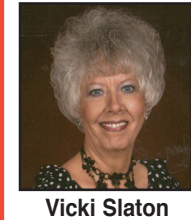




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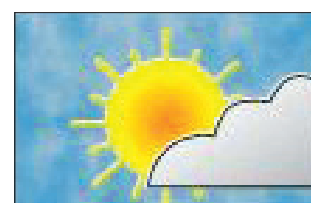


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MONDAY

JANUARY 25, 2010



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State to HC: Cut 5 percent

By **STEVE REAGAN**

Staff Writer
 Some belt-tightening may be in Howard College's future. Howard, along with Texas' other community colleges,

universities and selected other agencies, is being asked by state officials to look for ways to trim 5 percent of its expenses to help the state weather the economic downturn. The college received a letter, co-signed by Gov. Rick Perry,

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and Speaker of the House Joe Straus, that definitely caught everyone's attention. "We've been on notice since (autumn) that this could be possible ... They have suggested that each agency in-

stitute a plan including a 5 percent reduction in costs for the biennium by Feb. 15," HC President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said. "They want us to find 'prudent, efficient reductions that minimize the impact on direct services.'"

In Howard's case, that means finding 5 percent to cut without adversely affecting student instruction. No specific guidelines accompanied the corres-
 See **HC**, Page 3



AP photo

President Barack Obama is expected to announce initiatives Monday aimed at middle class families.

Obama to announce aid for middle class

By **JULIE PACE**

Associated Press Writer
 WASHINGTON — Previewing key elements of his State of the Union address, President Barack Obama is announcing on Monday a series of initiatives aimed at calming some of the economic fears of struggling middle class families. The proposals to be unveiled by Obama and Vice President Joe Biden at the White House, and which the president will push in his Wednesday night speech, include a doubling

of the child care tax credit for families earning under \$85,000; an increase in federal funding for child care programs of \$1.6 billion; capping student loan payments to 10 percent of income above "a basic living allowance;" expanding tax credits to match retirement savings; and increasing aid for families taking care of elderly relatives. The plan would also require all employers to provide the option of a workplace-based
 See **OBAMA**, Page 3

City poised to move ahead with water park

\$4.2 million proposal on council agenda

By **THOMAS JENKINS**

Staff Writer
 The city of Big Spring will look to move forward with a \$4.2 million water park to replace the now defunct municipal swimming pool Tuesday night. The city council is expected to give emergency approval for publication criteria on certificates of obligation. The focus of a city council work session approximately a week ago, municipal leaders considered several different courses of action, ranging from renovating the existing swimming pool to constructing a new, larger aquatics facility. Following a presentation from officials with Water Technologies Inc. — the Fort Worth-based company the city recently contracted with to come up with a design to replace the facility — the council unofficially gave the go ahead to have the matter put on Tuesday night's agenda. According to city officials, the \$4.2 million facility — which does away with the concept of a rectangular swimming pool in favor of a water park concept — will not require a tax hike, fitting the construction and eventual operation and maintenance of the proposed facility into the current tax rate of \$1.013243 per \$100 valuation. The council passed the rate — which is 6.246 cents

above the effective rate and 3.3 cents above the roll back rate of 97.9398 cents — in September, with the bulk of the amount above the roll-back rate intended to pay for engineering studies on the issues. The council gave the order not to open the existing swimming pool — located in Comanche Trail Park — at the end of the school year in May 2009 after city officials learned the facility failed to meet federal requirements laid out in the Virginia Graeme Baker Act...

drain. According to city officials, the facility also failed to meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements, many of which were identified when the city was sued by a local resident for not meeting the federal requirements. Although the suit was later settled, the pool — along with the Municipal Auditorium — have both remained closed until they can be brought into compliance with federal and state law. The council's decision to pursue the water park concept was applauded by several local residents during the recent work session, including Cindy Lugo, who attended the meeting with her daughter. "I brought my daughter tonight, and I want you to know she is very excited about this," Lugo told the council. "We are so thankful the city council is considering
 See **CITY**, Page 3

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www.bigspringherald.com

Report: \$997M in highway funds don't help traffic

FORT WORTH (AP) — Nearly \$1 billion in transportation funds have been used over the past 18 years on Texas projects that had little to do with improving traffic flow, a newspaper reported Sunday. A Fort Worth Star-Telegram analysis of state and federal records found that \$997 million worth of work in Texas has fallen under a federal transportation enhancement

program that started in 1991. The spending includes \$42.7 million for the first phase of a 5-acre park being built on top of a freeway in downtown Dallas and \$16.1 million to restore the Battleship Texas in the southeast Texas town of La Porte. The newspaper reported that state legislators often require the Texas Department of Transportation to fund pet

projects through last-minute additions to the department's appropriations. Critics blasted the spending as wasteful in a state that increasingly relies on toll roads to try to ease big-city highways clogged by congestion. "What if the roof of your house was leaking, pipes were breaking, and the government tells you that you have to spend money to buy

a fancy piece of art on the wall?" said Justin Keener, vice president for policy and communications at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a nonpartisan research institute in Austin. Transportation enhancement funding was part of an overhaul by Congress nearly 20 years ago, when states and
 See **FUNDS**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Donald R. Lamb

MERKEL — Donald R. Lamb, 78, of Merkel and formerly of Westbrook died Saturday morning in an Abilene hospital. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Christian Fellowship Church with the Revs. Pat Jacks and Claudine Chaney officiating. Burial will follow in the Colorado City Cemetery under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Lamb was born March 5, 1931, in Van Zant County to Gus F. and Zora A. Shackelford Lamb. He moved to Mitchell County in 1939. He married Bess L. Rhodes on Feb. 12, 1951, in Snyder. He was retired from the global oilfield business. For the past 18 years he and Bess have been working for the US Army Corps of Engineers at various parks throughout the state of Texas. They recently moved back to Merkel.

He is survived by his wife, Bess Lamb of Merkel; three daughters, Susan and husband Lanny Skelton of Big Spring, Barbara and husband Larry Casey of Skiatook, Okla., and Vickie and husband Kenneth Briggs of Abilene; one son, Michael Lamb and wife Suzan of San Angelo; seven grandchildren, Jeff Skelton and wife Becky of Bryan, Gregg Skelton and wife Paige of Midland, Chad Casey and wife Anne of Pflugerville, Cody Casey and wife Misty of Midland, Marissa Briggs of Lubbock, Malarie Briggs of Stephenville, and Tabor Lamb of Lubbock; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Donald is also survived by four brothers, a sister and one sister-in-law, Gus F. and Este Lamb of Junction, Frances Lamb of Colorado City, Gerald and Cindy McCain of Graham, Jerry McCain of Colorado City, John and Carolyn McCain of San Antonio, and Sharon and Don Burnett of Loraine; and many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by a brother, S.O. Lamb; and one sister, Lela Beth McCain.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Bronson Revival Center in Bronson, Texas, 75931.

Paid obituary

Herminia 'Minnie' Hernandez

Herminia "Minnie" Hernandez, 72, of Big Spring died Friday, Jan. 22, 2010, at her residence. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2010, at the Nalley-Pickle and Welch Rosewood Chapel with Pastor Abel Torres of the Abundant Life Christian Center of Midland officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

A prayer service will be held Monday evening at 7 at the funeral home.

Minnie was born Jan. 4, 1938, in Sattler and moved to Big Spring in 1942. She was a cook for more than 32 years, working at the Days Inn and Big Spring Country Club.

Survivors include three daughters, Dora Rodriguez and husband Ernest, Leticia Ruiz and husband Rick Lopez, and Frances Hernandez, all of Big Spring; four sons, Gilbert Hernandez and wife Karen of Big Spring, Joe Hernandez and wife Lennet of Amarillo, John Hernandez and wife Luisa of Houston, and Abel Hilario and wife Jennifer of McAllen; 18 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; three sisters, Judy Cabanban of Watsonville, Calif., Clara Hilario and Mary Vera, both of Big Spring; and three brothers, Leandro Diaz of Dallas, Fred Diaz of Las Vegas, Nev., and Alfred Diaz of DeSoto.

Minnie was preceded in death by two daughters, Lydia "Lisa" and Esther Hernandez; and one great-grandson.

