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WEDNESDAY EDITION,
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Upcoming Events

Large Item Pick Up
Wednesday
District 3
Items should be placed on the curb by 7 a.m. for those who scheduled a pickup

Food Truck Lunch
March 21
Noon - 2 p.m.
First Baptist Church

Spring Kickoff Cornhole Tourny benefitting DAV
March 27
821 W. I-20
Food trucks on site, registration begins at 10 a.m.

Share your athletic photos with us. email sports@bigspringherald.com

Do you have a story to share with the community? Let us know, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com

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Quilt of Valor presented to local WWII Veteran J.L. Stevens





HERALD photos/Amanda Duforat

A Quilt of Valor was presented to J.L. Stevens - a WWII Veteran - for his service and sacrifices made for his country. The presentation was made during a recent DAV meeting and was preceded by a special prayer over Stevens as he was preparing to be presented with this honor.

By AMANDA DUFORAT
Managing Editor

Every soldier has made a sacrifice that can never truly be repaid, but expressions of gratitude are well deserved and serve as an extension of what words will never be able to say. A Quilt of Valor was presented to J.L. Stevens – local WWII Veteran and DAV Lifelong member – in recognition for the sacrifices and service to his country.

For there is no greater love than a man to lay down his life for a friend; when a soldier or anyone in the military raises their hand it says I will die for the guy next to me, they are placing their life on the line, and there is no nobler act than that.

Fellow veterans joined with Quilt of Valor Presenter Mike Tarpley in prayer over Mr. Stevens before he was wrapped in the quilt.

"I have no words that can say how gracious I am … thank you very much," Stevens said.

Since the founding of the organization, more than 140,000 quilts have been awarded in the United States, Germany, Iraq and Afghanistan. With each quilt the mission to honor service members and veterans is fulfilled - one human-being reaching out and touching another without judgement, reaching out with acceptance and with acknowledgement of service to our nation in very trying circumstances.

The quilts are made up of three layers: the top with its many colors, shapes and fabrics represent the community

See **QUILT**, Page 3

St. Patrick's Day and the history that built a tradition

By AMANDA DUFORAT
Managing Editor



An annual tradition that dates back over 1,000 years – St. Patrick's Day – marks the anniversary of St. Patrick's death. Over the years, numerous traditions have taken hold, one of the most notable ones is the reminder to wear green in order to avoid getting pinched. From grade school up, one of the most related pieces of information about the holiday is wearing green, but why?

See **GREEN**, Page 3

Storm Siren Testing to take place Thursday

HERALD Staff Report

The Big Spring Police Department issued a public service announcement Tuesday afternoon regarding upcoming Storm Siren testing.

According to the announcement, the City of Big Spring Emergency Management will be conducting tests on the storm sirens throughout the City of Big Spring. Testing will take place Thursday beginning around 9 a.m. and conclude before 5 p.m.

The announcement also included an information avenue - www.KnoWhat2Do.com - for families to visit and to study up on what to do in the event of bad weather.

Annual Gem and Mineral Show brings in record crowd, highlights natures wonders for attendees

By AMANDA DUFORAT
Managing Editor





Courtesy photos/Kim Long

The annual Gem and Mineral Show was marked as a success, as the crowd was the largest one since the show began. Plans for next year's show have already begun.

The Gem and Mineral Show continued a tradition that started 51 years ago. The show was held at the Howard County Fair Barn on March 6 and 7. As one of the first community events this year, the attendance was marked a success.

"We feel the show is important because it brings the world of gems and minerals from around the world into one place so the public has the opportunity to view natures wonders," Lola Lamb, Gem and Mineral Show representative said. "This year's attendance was the most we have ever had at one of our shows."

The magic began in 1969 with the first Gem and Mineral Show, just one year after the Big Spring Prospector's Club got its start. This year, there were 1,464 attendees at the show to view the displays created by local club members.

