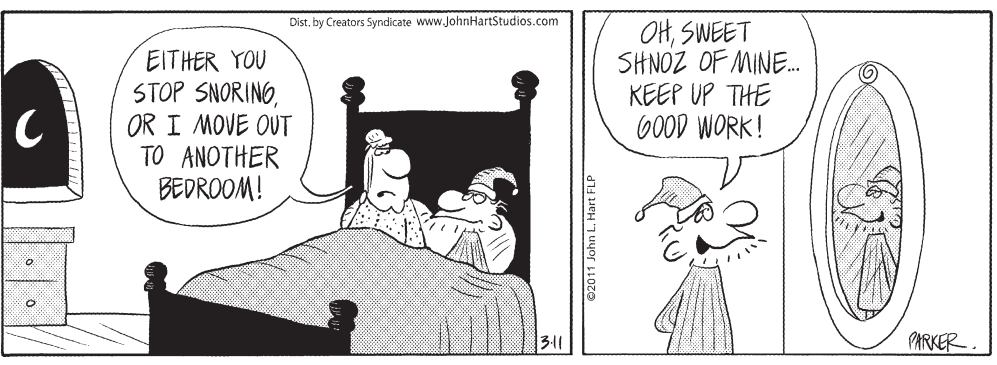
BLONDIE



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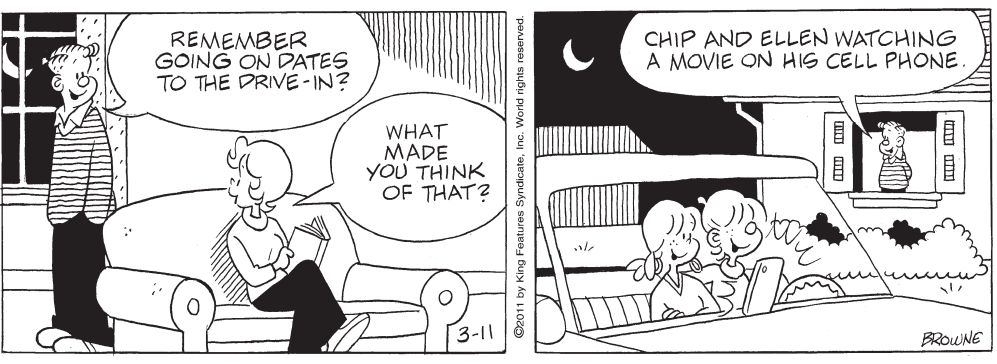
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



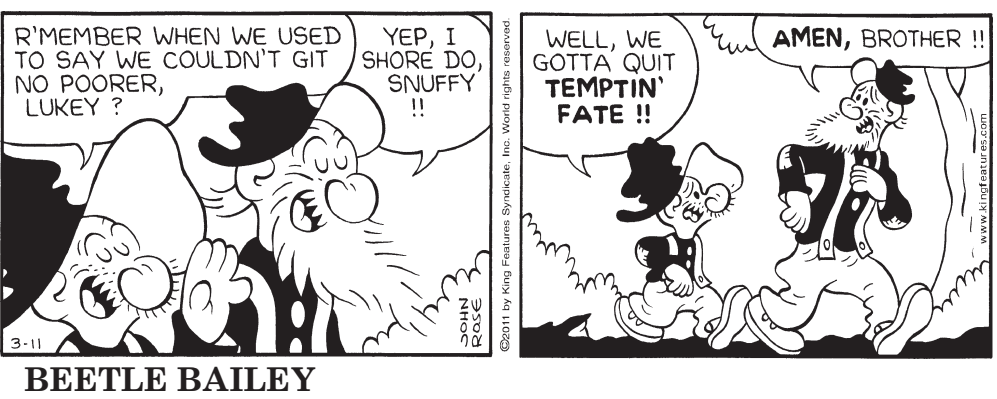
HI AND LOIS



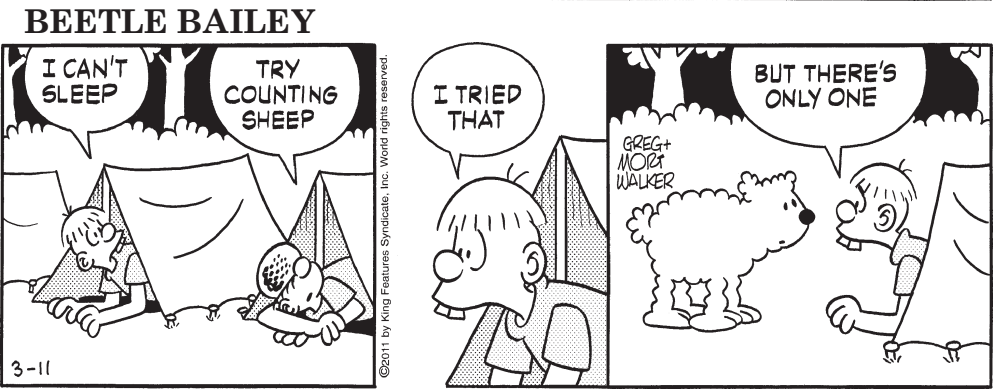
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Friday, March 11, the 70th day of 2011. There are 295 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 11, 1861, the Constitution of the Confederate States of America was adopted by the Confederate Congress in Montgomery, Ala.

On this date:

In 1810, French Emperor Napoleon I was married by proxy to Archduchess Marie Louise of Austria.

In 1888, the famous Blizzard of '88 began inundating the northeastern United States, resulting in some 400 deaths.

In 1930, former President and Chief Justice William Howard Taft was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Lend-Lease Bill, providing war supplies to countries fighting the Axis.