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

Jewel M. Anderson

Jewel M. Anderson, 90, of Big Spring died Monday, Jan. 25, 2010, in a Rowlett nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Dr. Rudy Haddad

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Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- JOHN WILLIAM SALAZAR, 34, of 1712 E. 15th St., was arrested Saturday on a charge of criminal trespass.
- JULIO DIAZ BALCAZAR, 26, of 1202 Harding, was arrested Saturday on a charge of terroristic threat.
- SHELI LYNN BUCK, 34, of 1101 E. 15th St., was arrested Saturday on a charge of criminal mischief.
- KIM STAMBAUGH, 49, of 507.5 E. 17th St., was arrested Saturday on a charge of terroristic threat.
- SHELLEY EVERETT, 49, of 1300 Colby, was arrested Saturday on a charge of harassment.
- MARTY LEE RICHTER, 23, of 1108 Stanford, was arrested Saturday on a Howard County warrant and a charge of assault causing bodily injury.
- ADRIANNE DENISE CREEKMORE, 45, of 2505 Larry, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.
- ERNEST SAIZ, 17, of 1905 Wasson Apt. 76, was arrested Saturday on a charge of evading arrest.
- JERRY MARTINEZ, 39, of 1611 S. Owens, was arrested Sunday on a charge of hindering arrest.
- FRANK FIERRO, 62, of 603 N.W. Fifth St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- TED MARTINEZ, 22, of 1014 Stadium, was arrested Sunday on a local warrant.
- BOBBY L. PENA, 20, of 1005 Bluebonnet, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- RAUL JOE AGUILAR III, 21, of 1411 Wood, was arrested Sunday on a charge of disorderly conduct – noise.
- MATHEW CRAIG ISLAS, 23, of 4115 Parkway, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- HENRY FRANCO JR., 18, of Odessa, was arrested Sunday on a charge of evading arrest.
- RAYMON RODRIGUEZ JR., 19, of 805 N. Scurry, was arrested Sunday on a charge of evading arrest.
- LEONIDES CORTEZ III, 23, of 1900 Hale, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- PATRICK RIOS, 20, of 602 S. Abrams, was arrested Saturday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- JUSTIN PUENTE, 19, of 125 Jonesboro Rd., was arrested Saturday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- JACOB PETROWSKI, 20, of 2803 Apache, was arrested Saturday on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- BRANDI RENEE NEUSER, 34, of 1808 Owens, was arrested Sunday on two local warrants.
- JORDAN MICHAEL BERNAL, 20, of 1811 Donley, was arrested Sunday on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.
- TIMOTHY SHANE WARD, 17, of 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 17, was arrested Sunday on a charge of harassment.
- JOHN M. NAU, 45, of 1600 Lancaster Apt. 111, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARK TIMOTHY STANLEY, 48, of Odessa, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.
- THEFT was reported:
In the 2000 block of Gregg Street.
In the 200 block of FM 700.
- RESISTING ARREST, SEARCH OR TRANSPORTATION was reported in the 800 block of 15th Street.
- EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION was reported in the 1000 block of Settles.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 300 block of Owens.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported in the 1200 block of Lloyd.

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.
- TRINITY LEWIS OWEN, 30, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- AARON EDWARD HENDERSON, 48, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of no driver's license (two counts), no liability insurance and violation of a promise to appear.

- JIMMY RICHARD DUBOSE, 47, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on an Austin parole warrant for retaliation.

- TONY CASTELLANO, 36, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- JOSE ANTHONY NIETO, 29, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault.
- VINCENT ANTHONY OSSORIO, 22, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a Bexar County warrant for aggravated assault and charges of speeding in a school zone and violation of driver's license restriction.
- WILLIAM ROY CARVER JR., 54, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a violation of parole from Santa Fe, Mexico.
- JASMIN SHWNTA WARD, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- CARL DUHAMEL, 32, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of hindering a police officer's duties.
- MARTY LEE RICHTER, 23, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.
- SHELLEY EVERETT VELA, 49, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of harassment.
- JOHN WILLIAM SALAZAR, 34, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of bondsman off bond for criminal trespass of a habitation/shelter center.
- MARTIKA MARIAH MENDEZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- KIM STAMBAUGH, 49, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of terroristic threat.
- JULIO DIAZ BALCAZAR, 26, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of terroristic threat.
- ERNEST EDWARD SAIZ, 17, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of possession of alcohol by a minor, violation of a promise to appear and evading arrest or detention.
- SHELI LYNN BUCK, 34, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of issuance of a bad check and criminal mischief.
- JUSTIN PUENTE, 19, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- JOAQUIN AGUIRRE DUENEZ, 37, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- JACOB DANIEL PETROWSKI, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- PATRICK RIOS, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- ADRIANE DENISE CREEKMORE, 45, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- MICKEY LYNN KENNEDY, 50, was arrested Sunday by the HCSO on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- JERRY MARTINEZ, 39, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of hindering police officers official duties and resisting arrest, search or transportation.
- TED JONATHAN MARTINEZ, 22, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of hindering a police officer's official duties.
- BOBBY L. PENA, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- LEONIDES CORTEZ III, 23, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- HENRY TREVINO FRANCO JR., 18, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- MATHEW CRAIG ISLAS, 23, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- RAYMON RAMIREZ RODRIGUEZ, 19, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of evading arrest or detention.
- BRANDI NEUSER, 34, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of failure to maintain financial responsibility and theft.
- FRANK FIERRO, 62, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- RAUL JOE AGUILAR III, 21, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a noise violation.
- JORDAN MICHAEL BERNAL, 20, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of assault causing bodily injury.
- TIMOTHY SHANE WARD, 17, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of harassment.
- JOHN MICHAEL NAU, 45, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MARK TIMOTHY STANLEY, 48, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- SHERRY LYNN DRIGGER JOHNSON, 43, was arrested Monday by DPS on charges of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense and driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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HC

Continued from Page 1

pendence, leaving Sparks and others unsure as to what steps need to be taken.

“At this point, we’re awaiting information from the Texas Association of Community Colleges ... that is expected to give us some direction on this matter,” Sparks said. “Right now, though, we really don’t have that much information.”

Losing 5 percent of the state’s appropriation would result in an economic hit of around \$600,000 to Howard College and SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, she estimated. Then again, any cut

in revenue will hurt, Sparks added.

“We budget very conservatively and don’t have a lot of waste ... so there will be an impact,” she said. “But building budgets is about making choices and if it comes to that, we certainly will choose accordingly.”

Sparks and the rest of the 50 Texas community college presidents will meet with TACC officials Wednesday in Austin.

“We’re hopeful that at that time we will receive some more direction in this matter,” she said.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of W. Marcy. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of W. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Lark. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Sycamore. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3500 block of Gail Highway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Young. Service refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 2500 block of S. Anderson. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Moss Lake Road. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 100 block of Courtney Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1200 block of

Lloyd. Service refused.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 181 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Johnson. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of Preston. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of W. 17th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Scurry. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Dow. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 800 block of Owens. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 200 block of Circle Drive. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. Service refused.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of N. Lamesa Highway and N.W. Eighth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

OBAMA

Continued from Page 1A

retirement savings plan.

The proposals are the result of the work of a middle class task force that Biden had headed. A White House official says they are aimed at the “sandwich generation” — Americans that are struggling to care for both their children and their parents. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because the speech has not been finalized.

The official said that creating jobs, addressing the deficit, changing Washington and helping middle class families are the main themes of Obama’s first State of the Union address. He’ll also discuss his bid to take on the financial industry, energy, education and immigration — all issues the president has said fit into his plan to rebuild the economy.

White House advisers see the speech as a key opportunity for Obama to recalibrate his message to better connect with the public and re-

set his presidency after stinging setbacks.

Obama has promised a sharper focus on jobs and the economy as the dust settles from the punishing loss of the late Edward M. Kennedy’s Senate seat in Massachusetts. Republican Scott Brown’s victory put the seat in the hands of Republicans for the first time in decades and took away Democrats’ 60-vote majority in the Senate.

Obama and fellow Democrats are trying to regroup to head off more populist anger

and stem more losses of congressional, gubernatorial and legislative seats in the 2010 mid-term elections. Obama’s poll numbers are also off — primarily because of the slow economic recovery and double-digit unemployment. A majority of Americans also have turned against health care reform, the president’s signature legislative effort now in jeopardy.