"The club formed in 1968 with six men who were interested in artifacts and old bottles and metal detecting. Hence the name 'prospector's,'" Lamb said. "The first show was held in 1969 in the Highland Shopping Center. They just brought the bottles and the treasures that they'd found with their metal detectors. Then in 1970, a meeting was called because there was a lot of people who were interested in that, too, but they were more interested in the lapidary, cutting the rocks and things. So it was decided to add a lapidary section to the original club. By 1971, the club had

See **GEM**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Zachary Ryan Thomas



Zachary Ryan Thomas — beloved son, partner, and brother — died on March 12, 2021, at the age of 41.

Zach was born in Austin, Texas, on March 12, 1980, to Kendra Thomas and Ransom Kennicott.

He was a scholar, a talented musician, and a longtime chef. He was loyal, smart, funny, honest, caring, and thoughtful. Zach truly had a larger than life personality that captured your heart. That's why he had so many friends with differing personalities. He was a terrific son, adoring big brother, a loving uncle, and a master of torment to many beloved cousins. He excelled in school, cooking fabulous meals, taking too long to get ready, and using his long arms to give hugs, kisses, and cuddling you. Zach had his own sense of style, designed by the fashion house Fruit of the Loom. His black single pocket T-shirt and impeccable hair was a signature look usually paired with skinny jeans.

Zach earned a master's degree in English (literature) from Arizona State University and was looking forward to pursuing a PhD in film studies. He loved to play and watch live music, eat Southern cooking (especially Texas-style barbecue), read philosophy and theory, look up at the stars and planets, watch sports and standup comedy, play classic video games. He had a giant soft spot in his heart for cats, especially Bart and Virginia. Zach brought so much warmth and light to everyone in his life. He was one of a kind. Zach will be dearly missed and never forgotten.

Zach is survived by his mother, Kendra; his sister, Avery, her husband, Jeremy, and their son, Bowie; partner Kimberly: his stepfather, Tom Talkington and stepmother, Jamie; his father, Rans; and a gaggle of aunts, uncles, cousins and close family friends.

A service will be held on Thursday, March 18, at 1 p.m. at the chapel at Nalley-Pickle & Welch funeral home in Big Spring, Texas. A celebration of life will be held at a later date in Tempe. Donations can be made in Zach's name to Bat World Sanctuary in Texas.

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

Paid Obituary

Jimmie L. Rodgers

Jimmie L. Rodgers 76, of Big Spring, died Monday, March 15, 2021. Viewing and visitation will be Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. with family receiving friends from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Funeral service will be Thursday, March 18, 2021, in the Myers & Smith Chapel at 2 p.m. with Reverend Clifton McFadden officiating.

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

Brent Arthur Fowlkes



Brent Arthur Fowlkes, 33, of Colorado City, Texas, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Thursday, March 11, 2021 after a courageous fight with brain cancer. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m, Friday, March 19, 2021, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, March 20, 2021, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Brent's life.

Brent was born on July 1, 1987, in Williamsburg, VA to Mindy Vinson McNaughton. He married Ashley Martin, the love of his life on May 18, 2019. After moving to Colorado City, Brent owned and operated Premier Sandhills, a waterfowl guide service. Brent was able to do what he loved for a living and share his passion for hunting to hundreds of hunters that had the honor to share the blind with him.

Brent was accomplished at HVAC and often helped anyone in need no matter the time of day with their heating and cooling systems. He was a devoted father who loved his baby girl and never got tired of talking about her or her mother to anyone that would listen. All Brent wanted out of life was to be a father and God blessed him and Ashley with the most precious baby girl that is a perfect combination of the two of them.

Brent is survived by his wife, Ashley and daughter Bridget, brother, Zack Young and Caroline, in-laws, Danny and Kim Martin, sister-in-law, Shayla Vaughn and Jennings, sister-in-law, Brylee Martin, grandfather, Frank Vinson and Jo, grandmother, Helen Metcalf, and siblings Hannah Fowlkes, Jeremiah Fowlkes, and Lurhesa Walls along with numerous cousins, aunts, and uncles.

He is preceded in death by grandmother, Barbara Vinson, mother, Mindy McNaughton, and brother, Jeffery Fowlkes.