In 1942, as Japanese forces continued to advance in the Pacific during World War II, Gen. Douglas MacArthur left the Philippines for Australia. (MacArthur, who subsequently vowed, "I shall return," kept that promise more than 2 1/2 years later.)

In 1959, the Lorraine Hansberry drama "A Raisin in the Sun" opened at New York's Ethel Barrymore Theater.

In 1965, the Rev. James J. Reeb, a white minister from Boston, died after being beaten by whites during civil rights disturbances in Selma, Ala.

In 1977, more than 130 hostages held in Washington, D.C., by Hanafi Muslims were freed after ambassadors from three Islamic nations joined the negotiations.

In 1985, Mikhail S. Gorbachev was chosen to succeed the late Soviet President Konstantin U. Chernenko.

In 2004, ten bombs exploded in quick succession across the commuter rail network in Madrid, Spain, killing 191 people and wounding more than 2,000 in an attack linked to al-Qaida-inspired militants.

Today's Birthdays: Media mogul Rupert Murdoch is 80. ABC News correspondent Sam Donaldson is 77. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia is 75. Musician Flaco Jimenez (FLAH'-koh hee-MEH'-nez) is 72. Actress Tricia O'Neil is 66. Actor Mark Metcalf is 65. Rock singer-musician Mark Stein (Vanilla Fudge) is 64. Singer Bobby McFerrin is 61. Movie director Jerry Zucker is 61. Country singer Jimmy Fortune (The Statler Brothers) is 56. Singer Cheryl Lynn is 54. Actor-director Peter Berg is 49. Actor Wallace Langham is 46. Actor John Barrowman is 44. Singer Lisa Loeb is 43. Actor Terrence Howard is 42. Rock musician Rami Jaffee is 42. Actor Johnny Knoxville is 40. Rock singer-musicians Joel and Benji Madden (Good Charlotte) are 32.

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Newsday Crossword

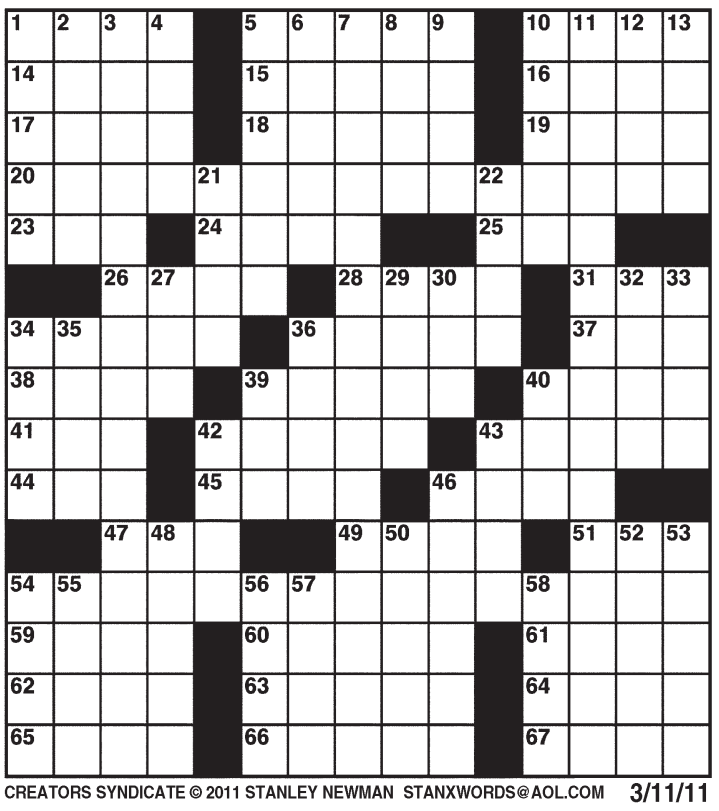
RIVER CROSSINGS by Fred Jackson III
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Quarterback's woe
5 Activist's passion
10 Car-radio button
14 Beauty bar botanical
15 Cornered
16 Great Lakes salmon
17 Needle
18 Dicey surface for high heels
19 Spirited style
20 Three rivers
23 That LPGA player
24 Peak projection
25 Coll. time period
26 Shakespearean lament
28 Some computers
31 Short-order order
34 Web surfer's need
36 Wrapping material
37 Letters written by a shy guy?
38 Baseball star's nickname
39 Garden flower
40 Green shade
41 What X may mean
42 Shuts up
43 Deceives
44 __ polloi
45 Trim, in a way
46 Monterrey jack?
47 Convenience-store convenience
49 *Amelia* star
51 Bonus for waiting
54 Three rivers
59 On the road
60 Deal partner
61 Alternative to 28 Across
62 Tic-tac-toe choice
63 Movie Hall of fame
64 Jerk
65 "__ emergency, call . . ."
66 Fluctuates wildly
67 Ones in decks

DOWN

1 Fergie's first name
2 Still in contention
3 Two rivers
4 Acute
5 Cavs or Mavs
6 Open spaces at malls
7 Two rivers
8 More than fill
9 Checked out
10 Public disturbance
11 Two rivers
12 Captain of the *Pequod*
13 Survey choice, at times
21 Trap for a pigeon
22 Grp. with a common purpose
27 Conducted
29 Certain rels.
30 Reach the limit, with "out"
32 Valuable deposit
33 Election Day: Abbr.
34 College major
35 Sweet treat since 1912
36 Layered hairdo
39 __ XING
40 Gravy, on menus
42 Sweet starter
43 A bunch of bucks
46 Working class in *1984*
48 Test out, as a tux
50 Familiar farm-song refrain
52 Pointless
53 Little kisses
54 Street-corner shout
55 Victorious outburst
56 Go to and fro
57 "This can't be!"
58 Casual greeting



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