The initiatives being announced Monday were first reported by The New York Times.

Under the president’s

proposals, families making under \$85,000 a year would see their child care tax credit nearly doubled. Families making under \$115,000 would also see at least some increase in their credit. Obama will also call for the allocation of \$100 million to assist families caring for aging relatives by providing help with transportation, adult day care and in-home aids.

The initiatives also focus on savings, requiring employers that don’t offer jobs-based retirement plans to en-

roll their workers in a direct deposit retirement account, unless the employee opts out. The cost to employers would be offset by new tax credits, and the administration says the smallest firms would be exempt.

Obama will also call for caps on some student loans, limiting a borrower’s payments to 10 percent of their income, and forgiving all remaining debt after 10 years of payment for those in public service work and 20 years for all others.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

this. We’re glad to see the city of Big Spring is progressing.”

Another local resident, David Baird, said he and his family also look forward to using the facility.

“I’ve been in Big Spring for 25 years and I have 10 grandchil-

dren,” said Baird. “When they come to visit it’s hard to keep them entertained. I’ve been out to the park and seen the pool when it was open, and we were just making do. I’m very glad to see this idea put forth. Now, let’s move forward.”

Mayor Russ McEwen said initial talks on the subject have the admission price at approximately \$3 per person.

“We sometime take for granted that we can take our kids to Dallas or Schlitterbahn, but for some families that’s just not within reach,” said McEwen. “We’ve also talked about using this as an educational tool and working with the school districts so children with perfect attendance or high grades can earn free days at the pool.”

The measure will have to pass

first reading Tuesday night and a final reading in the coming weeks to become official.

The meeting will get underway at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth St.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

FUNDS

Continued from Page 1A

major cities were accused of decades’ worth of shortsighted decisions on highway money.

The federal government directed states

to spend 10 percent of their surface transportation funds on what were called enhancements. The idea was to promote a mix of uses such as hike-and-bike trails and highway landscaping. States were left to choose the projects themselves.

“We didn’t ask for

them. It’s a mandate,” said Ted Houghton of El Paso, one of five members of the Texas Transportation Commission, which oversees the state’s transportation department.

Congress could vote later this year on even more enhancement funds, which critics say

have become like earmarks in that they are ways for politicians to prove to their constituents that they can win funding for their areas.

About \$20.4 million has been spent renovating 21 county courthouses in Texas, including \$3.6 million for the Hill County Courthouse,

which was gutted by fire in 1993.

During a Fort Worth visit late last year, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood wouldn’t specify his plans for enhancement funds, but said his agency is reviewing how money is distributed.

Tomorrow’s Horoscope

The Gemini moon enjoys the camaraderie of the Aquarius sun. These two air sign influences add an intellectual spark to the atmosphere. There are obvious benefits to being sharp and staying current. Shared references will certainly help you connect with others, but don’t discount anyone just because he or she isn’t on the same page.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A relationship is deepening. This is due to your latest discovery — how to nurture yourself and others by simply listening and paying attention. Be receptive. There’s little more you need to do beyond that.

TAURUS (April

20-May 20). When you’re around a certain someone, you feel more or less invincible. Talking to this person even for a few minutes today will whip up the joy in your heart until it bubbles over.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Aggression can be channeled in a positive way. Your rage can be applied to give a project a magnetic quality. Or it can give your performance the edge it needs to be competitive.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). No matter how well you do, you can always see how to do better. Stop and give yourself credit. You are definitely due a reward. Without treats along the way, you’ll have no incentive to keep striving.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your conscience will be talking to you, and you probably won’t like what it says. But following its

dictates will be just the act of maturity and self-discipline that can free you to be who you’ve always wanted to be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Avoid attention hogs, and don’t be one yourself. Social grace means knowing when to give up the floor. Your conversational generosity gets the attention of someone who can help you in a big way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You’ll say what’s on your mind. Usually the diplomat of your group, your outspoken and direct forms of expression will be received as a total surprise to everyone around you, perhaps even you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your ideas are very commercial. If you share them with the right people, you both stand to make some money. Protect yourself, though. Your intellectual property has great value.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Taking care of the minor details will eat up a major part of the day. But it’s worth the effort. Shortcuts aren’t likely to work. And your extra care makes all the difference in the outcome of your plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If anyone can be simultaneously assertive and laid back, it’s you. You’re astounding in your ability to strike two opposite tones at once. People react to you honestly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have so much work to do and no clue how you’re going to be able to accomplish it all. The answer is in using your support system. That’s what it’s there for, and loved ones will be eager to help.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Everyone says the wrong thing from time to time. Be patient with someone who is socially

awkward today. And if that someone happens to be you, then afford yourself a measure of grace.

T O D A Y ’ S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 25). This year brings you ever closer to your amazing potential. Seek training in the area that interests you. The very structures you once found oppressive will comfort you in February and March. There is freedom in discipline. May shows you in fantastic shape and ready to conquer the competition. Sagittarius and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 25, 40, 15 and 19.

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288
Jered Boyd, 25, died Wednesday. Funeral Services will be at 11:00 a.m. Monday at College Baptist Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.
James W. Mathews, 78, died Thursday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Maria G. Munoz, 76, died Friday. Vigil services will be at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

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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.

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Drug cartel wars across border simply shameful

We'll ask, although with a shiver: How bad can things get in Mexico's 3-year battle against the drug kings?

Countrywide, there was an all-time record 69 murders in one day! That was Saturday and Juarez continued to be murder-central with 26 of that total.

Mexico's government should be ashamed at what it let itself get into.

But that's empty talk by now. It's to the point where some think that if Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman's Sinaloa cartel defeats the others with bullets, there'll be peace because Guzman will then control the flow of illegal drugs out of Mexico.

Across El Paso's ports of entry, the murderous battle is between the Sinaloa cartel and the Juarez cartel, also known as La Linea.

In 2008, there were 1,600 assassination-style murders in Juarez. In 2009, there were more than 2,500. So far this year, the rate is even higher, and the executions more gruesome than ever.

Mexico President Felipe Calderon was hailed three years ago when he declared war on the cartels. He sent the country's army out in pursuit.

The cartels shot back and, by most accounts, are winning. Several thousand troops stationed in Juarez have been ineffective. They were on hand as the death toll mounted daily last year.

This month, in the third year of Mexico vs. the cartels, Calderon announced new plans. His No. 3 priority would be to wipe out the illegal drug trade. His first two priorities centered around jobs and the Mexican economy.

The obvious thinking is that a better economy would abate temptation to become a criminal and/or murderer in order to have some quality of life. It's so sad that a country's government cannot beat criminals. It's sad that in order for peace, there may have to be a drug-cartel winner.

THE TIMES
EL PASO

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 John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News 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 editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

This minute is a good time to develop a relationship of love with you, Lord.

Amen

Difficult is not impossible!

I've had a few friends tell me about their new goals and the difficulties they expect in achieving them. And while I admitted their concerns seemed legitimate, I still had to interject that difficult did not mean impossible.

The "world view" of your decision, adjustment, task or situation may only be focused on the difficulties and even predict likely failure or at best a long and weary struggle. But I find comfort and hope in words Jesus once spoke: "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26)

I think Jesus would be unimpressed by any and all mortal opinions, theories, fears and conjectures on any and all subjects. He basically contended that if you had faith, "nothing shall be impossible to you." (Matthew 17:20)

If we're going to make and implement goals, we need to believe our goals are attainable. Believing something might not be possible is surely self-defeating.

I don't think Jesus was ever worried about being able to heal or feed the multitudes. He had no doubt that all needs would be met by our loving and gracious Father-Mother God. He listened for God's guidance and was obedient to the instruction he received.

The Bible is filled with examples of people overcoming what some would have called impossible odds and circumstances. I have many favorites.

David conquering Goliath (I Samuel Chapter 17) and Nehemiah rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem (Nehemiah Chapters 1 - 7) are two of them. Both trusted in their spiritual intuition and what they believed was God's guidance and wisdom. Both were undaunted by fear, doubt, criticism or gossip. Their confidence rested upon divine mission and purpose. And they were certain and expectant of their success. How could they fail? And so they didn't!