Memorials can be made to Forsan Baptist Church at PO Drawer 736, Forsan, TX 79733.

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

Paid Obituary

Robert Keith Toomire

Robert Keith Toomire, 75, of Big Spring, died Thursday, March 11, 2021. Memorial service will be at Myers & Smith Chapel on Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 3 p.m.

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

Take Note

• American Legion Post 506 is hosting a Fish Fry on Saturday, March 20. Delivery will be available from 11-1 p.m. and serving will take place between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Plates are available for pick up and carry out at 3203 W. Hwy 80. For more information call 432-263-2084.

• 2021 Permian Basin Cotton Conference is set for March 30 at the Martin Community Center, located at 301 N. St. Peter Street in Stanton. The conference will take place from 7:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and count for three CEUs. Registration can take place at the door or in advance. Masks and social distancing will be required. For more information contact the Howard County Extension office at 432-264-2236.

• Cornhole Tournament benefitting the DAV (Disabled American Veterans) will be taking place at Star Doge on March 27. Registration is from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Food vendors will be on site.

• Back in Motion and West Texas Injury Prevention is hosting a St. Patrick Day Wounded Warrior fundraiser on March 17. There will be brisket plates for sale between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. The meals will be served at 1113 S. Scurry Street.

• AARP Foundation Tax-Aide will offer free income tax preparation every Monday through Monday, April 5, 2021, from 8 a.m. until Noon at the Big Spring Senior Citizen's Center. The Senior Center is located at 100 Whipkey Drive, Big Spring, Texas. The service is available to all taxpayers with moderate to low income. Covid protocols will be observed: masks required, appointments required and no children allowed. Taxpayers need to bring: a photo ID, social security card for every person on tax return; last year's tax return and W-2s and all other proof of income received in 2020. Free electronic e-filing will be available for faster refunds.

• All City of Big Spring offices have reopened to the public effective January 19, 2021. We ask citizens to act responsibly and follow all health precautions and sanitizing guidelines. We strongly recommend that citizens continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, stay home if you're sick, and wear a mask when in public areas.

Support Groups

WEDNESDAY

• Celebrate Recovery meets at First United Methodist Church Youth Hall, 400 Scurry, from 6-8 p.m. Hurts, habits and hang-ups. Leave message for Joyce Webb at 325-212-860

THURSDAY

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

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

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

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

• GriefShare is a biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support); there is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held three times per year on Thursday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the GriefShare Ministry of TBC Facebook page. You can also call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

FRIDAY

• Reformers Unanimous International is a faith-based addictions program helping people find freedom from addiction.

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GREEN

Continued from Page 1

According to National Geographic, one of the legends behind green on St. Patrick's Day isn't rooted in St. Patrick himself, but instead is tied to leprechauns. Wearing green, according to folklore, is the one color that makes a person invisible to leprechauns. Leprechauns are said to like pinching anyone they see, hence a tradition that has evolved into one of the most well known.

St. Patrick – a fifth century missionary and later served as Bishop to Ireland - and was known as the patron saint of Ireland and the national apostle. He was born in Roman Britain and was kidnapped at the age of 26 and brought to Ireland as a slave; later he would escape and return to Ireland and be marked as the one who brought Christianity to the people, according to The History Channel website.

The first St. Patrick's Day was first observed in the 10th century and was recognized as the Roman Catholic feast day. The first parade took place in America in recognition of the holiday on March 17, 1601 in St. Augustine, Florida. Since the initial celebration, the recognition of the St. Patrick's Day holiday in America has continued to grow and continues to be recognized to this day.

Each year on St. Patrick's Day celebrations take place across the nation and the color green can be found in numerous foods, drinks and even rivers.

One of the most popular celebrations is the dying of the Chicago River which began in 1962, when city pollution-control workers used dyes to trace illegal sewage discharge and realized green dye might be a unique way to celebrate. In the beginning enough dye was dropped in the river to keep it green for a week, each year. However, in an effort to minimize the environmental damage only enough dye - 40 pounds - is dumped to turn the river green for several hours.

Of course, what is a tradition without traditional foods. A few of the more popular foods include Irish soda bread, corned beef and cabbage and champ.

People across the United States can be found wearing green and those who forget to place some sort of green are taking the chance they just might be pinched.

As St. Patrick's Day draws near, don't miss out on showing off your creative dishes and do your best to not walk out of the house without a little bit of green on.

Weather



Today: Sunny, with a high near 66. Windy, with a southwest wind 20 to 30 mph becoming northwest in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.
Tonight: Clear, with a low around 39. North wind 15 to 20 mph decreasing to 5 to 10 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 66. North wind around 10 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 39.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 66.
Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 42.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 71.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 48.

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

QUILT

Continued from Page 1

and the many individuals we are; the batting - filler - is the center of the quilt, its warmth.

"This second layer represents the hope that this quilt will bring warmth, comfort, peace and healing to the individual who receives it," Tarpley said during the presentation.

The backing is the final layer and it represents strength that supports the other layers. It represents the strength of the recipient, the support of his or her family, communities and nation. Each of the stitches holding the layers together represent love, gratitude and sometimes the tears of the maker. Each quilt represents the three-part message from the givers to the recipient.

"We honor you for your service. We honor you for leaving all you hold dear and to stand in harm's way in a time of crisis, protecting us from the effects of war," Tarpley said. "Next, we know that freedom is not free. The cost of freedom is the dedication of lives of men and women like you, and this quilt is meant to say thank you for your sacrifice."

He continued, "Finally, this quilt is meant to offer comfort to you and to remind you that although your family and friends cannot be with you at all times, you are forever in our thoughts and hearts."

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

SMMC annouces vaccine clinics this week

Special to the Herald

SMMC

Scenic Mountain Medical Center will hold drive-thru community vaccine clinics on the following dates:

•1st Doses - Thursday, March 18 from 9 am - noon

•1st Doses - Friday, March 19 from 9 am - noon

•1st Doses - Monday, March 22 from 4 pm - 7 pm

The drive-thru clinic will be held at Scenic Mountain Medical Center - Whatley Plaza (North Driveway Entrance on Martin Luther King Blvd) located at 1601 W. 11th Place in Big Spring. Vaccines will be offered on a walk-in basis only while supplies last. For more information, visit www.scenicmountainmedical.org/vaccine

About Scenic Mountain Medical Center

At Scenic Mountain Medical Center, we are committed to caring for patients as we would our own families. We are a full service, acute care, 146-bed community hospital for adults and children, and we understand the importance of delivering world class health care along with the latest advances in technology and treatment options. Our specialized services include cardiology, orthopedics, maternity, diagnostic imaging, emergency care with a 24|7 Level IV Trauma Center, wound care, and women's health and breast care services.

GEM

Continued from Page 1

grown to 43 members from the six that started it out."

The Gem and Mineral Show includes exhibits from area club members featuring articles that have been collected, jewelry pieces and more. This year, the Apache Creek Fiddler performed live during the show, as the entertainment while attendees browsed the booths. There were activities and exhibits for all ages. The past few years there has also been live music, and this year, that will once again continue. Vendors traveled from all over West Texas to attend this year's show and added to the success of the long standing tradition. Attendees were able to purchase whole geodes and break them open to see the wonders never seen before. Food vendors will also be available for those wanting to enjoy a meal while at the event.

"This is important for the community as it is a chance to enjoy and see the beauty that surrounds us," Lamb said. "Hopefully it will encourage people to protect and appreciate the wonders of natures bounty."

She continued, "We would like to extend our gratitude to the community for the support in attending the show. We are a non-profit organization and this is our only means of support."

For those wanting to find out more about the Prospector's Club, contact Barbara Carter at 432-816-6776 or Lola Lamb at 432-528-7323.

Anyone interested in becoming part of the Prospector's Club can contact a member, ask for more information at the event or attend a meeting which is held on the second Monday of the month.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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Robert Keith Toomire, 75, died Thursday, Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Doreatha Turner Horton, 86, died Friday. Viewing will be Tuesday from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with family receiving friends from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Funeral service is Wednesday at 11:00 AM at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Theresa Winn, 76, died Friday, February 12, 2021. Family will receive friends at Myers & Smith Funeral Home on Friday, 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Funeral service will be at Myers & Smith Chapel on Friday at 2:00 PM.