I love another Biblical example that illustrates not being overly impressed by what would at first appear to be impossible odds.

Apparently, the king of Syria sent a "great host" of men on horses and chariots and surrounded the city where Elisha was. When Elisha's servant saw the army surrounding them, he fearfully asked Elisha, "How shall we do?" Elisha tried to calm his servant's alarm and responded, "Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." (II Kings 6:16)

And then the Bible says, "And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha." (II Kings 6:17)

When I find myself in situations that seem pretty much

impossible to deal with or overcome, my prayer begins, "Open my ears, Lord, that I may hear your direction and guidance. Open my eyes, that I may see the solution you have provided. Open my mind, that I may understand your ever-presence, your allness, your power, your love."

It's sometimes tempting to be fooled into believing our circumstances are beyond God's control or reach. But not true, as Elisha's experience aptly illustrated. Right there in the midst of what appeared to be imminent danger was God's protection and saving power.

It is often our fear that keeps us from seeing solutions that are often closer at hand than we realize.

One of my favorite lines by Mary Baker Eddy is, "Let us feel the divine energy of Spirit, bringing us into newness of life, and recognizing no mortal or material power as able to destroy."

And so I also often pray, "Let me feel the divine energy of Spirit, bringing me into newness of life. And let me recognize no mortal or material power as able to destroy."

So, my friends, when you're faced with the difficult, remember difficult is not impossible. And you can feel and trust the power of God to enlighten, guide and save you.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. Her columns are published by numerous newspapers. E-mail her at annettebridges@gmail.com.



Tell us the truth about global warming

Humans are warming the climate. That's a settled fact you'd expect to see in coverage of global warming, even in news stories about scientists who don't believe in the global-warming science at all.

Yet, some reporters still can't bring themselves to writing about human-caused global warming as a settled fact.

For example, in one news article headlined, "And in this Corner, Climate Contrarians," about the international climate talks in Copenhagen last month, The New York Times reported that "climate skeptics" are a minority. Now that's a fact, but the reporter didn't go so far as to say that they are wrong about key facts.

The Times article stated that the "scientific evidence for human-driven climate change may be widely accepted," but it that's as far as it went. The article didn't say that humans are warming the planet.

Of course there's nothing wrong with covering skeptics. But at some point a scientific consensus becomes so overwhelming that journalists need to assert it as a fact and stop

seeking the views of skeptics—unless they have something new to offer.

We've reached that point with global warming. There's an overwhelming scientific consensus that humans are causing global temperatures to rise.

This doesn't mean that scientists agree on the impacts of global warming. For example, there's real scientific disagreement about whether hurricanes are caused by climate change.

But there's international scientific agreement that emissions generated by humans are, in fact, warming the planet. So just as a journalist has no need to quote a "scientist" claiming the Earth is flat, journalists have no professional obligation to present the views of scientists who deny that global warming gases, produced by humans, are warming the planet—unless the skeptics have new and credible evidence to back them up.

And, in articles about climate skeptics, journalists should remind readers that a scientific consensus exists on global warming.

Christy George, Special Projects Producer at Oregon Public Broadcasting, told me that many die-hard climate skeptics are now saying the climate is changing, but humans aren't responsible. She thinks the views of these skeptics needn't be included in stories.

"There's no value to me as a

reporter to continue to throw in that person who says humans aren't causing climate change at all, because we're just past that, in terms of the scientific evidence," says George. "There are tremendous disagreements about the impacts [of climate change] and what to do. We don't have to look hard to find conflict in the story," she said. (George is the current President of the Society of Environmental Journalists, but spoke to me as an individual reporter, not on behalf of that organization.)

No one wants journalists to ignore serious dissent. Giving voice to the fringe of the mainstream debate, whether it's about science or public policy, is what journalists are supposed to do. But journalists shouldn't give fringe views more credibility than they deserve by quoting their falsehoods.

We've reached the point with the science of global warming where journalists should state, categorically, that humans are warming the planet. There's plenty of differing and credible views about what this warming will do to the Earth, and journalists should tell us all about that.

Jason Salzman, author of *Making the News: A Guide for Activists and Nonprofits*, is chairman of the board of Rocky Mountain Media Watch and a former media critic for the shuttered newspaper Rocky Mountain News.



JASON
SALZMAN

Hawks to host WJCAC foe Western Texas



HERALD Photo/Joe Zigtema
Tasha Tubbs, right, and the Hawks will face off against Western Texas tonight at 5:45 p.m.

Herald Staff Report

Howard will hope to bounce back from losses to ranked Midland teams Thursday as it host Western Texas tonight at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The Hawk women, looking for their first conference victory, host a Western Texas team fresh off a 67-60 win over New Mexico Junior College for its first conference victory

of the season.

Howard will have to find a way to get guard Tasha Tubbs going. Tubbs averaged more than 13 points per game for the season, but she has scored 14 points total in three conference games.

Western Texas is led by 5-foot-8 guard Teisha King, who has scored in double digits in each conference game this season. Post Katarina Powdrell is coming off

her best performance of the season with a 14-point, seven-rebound effort last week.

Howard (14-4, 0-3 WJCAC) will also try to get Jackie Bartelson involved in the post, who averaged double digit points before the conference slate began but has faced tough opposition in the paint.

Brittini Blagrove has seen an expanded role lately, playing more than 20 minutes against

Midland. The Sands product grabbed three rebounds, two of them on the offensive glass, Thursday in Midland.

On the men's side, Howard (16-2, 3-1 WJCAC) will continue to look for the trio of Josh Watkins, Jae Crowder and Carlos Emory to shoulder the offensive load tonight at 7:45 p.m.

Crowder scored 21 points against Midland last week, Watkins

added 16 and Emory chipped in 13.

Coach Mark Adams said he would like to involve Lamont Austin more in the offense. Austin scored 10 points on 3-of-5 shooting Thursday in Midland.

Western Texas defeated New Mexico JC 75-72 in double overtime Thursday in Snyder.

Western Texas is led by 6-foot-4 sophomore guard and Bronx native Will Harrison.

Saints get hard win in Big Easy

Associated Press

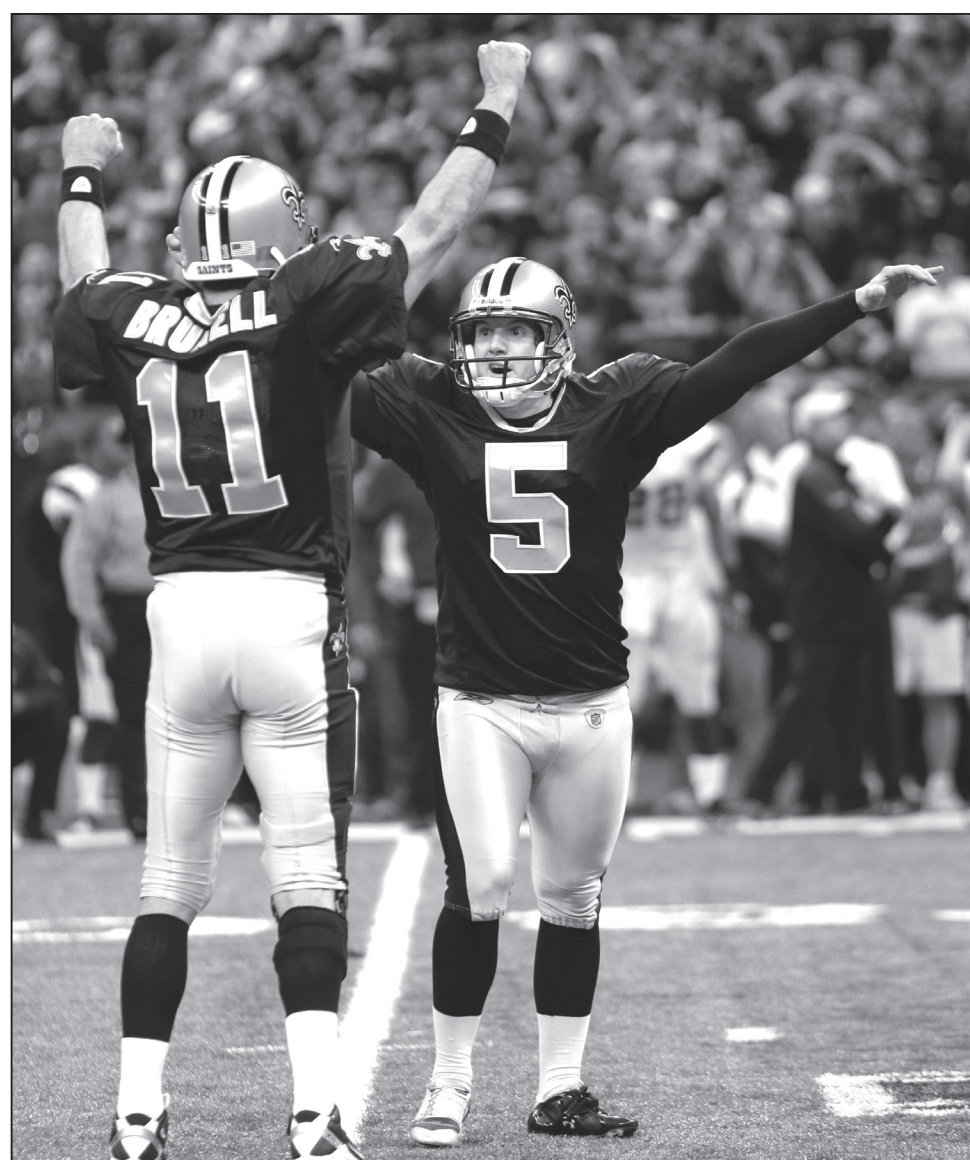
NEW ORLEANS — Things have been hard in the Big Easy since Hurricane Katrina's devastation. The Saints might have found a remedy for those lingering Bayou Blues.