Jimmie L. Rodgers 76, died Monday. Viewing and visitation will be Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at Myers & Smith Funeral Home from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM with family receiving friends from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Funeral service will be Thursday, March 18, 2021 in the Myers & Smith Chapel at 2:00.

We Salute!

There are those in the community - local business, individuals, or civic organizations - who have gone above and beyond. There have been those moments that have made a positive impact on the community and we want to recognize those moments, contributions and people:

• All who took part in the United Way campaign this past year and helped provide support to the local agencies and help ensure their services continue to be provided to the community.

• Joel Miller for his time as the Head Chaplain for Emergency Services Chaplain Corp.

• Big Spring ISD for their recent donation to the DAV of Big Spring in support of local veterans.

Recognizing the great things happening in Big Spring is important. Send in your recognitions to editor@bigspringherald.com.







Big Spring Steers Boy Golf Team dominates on home course during the recent Big Spring Invitational

By DUSTIN POPE
Heralad Sports Writer

The Big Spring Steers Boys Golf team took to the links to host the Big Spring Invitational at Commanche Trail Golf Course this past weekend, March 12-13.

The Steers completed against Levelland, Snyder, and Sweetwater. It would be the Big Spring Steers who held the head of the field title, winning by a total of 60 strokes.

The Team consists of five high school Steers: Alex Leuschner, Phillip Lopez, Reese Harris, Christian Martinez, and Elijah Gonzales. The Steers played two rounds of golf over two days and combined all individual scores to create a team total. The team with the lowest total was declared the winner of the invitational.

Day one found Elijah Gonzales coming in with a 99 total after 18 holes. Christian Martinez followed him with a score of 89 after 18. Reese Harris scored an 81 during his 18 holes of golf. Phillip Lopez shot an 85, and Alex Leuschner shot an amazing 74 on the day. The hard work on the course on day one would bring the Steers one day total to 329. That was enough to take a 30 stroke lead after the first day of play.

Day two was a reflection of the same for the Steers Team.

All the boys played hard and were determined they would not let the pressure up on the other team. Day two found Gonzales shooting a 104. Martinez came in at 90. Harris also shot a 90. Lopez shot an 84, one shot better than his previous day, and Leuschner would close at a 77, giving the second day total of 341.



Courtesy Photo

The Big Springs Steer Golf team took to Commanche Trail Golf Course in the Big Spring Invitational. The team was lead by Alex Leuschner, who shot under 80 both days to help propel them to victory beating the closest competition by 60 strokes. Next up for the Steer Golf team are Tournaments located in San Angelo this coming Monday, Followed by Levelland on April 5. They round it out with another tournament at home.

After officials combined the two scores, the Steers were displaying 678; that team total would be good enough to dominate this tournament, and have the Steers winning by over 60 strokes.

Congratulations to the team, and good luck in the future. Each of the players continues to improve with each day of play. Through the dedication of the coaches and the players, the Steer Nation has something to be proud of as these boys continue to move through golf season in Big Spring, Texas.

Boxing great Marvelous Marvin Hagler dies at 66

By TIM DAHLBERG
AP Boxing Writer

Marvelous Marvin Hagler stopped Thomas Hearns in a fight that lasted less than eight minutes yet was so epic that it still lives in boxing lore. Two years later he was so disgusted after losing a decision to Sugar Ray Leonard — stolen, he claimed, by the judges — that he never fought again.

One of the great middleweights in boxing history, Hagler died Saturday at the age of 66. His wife, Kay, announced his death on the Facebook page for Hagler's fans.

"I am sorry to make a very sad announcement," she wrote. "Today unfortunately my beloved husband Marvelous Marvin passed away unexpectedly at his home here in New Hampshire. Our family requests that you respect our privacy during this difficult time."

Hagler fought on boxing's biggest stages against its biggest names, as he, Leonard, Hearns and Roberto Duran dominated the middleweight classes during a golden time for boxing in the 1980s. Quiet with a brooding public persona, Hagler fought 67 times over 14 years as a pro out of Brockton, Massachusetts, finishing 62-3-2 with 52 knockouts.

"If they cut my bald head open, they will find one big boxing glove," Hagler once said. "That's all I am. I live it."

Hagler was unmistakable in the ring, fighting out of a southpaw stance with his bald head glistening in the lights. He was relentless and he was vicious, stopping opponent after opponent during an eight year run that began with a disputed draw against Vito Antuofermo in 1979 that he later avenged.

He fought with a proverbial chip on his shoulder, convinced that boxing fans and promoters alike didn't give him his proper due. He was so upset that he wasn't introduced before a 1982 fight by his nickname of Marvelous that he went to court to legally change his name.

"He was certainly one of the greatest middleweights ever but one of the greatest people that I've ever been around and promoted," promoter Bob Arum said. "He was a real man, loyal and just fantastic person."

Any doubts Hagler wasn't indeed Marvelous were erased on a spring night in 1985. He and Hearns met in one of the era's big middleweight clashes outdoors at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas and when the opening bell rang they traded punches for three minutes in an opening round many consider the best in boxing history.

Hagler would go on to stop Hearns in the third round, crumpling him to the canvas with a barrage of punches even as blood poured out of a large gash on his forehead that nearly caused the referee to stop the fight earlier in the round.

"When they stopped the fight to look at the cut, I realized they might be playing games and I wasn't going to let them take the title away," Hagler said later. "It was a scary feeling. I thought, 'Why are they stopping this fight?' I didn't realize I was bleeding. It wasn't in my eyes. Then I knew I had to destroy this guy."

Arum said Hagler simply willed himself to victory over Hearns, whose big right hand was feared in the division but couldn't keep Hagler at bay.

"That was an unbelievable fight," Arum said. "Probably the greatest fight ever."

Hearns said Saturday he was thinking about Hagler and their historic fight. Hagler wore a baseball cap with the word "War" while promoting it while on a 23-city tour with Hearns that Arum said made the fighters despise each other before they even entered the ring.

"I can't take anything away from him," Hearns told The Associated Press. "His awkwardness messed me up, but I can't take anything away from him. He fought his heart out and we put on a great show for all time."

Hagler would fight only two more times, stopping John Mugabi a year later and then meeting Leonard, who was coming off a three-year layoff from a detached retina, in his final fight in 1987. Hagler was favored going into the fight and many thought he would destroy Leonard — but Leonard had other plans.

While Hagler pursued him around the ring, Leonard fought backing up, flicking out his left jab and throwing combinations that didn't hurt Hagler but won him points on the ringside scorecards. Still, when the bell rang at the end of the 12th round, many thought Hagler had pulled out the fight — only to lose a controversial split decision.

Hagler, who was paid $19 million, left the ring in disgust and never fought again. He moved to Italy to act, and never really looked back.

"I feel fortunate to get out of the ring with my faculties and my health," he said a year later.

Hagler took the long route to greatness, fighting mostly in the Boston area before finally getting his chance at the 160-pound title in 1979 against Antuofermo as a co-main event with Leonard fighting Wilfredo Benitez on the same card. Hagler bloodied Antuofermo and seemed to win the fight, but when the scorecards were tallied he was denied the belt with a draw.

Hagler would travel to London the next year to stop Alan Minter to win the title, and he held it for the next seven years before his disputed loss to Leonard.

Arum remembered being at a black tie event honoring top fighters a year later that was attended by both Hagler and Leonard, among others. He said Leonard came up to him and pointed to Hagler across the room and suggested he go talk to him about a rematch that would have earned both fighters unbelievable purses.

"I went over to Marvin and said Ray is talking about a rematch," Arum said. "He glared at me as only Marvin could and said, 'Tell Ray to get a life.'"

Hagler was born in Newark, New Jersey, and moved with his family to Brockton in the late 1960s. He was discovered as an amateur by the Petronelli brothers, Goody and Pat, who ran a gym in Brockton and would go on to train Hagler for his entire pro career.