A trip to the Super Bowl.

New Orleans' beloved team sure ain't the Saints anymore. They're headed to the NFL title game for the first time after a 40-yard field goal in overtime by a little-known kicker that could become as famous as jambalaya in these parts.

"It's unbelievable," quarterback Drew Brees said after Garrett Hartley's kick won the NFC championship game 31-28 Sunday night against a battered Brett Favre and the Minnesota Vikings. "I think you can draw so many parallels between our team and our city, but in reality we kind of leaned on each other in order to survive and in order to get to where we are now."

They are headed to Miami for a meeting with New Orleans' native son Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts in two weeks. The Colts (16-2) won the AFC crown by beating the New York Jets 30-17, and are an early 4-point favorite over the Saints (15-3).



AP PHOTO/David J. Phillip

Garrett Hartley, right, and Marc Brunell celebrate after Hartley kicked the winning field goal in overtime to send the Saints to their first Super Bowl in franchise history. The Saints outlasted Brett Favre and the Jets 31-28.

"The city is on its way to recovery and in a lot of ways it's back better than ever," added Brees, the hand-chosen QB for coach Sean Payton. "For us as a team, we use the strength and resiliency of our fans. We go out and play every Sunday and go out with the con-

fidence to do it. We're going to achieve everything we've set out to achieve."

What the team with no home and an uncertain future five years ago achieved was being toasted on Bourbon Street even before Payton, the architect of the Saints' turnaround,

was handed the George Halas Trophy. Streets were packed with cars, horns honking, riders hanging out windows, and the early Mardi Gras lasted well into the wee hours Monday.

"This is for everybody in this city," Payton

See **SAINTS**, Page 9

Steer powerlifters win Big Spring meet

Herald Staff Report

The Big Spring powerlifters defended their territory Saturday as they took first overall in the Big Spring Invitational.

Ben Merworth, Justin Yanez and Jonathon Molina all posted gold-medal lifts in their weight classes to lead Big Spring to a 39-point winning total. The Steer lifters finished seven points ahead of a second and third tie between Midland High and Slaton.

Merworth's 880 pounds in the combined bench, squat and dead lift earned him first in the 132-pound class. Yanez raised 1,310 pounds to win the 275-pound class and Molina hoisted 1,465 pounds in the super heavyweight division.

Derrick Anderson earned silver in the 220-pound class, lifting 1,425 pounds. Jake Hernandez won the bronze in the 148-pound division with a 905-pound total and Anthony Garcia took third in the 181-pound class with 1,055 pounds.

Fourth place finishers included John Flores, 990 pounds in the 155-pound class, and Devon Davis-Locke, 1,120 pounds in the super heavyweight class.

Coahoma's Justin Coker hoisted 1,000 pounds in the 148-pound

class to earn a silver and Dusty Salmon lifted 585 pounds in the 114-pound class for fourth.

Forsan's P.J. Horton raised 605 pounds in the 114-pound class, good for third.

Garden City won the girls overall title thanks to first place finishes from Amanda Trevino, Heather Havlak and Kelsi Hicks, who was named the girls best overall lifter.

Trevino lifted 500 pounds in the 97-pound class, Havlak lifted 470 in the 105-pound class and Hicks lifted 635 pounds in the 180-220 class.

For Coahoma, Laurel Nicks and Autumn Dulin both earned bronze medals. Nicks totaled 300 pounds in the 97-pound class and Dulin lifted 570 pounds in the 220-pound class. Heather Newton earned a fourth place with 480 pounds in the 148-pound class.

Megan Parrish and Minnie Goodblanket took fifth place in the 148-pound and 114-pound classes, respectively.

Forsan's Ambra Hill and Shelby Jones lifted their way to bronze medals and Kevy O'Brien earned a fourth-place finish. Hill lifted 415 pounds in the 123-pound class and Jones lifted 485 pounds in the 148-pound class.

Peyton, Colts rain on Jets Super Bowl parade with 2nd half win

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Colts had all the answers Sunday.

The NFL's worst-ranked running game played better than expected. Indianapolis' run defense held up against the Jets' top-ranked ground game. The starters went the distance, and the Colts wound up with a ticket

to Miami.

The AFC championship went just perfectly for the Colts.

Peyton Manning threw three touchdown passes, two in the second half when the Jets were shut out, and the Colts pulled off a 30-17 victory in the AFC championship game to earn their second Super Bowl trip in four years. "We know he

(Manning) is going to put it where it needs to be and he is going to make all the right reads," receiver Pierre Garcon said. "It is a great feeling to have him there at quarterback."

Even greater now that the Colts (16-2) are headed back to Miami, where they won in Week 2 and where they won their only Indy-era

championship three years ago.

Next up: The New Orleans Saints, who beat Minnesota 31-28 in overtime to reach their first Super Bowl, in a game rife with subplots.

Saints quarterback Drew Brees played college ball at Purdue, about an hour north-

See **COLTS**, Page 9



AP PHOTO/Michael Conroy

Colts linebacker Clint Sessions pressures Mark Sanchez on Sunday in Indianapolis. Indy won 30-17.

Sports in brief

Coahoma softball players invited for alumni game

All Coahoma Bulldogette softball alumni are invited to join in the 8th annual Coahoma softball alumni game scheduled for Feb. 13 at 3 p.m.

The game will be played at the Coahoma High School field as the Bulldogettes 2010 season opener.

Call Amy Dunn at 268-3228 or e-mail at adunn@coahoma.esc18.net for more information.

Big Spring softball tournament needs community support

Lady Steer softball parents and the City of Big Spring Parks and Recreation Department are hosting a 22-team high school softball tournament March 4-6.

The tournament needs community support to be a success. Banners will be displayed at the tournament for business owners who wish to support the tournament.

Call John Sparks for information at 270-2711.

BSHS Cheerleaders to offer mini-camp

The Big Spring High School cheerleaders are offering a mini-cheer camp for girls kindergarten through eighth grade.

The camp will be held Feb. 13 from 10 a.m. to noon, Feb. 14 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. and Feb. 15th from 6-7 p.m. Sign up through Jan. 25.

The girls will perform at halftime of the boys basketball game on Feb. 16. Cost is \$50 per child. Call Shannon Stuteville at 264-3641 ext. 1416.

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1104 EAST 11th Place---- One Bdrm. Appliance and covered parking. Utilities Separate. \$400 month, \$350 deposit. Call Jose (469)878-4967.

1311 TUSCON 2 bdr, 1 bath, garage Tile and wood floors, CH/A, 600/month 550/deposit. 432-213-4647.

1313 MULBERRY- 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, \$588.00 month, \$500.00 deposit. HUD OK. Big Spring Number (541)292-9891.

1504 B Wood. 2 bdrm, 1 bath Duplex. All bills paid. \$600.00 month, \$500.00 deposit. Call (432)212-3646.

1505 TUCSON. Remodeled Four bedroom, two bath, CH/A. \$750.00 Month, \$500.00 deposit. No HUD, No pets non-smokers preferred. References required. Call (432)270-3849.

1509 LANCASTER- 3 bdrm, 1 bath, CH/A., fenced yard. No pets. \$525.00 month, \$400.00 deposit. Call 432-263-1792.

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3202 AUBURN 3 bdr, 1 bath, garage, tile and wood floors, CH/A \$675/month \$600/deposit. 432-213-4647.

3704 CALVIN, 3 bedroom, 1 bath brick, CH/A. \$700. Month, \$400. deposit. No HUD. No Pets. Non-smoker. References required. Call (432)270-3849 for more information.

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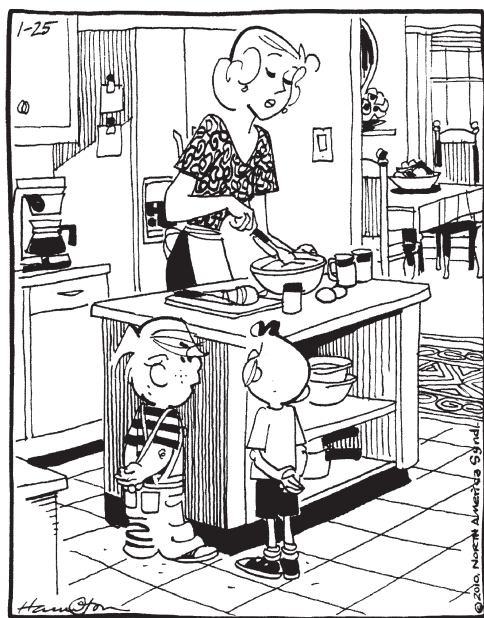
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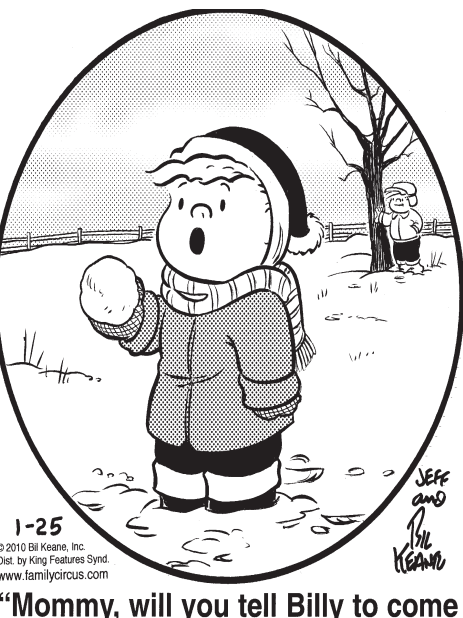
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5:PM	News	News	Locura	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Friends	Chumney	BBC	Cash Cab	Morgan Freeman	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas		SportsCenter
6:PM	ABC	ABC	Noticiero	Lopez	CBS	Noticiero	NBC	Office	Granger	Business	Cash Cab		Movie: Deep Blue Sea, Samuel L. Jackson	Bones		Wizards Deck	Women's College Basketball	College Basketball
7:PM	News	Jeopardy!	Nombre-Amor	Two Men	News	12 Corazones	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Van Impe	PBS News-Hour	MythBusters		Movie: Space Cowboys, Donald Sutherland	Bones	Movie: Inside Man, Jodie Foster		Tennis: Australian Open, Men's and Women's Quarterfinals	
8:PM	The Bachelor: On the Wings of Love	The Bachelor: On the Wings of Love	Hasta que el Dinero	House	How I Met Purpose	Más Sabe el Diabolo	Chuck	Fam. Guy	Upd Hansen	Antiques Roadshow	MythBusters		UFC Unleashed	Bones		Wizards-Place		
9:PM	Castle	Castle	Cristina	Simpsons Friends	CSI: Miami	Victorinos	The Jay Leno Show	Fam. Guy	Upd	Sound Tracks	Motor City Motors		Best of PRIDE	Certain Age	Game	Wizards-Place		
10:PM	News	News	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Lopez Tonight	Upd Sala	Charlie Rose	MythBusters	Movie: Unforgiven, Morgan Freeman	Best of PRIDE	The Closer	The Mo'Nique	Wizards Deck		
11:PM	The Bachelor: On the Wings of Love	The Bachelor: On the Wings of Love	Gancho	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones	Late Night	Name	Uri Harel	BBC	Howe & Howe Tech		Riots-Control	Law & Order	Wendy Williams	Suite 1600	NFL Live	
12:AM	Insider	Insider	Torrente, un Torbel	Paid	King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	Sex & Upd	Mark	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Motor City Motors		CSI: Crime Scn	Certain Age	Movie: Home of the Brave, Brian Presley	Cory	Final	
1:AM	News	News	Mujer...	Paid	Ent. Ton.	Pagado	News	Sex & Upd	Cortes		Overhaul'n	Movie: From Hell, Ian Holm	Unsolved Mysteries	Saving Grace		Kim	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



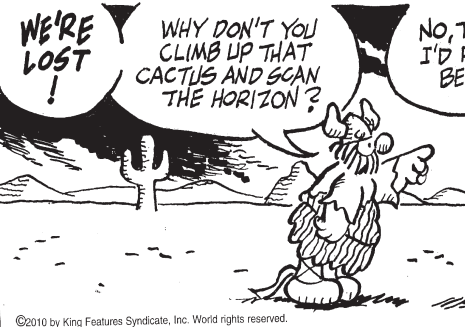
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy, will you tell Billy to come closer? I can't hit him with my snowball from here."

HAGAR



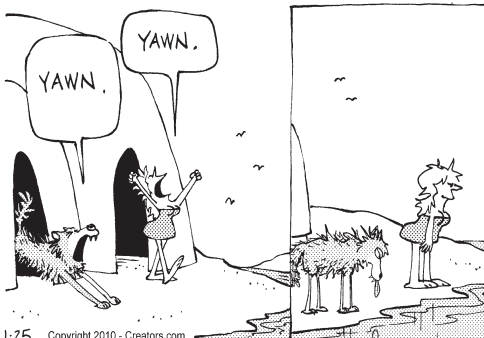
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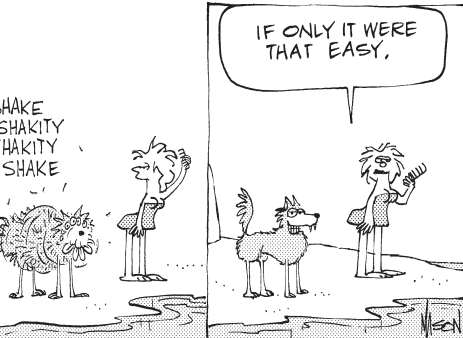
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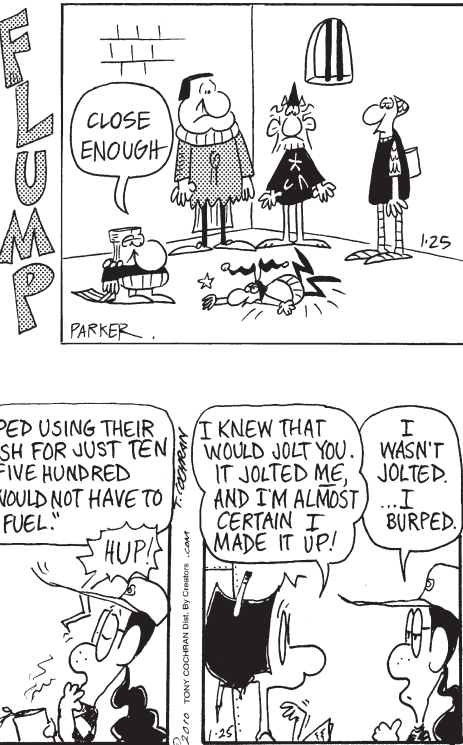
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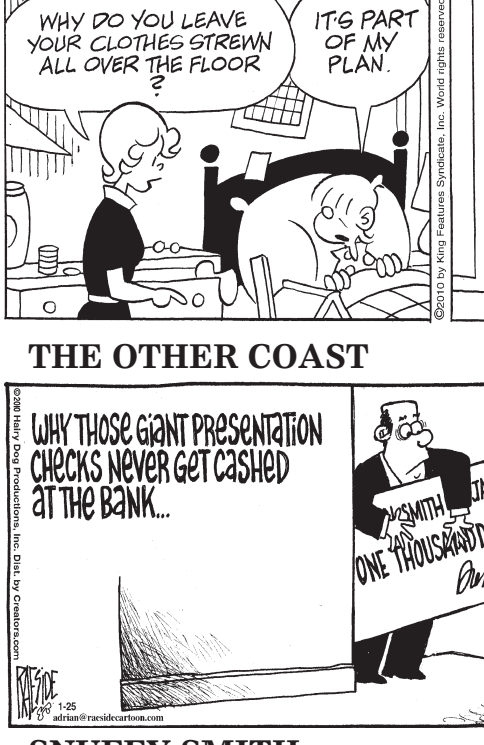
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THE OTHER COAST