He was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1993.

Murray leads Spurs to bounce-back win over Pistons

By DAVE HOGG Associated Press

Dejounte Murray had 19 points and 10 rebounds to lead a balanced attack as the San Antonio Spurs beat the Detroit Pistons 109-99 on Monday night.

The Spurs had lost three of four, including a 35-point loss to the Philadelphia 76ers on Sunday.

"I thought this was a nice bounce-back performance from our guys," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "We came out and did the things we needed to do."

Detroit's leading scorer, Jeremi Grant, left the game in the third quarter after falling hard on his hip while trying to drive between Drew Eubanks and Rudy Gay.

"He's fine," Pistons coach Dwane Casey said. "He probably could have come back and played if we had needed him, but I saw it as a good chance to get more minutes for our young guys."

Jakob Poeltl had 14 points and 12 rebounds for San Antonio, which had six players in double figures. Rookie guard Devin Vassell finished with 13 points in 21 minutes in his third game back from COVID-19.

"This has been a crazy rookie season, because we didn't have summer league and we aren't getting many practice days," Vassell said. "Then I was out with COVID, so I'm just trying to talk to everyone I can every day and learn as we go. Tonight was a good night."

Josh Jackson had 15 points for the Pistons, who have lost four straight, while Grant scored 14. With Wayne Ellington (groin) sidelined, the Pistons shot 28% (7 of 25) from the 3-point line.

"We need to hit more shots, but I don't think this loss came down to our offense," Jackson said. "We didn't play enough defense to win the game.

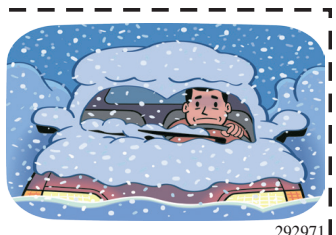
The Spurs shot 69.6% in the second quarter to build a 60-50 lead, then pulled away by as many as 14 early in the third quarter.

"You can't let a team come in and shoot 70% in the second quarter when we are trying to build our identity around defense," Casey said. "You need a lot of mental toughness to beat the Spurs. You can't get one stop and decide you can relax. You have to keep playing all 48 minutes and we didn't do that."

Dejounte Murray finished off a 35-point quarter for the Spurs with a long 3-pointer at the buzzer, giving San Antonio a 95-75 lead.

TIP-INS

Spurs: San Antonio lost by 34 points (132-98) at Little Caesars Arena on their last visit — Dec. 1, 2020 — their worst margin of defeat against the Pistons. ... Poeltl's 12 rebounds matched a season-high.

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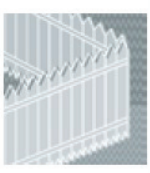
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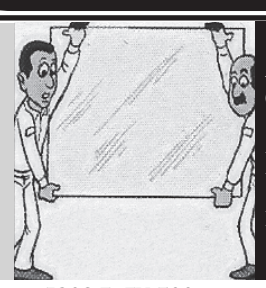
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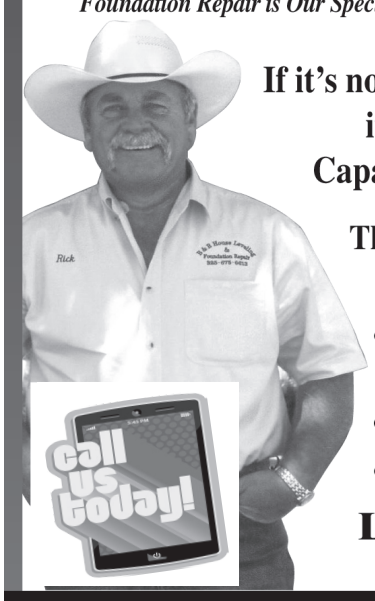
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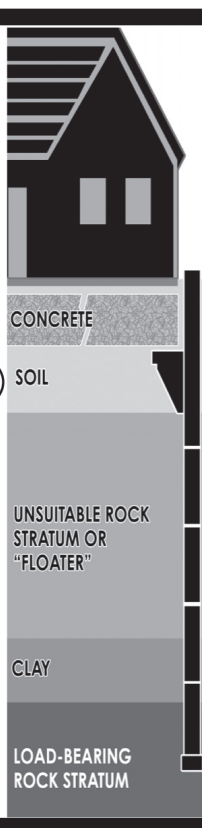