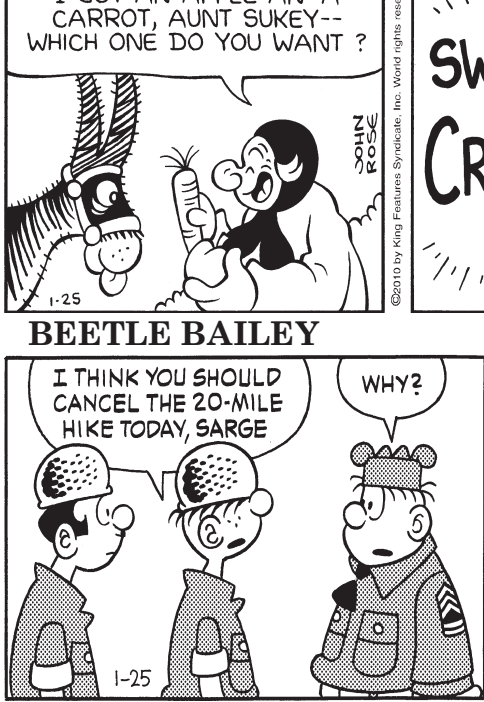
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This Date In History

Today is Monday, Jan. 25, the 25th day of 2010. There are 340 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Jan. 25, 1890, reporter Nellie Bly (Elizabeth Cochrane) of the New York World completed a round-the-world journey in 72 days, 6 hours and 11 minutes. The United Mine Workers of America was founded in Columbus, Ohio.

On this date:

In 1787, Shays's Rebellion suffered a setback when debt-ridden farmers led by Capt. Daniel Shays failed to capture an arsenal at Springfield, Mass.

In 1858, Britain's Princess Victoria, the eldest daughter of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, married Crown Prince Frederick William (the future German Emperor and King of Prussia) at St. James's Palace.

In 1909, the opera "Elektra" by Richard Strauss premiered in Dresden, Germany.

In 1915, Alexander Graham

Answer to previous puzzle

ASSORT	PREACHED
SOIREE	COMPRISE
TURBAN	TOILETTE
OREIDA	STREAMED
INTENT	YANKEES
INSERTED	TTY
IGORS	POSEY HIS
IONS	DIVAS FUNT
ING	AIDES MANNA
MIG	RHFACTOR
ABJURES	AORTIC
TRUSTS	STO SCONES
RAKEIT	TIN SOIGNE
AVERTIM	INDUCE
PASSEDGO	LISPED

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Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Run ___ (go wild)
 - 5 Full of back talk
 - 10 Earth-friendly sci.
 - 14 Conceited
 - 15 Ran in neutral
 - 16 "Me neither"
 - 17 Look impolitely at
 - 18 Beasts met by Goldilocks
 - 19 To ___ (unanimously)
 - 20 Funny remark
 - 22 Photographer's request
 - 23 Tenant's contract
 - 24 Chest muscle, for short
 - 25 Talk-show host
 - 28 Lays into
 - 32 Real-estate sign
 - 33 Facet
 - 36 Early afternoon hour
 - 37 Madrid Mrs.
 - 38 Consumes more than
 - 39 Use oars
 - 40 Beast of burden
 - 41 Rowdy fights
 - 42 Toll road
 - 43 Spouse's assent
 - 45 "That's great!"
 - 46 Bawl
 - 47 Take pictures
 - 50 Some short-sleeved shirts
 - 52 Silent-film comedy style
 - 56 Moving at a snail's pace
 - 57 Full of energy
 - 58 Biblical paradise
 - 59 Uses needle and thread
- DOWN**
- 60 Try to get, at an auction
 - 61 Took the train
 - 62 Broadway show award
 - 63 Eyeglasses, slangily
 - 64 Whole lot
 - 10 Glossy paint
 - 11 Funny newspaper feature
 - 12 Face-to-face test
 - 13 Bus route
 - 21 So-so grade
 - 22 Rotating rods on a grill
 - 25 English-class assignment
 - 26 Telegraph inventor
 - 27 Funny student
 - 28 Genuine
 - 29 Performs in a play
 - 30 Heard the clock alarm
 - 31 Sky-high structure
 - 33 Mystical glow
 - 34 Top-billed actor
 - 35 Church bench
 - 38 Toes the line
 - 42 Some golf clubs
 - 44 Feeling sleepy
 - 45 Ship's call for help
 - 47 Playground fixture
 - 48 Complete chaos
 - 49 Is ready for business
 - 50 Low-key "Hey!"
 - 51 Butter look-alike
 - 52 Lose one's footing
 - 53 Admired celebrity
 - 54 Give up, as rights
 - 55 Was aware of
 - 57 Tummy muscles, for short

FUNNY BUSINESS by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

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SAINTS

Continued from Page 5

Payton said as he stood on a stage above the confetti-strewn Superdome field. "This stadium used to have holes in it and used to be wet. It's not wet anymore. This is for the city of New Orleans."

If not for a slew of errors, the Vikings (13-5) might be making the trip to the Super Bowl for the first time in 33 years. Favre threw away Minnesota's best chance to win, tossing an interception deep in New Orleans territory in the closing seconds of regulation.

He never touched the ball in OT as the Saints won the toss, converted a fourth-and-1 on Pierre Thomas' dive, then won on Hartley's kick.

"Just wondering if I can hold up, especially after a day like today," said Favre, who looked all of his 40 years after hurting his left leg in the third quarter, but hanging in. "Physically and mentally, that was

pretty draining."

Not exactly what he ended yet another brief retirement to come back to: The Vikings were undone by five turnovers, including three fumbles.

"We really gave those guys the game," said All-Pro running back Adrian Peterson, who scored three touchdowns but was left to peek at the rousing celebrations on the Superdome floor rather than doing any partying. "Too many turnovers. It's eating me up inside."

New Orleans was simply eating it up, from the Superdome, once a squalid refuge after Katrina, to the French Quarter. Forget the paper bag masks and that long history of losing that started in 1967.

"It was fate for this team to head to Miami, to head to the Super Bowl this year," said Hartley, who missed four games this season while suspended for using a banned stimulant. "I'm just honored to be a part of it."

It's the first time the



AP Photo/Morry Gash

Drew Brees led the Saints to their first ever Super Bowl with a three-touchdown performance.

top seeds in each conference made the big game since the 1993 season. But the victory, as inspirational as it was, was no work of art.

There were nine fumbles and two interceptions, and the biggest mistake belonged to Favre. Flushed from the pocket in the final minute, he seemed to have room to run to set up a field goal. But hampered by the injured leg, he threw cross-field and was intercepted by Tracy Porter at the 22.

Porter's pick sent it into overtime, the third time an NFC title game

has needed extra time and the second in three seasons. Two years ago, Favre's interception in OT set up a field goal that sent the Giants past the Packers and into the Super Bowl.

"I probably should have ran it," Favre said. "I don't know how far I could have gotten."

That finished off Minnesota's chance for its first Super Bowl trip since 1977 — and opportunity to win it for the first time after four defeats. The Vikings have lost five straight NFC title games.

It was only the Saints'

COLTS

Continued from Page 5

west of Indianapolis. He is also a family friend of the Manning's, and, of course, Manning's father, Archie, spent most of his career with the Saints.

And there's no doubt who Archie wants to win when a Manning plays for a world championship for the third time in four years.

"I'm pulling for the Colts 100 percent, it's not even close," he said after watching his second-oldest son pull off yet another comeback Sunday.

It's also the first time the AFC's top seed and NFC's top seed reached the Super Bowl since 1993 when it was Buffalo and Dallas.

Indy's victory erased any doubts about the decision to pull starters in the third quarter a month ago against the Jets, giving up the quest for a perfect season to prepare for a Super Bowl run. Back then, fans booed the Colts as they left the field after a 29-15 loss.

On Sunday, they were counting down the final seconds, reveling as streamers and confetti hung in the air and roaring when the franchise's career rushing leader Edgerrin James finally got his hands on the Lamar Hunt Trophy, which the Colts honorary captain presented to the new AFC champs.

James wasn't with the Colts three years ago when they beat the Bears in the rain though team owner Jim Irsay did give him a Super Bowl ring.

Now the Colts are going back to Miami, where they have played all four of their previous Super Bowls. Coach Jim Caldwell becomes the fifth rookie head coach to reach the Super Bowl and tries to join a more exclusive list of those who have won it. San Francisco's George Seifert and Don McCafferty, of the Baltimore Colts, are the only rookie coaches to win the Super Bowl.

Manning, the game's MVP three years ago, says it's time for a break.

"I am really glad we have two weeks," he said. "I am mentally tired because of what we went through during preparation for these guys. I need some time tonight to get over this one."

Manning finished 26 of 39 for 377 yards. He became the first player in league history with seven 300-yard postseason games, breaking a tie with Kurt Warner and Joe Montana.

The Jets' improbable playoff run ended with their first road loss in six games — and with almost as much surprise as it began.

New York (11-8) took a 17-6 lead behind a new identity, relying on the arm of Mark Sanchez and a couple of trick plays through the air rather than its powerful ground game. Sanchez was 17 of 30 for 257 yards with 2 TDs and one interception, Jerricho Cotchery had five catches for 102 yards and Braylon Edwards had two receptions for 100 yards and a TD.

But the Jets rushed for only 86 yards and when Shonn Greene went down with a rib injury in the second half, the Jets couldn't score.

"Today wasn't our day. There's no question," brash coach Rex Ryan said. "You have to give credit to the Colts. Obviously they're the cream of the crop right now."

Manning proved it with his impeccable precision.

He routinely dropped passes just over the fingertips of Jets defenders and through impossible cracks. Still, he connected with Austin Collie on a 16-yard TD pass with 1:13 left in the first half, a 4-yard TD to Garcon to give Indy a 20-17 midway

through the third quarter and Dallas Clark on a 15-yard touchdown pass midway through the fourth-quarter to seal it.

Garcon caught 11 passes for 153 yards, both career-highs. Collie caught seven passes for 123 yards, also career-highs.

And New York, which allowed the NFL's fewest points in 2009, gave up three TDs passing for the first time all season.

"You can have great man coverage, but that ball is right where it needs to be," New York safety Jim Leonhard said.

To Colts fans, and Ryan, it was no surprise.

"Those guys are tough," Ryan said. "You have Peyton Manning back there pulling the trigger. We tried everything. We tried man. We tried two man. We tried two zone. We tried your name it. He's one heck of a quarterback."

For a half, though, it looked like Manning might not get a chance to rally Indy.

The Colts uncharacter-

istically struggled to get first downs, and settled for field goals instead of scoring touchdowns early.

Sanchez, the fourth rookie quarterback to lead his team to the conference title game and lose, was in perfect synch. He used a beautiful play-action fake to fool rookie cornerback Jacob Lacey on an 80-yard TD pass to Edwards, which gave the Jets a 7-3 lead. Lacey started in place of the injured Jerraud Powers.

After the Colts cut the deficit to 7-6, Jets receiver Brad Smith lined up in the TigerCat formation and connected with Cotchery for a 45-yard pass to the Colts 12. It was Smith's first career completion out of an offensive formation. Three plays later, Sanchez barely avoided a sack and found Dustin Keller for a 9-yard TD pass to give the Jets a 14-6 lead with 4:53 to go in the half.

The Jets made it 17-6 after Joseph Addai's fumble set up Jay Feely's

second conference championship game; they lost at Chicago three years ago.

The seesaw game saw Thomas get two touchdowns, and Devery Henderson and Reggie Bush one apiece for the Saints. The Vikings handily won the possession and yardage battles — Peterson rushed for 122 yards and Minnesota gained 475 overall.

The seemingly indestructible Favre was hurt on one of those turnovers, on a combination hit by Bobby McCray and Remi Ayodele while throwing his first interception. And, despite being the closest Viking to the ball, he was helpless in the scramble to recover Percy Harvin's fumble that seemingly turned the game in New Orleans' favor early in the fourth quarter.

The Saints took over at the 7 and, on third down, Bush caught Brees' rollout pass by the right pylon. He was ruled out at the 1, but Payton sprinted almost to the goal line to throw the red flag.

The challenge was upheld, and the dome rocked like never before — until Hartley's winning field goal.

But Favre has been in enough hostile environments to be able to shrug at such challenges. He hit tight end Visanthe Shiancoe for 16 yards, Peterson ripped off a 20-yard run, and a pass interference against Porter set up Peterson's tying 2-yard rush with 4:58 to go.

"I would have loved to represent the NFC," said Favre, who grew up in Mississippi a Saints fan. "But, as I told Sean throughout the year when we talked, if it's not us, I hope it's you guys."

NOTES: The crowd of 71,276 was the largest in the Superdome for a Saints game. ... Favre finished 28 of 46 for 310 yards. Brees went 17 of 31 for 197 yards and three TDs. ... With New Orleans having the only possession of overtime, it could spark more protests about the NFL's sudden-death overtime system.

against the best, he takes his game to another level," Caldwell said. "I think that's something we've kind of grown accustomed to around here."

48-yard field goal.

Manning answered with three TDs on the Colts' next four drives, and it was all over.

"Probably the biggest thing is when he goes up

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

3			1	6	7	
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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker
Famous Hand

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 2
♥ 4
♦ J 10 4 2
♣ A K 10 8 7 4 3
WEST
♠ K 8 6 3
♥ J 9 8 7 6
♦ 9 8
♣ 5 2
EAST
♠ A J 10 5
♥ K 10 5 3
♦ Q 7 5
♣ 9 6
SOUTH
♠ Q 9 7 4
♥ A Q 2
♦ A K 6 3
♣ Q J

The Dutch were penalized 1.25. That minuscule difference ultimately decided the world title.
Just how slender and tenuous the final margin was is exemplified by today's deal — the very last one of the 128-deal match — which began with the U.S. trailing by half an IMP. The write-up in the American Contract Bridge League's monthly magazine, the Bulletin, describes what transpired as follows:
"On the last deal of the event, the U.S. still had a chance to win, but the team's fate depended on an opening lead.
"The auction was short and sweet at both tables — three clubs by North, three notrump by South. In the closed room, West led a low heart and the U.S. declarer wrapped up eleven tricks for plus 660.
"It was clear to the Vu-Graph audience that a spade lead by the U.S. West would hold declarer to ten tricks and earn the U.S. the IMP that would give them the gold medal. There was no compelling reason for a spade lead, however. A heart seemed the normal lead and much more likely.
"When West put the heart seven on the table, the Dutch partisans in the room erupted in wild applause. The final score in the Venice Cup had yet to be made official, but they knew that the trophy belonged to the Netherlands for the first time."

The bidding:
North East South West
3♣ 4♥ 3 NT All Pass
Opening lead — seven of hearts.
At the same time that the U.S. team was crushing Brazil in the Bermuda Bowl final for the 2000 world championship, the U.S. women's team was finishing second to the Netherlands in the Venice Cup by the narrowest margin in the history of a world championship event — one-half of an International Match Point.
The fractional margin was the result of slow-play penalties assessed against both teams in one of the eight 16-deal sets. Because the Americans were judged to have been more responsible for the slow play, they incurred a 3.75 IMP penalty, while
Tomorrow: With a little bit of luck.
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