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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Hot potato

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠J 8 5 2
♥A 6 3
♦A 7 4
♣10 9 2

WEST
♠Q 7
♥J 2
♦K Q 9 8 6 3
♣J 5 4

EAST
♠K 10 6 4 3
♥Q 10 8 5 4
♦5 2
♣Q

SOUTH
♠A 9
♥K 9 7
♦J 10
♣A K 8 7 6 3

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 NT

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Perhaps you won't agree with South's off-shape one notrump bid or North's raise to three, but that's the way the bidding went. Besides, on this deal the play's the thing, so let's get on with it.

West led the king of diamonds, which won, and continued with the queen, which also won. Another diamond forced dummy's ace, and East had to find a discard.

Now if you were East and saw only dummy's hand and your own, what would you discard? It might seem odd, but the proper discard is the queen of clubs! If you make this play, South goes down two; if you don't, South makes the contract. All he needs to do is to lead a club from dummy and duck when you produce the queen. Eventually he scores five clubs, a diamond, two hearts and a spade.

A very good case can be made for discarding the queen of clubs. If South has the A-K-J, the queen is worthless. And if South lacks one of these honors, West must have the ace, king or jack as a potential entry to his diamonds. It follows that retention of the queen cannot serve a useful purpose, and, in fact, it is an albatross around your neck.

When the hand was played, East did not discard the queen of clubs, electing to part with a spade instead. But the Fates were extremely kind to him. Declarer, looking neither to the right nor the left, led a club to the king at trick four, paying no attention whatever to East's play of the queen.

South then continued with the ace, hoping the jack would fall, but it didn't. He could then do no better than play a third club and go down two, thus proving that two wrongs sometimes make a right.

Tomorrow: Computing the percentage play.

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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

ANSWER:

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



Tomorrow's Horoscope

Taurus Moon Rules St. Patrick's Day

By Holiday Mathis



ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's no ideal condition for bringing out the best in a human. What works for one person is useless for another. Whatever condition makes you want to be where you are -- that's the right one for you today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Whatever you do, get warmed up for it. When you're warm, you're supported internally. You can trust yourself. Just as cold muscles are prone to injury, cold states of being are prone to mistakes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're that risk-taker who is beloved because you're not afraid to be yourself. If they laugh, even better. You welcome levity whether you come by it accidentally or on purpose. All will be raised by you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Maybe you're not sure what you have to say, but you can be sure that you have something to say. Think and write about it. Talk it over. Others will benefit from hearing your unique take.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It makes you feel cool when you give recommendations that others turn out to love or spread awareness about a piece of culture that opens minds and brightens worlds. Guess what? You ARE cool. Share your good taste today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You never know how loved ones are going to respond to your work. They might be jealous that the work got your attention and not them. Or they might be over the moon. Go forward, seeking neither permission nor blessing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Even the hard-boiled pragmatist you know will soften and bend to your whimsical charms because, bottom line, you're fun. Life is more interesting when you're giving that carefree part of yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It doesn't matter that some come by certain proficiencies easier than others. For the current task, what's required is a willingness to break down the learning to the right-sized chunk and then practice until you know it well.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Fight your two biggest enemies: fear and distraction. You might also consider that distraction is fear in disguise. It's an excuse that fear uses to keep you from dedicating yourself to what you really want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When the environment is habit-forming, the person doesn't have to be. Take pressure off yourself by being in the location that will do the heavy lifting for you because it's structured and organized around a particular task.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). As humans, we have a limited understanding of our own motives. What you do know is that, at the very least, you're trying to create unity, not discord. With this as your lodestar and the willingness to check yourself, move forward.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Solid organization helps you deal with the unexpected. And more importantly, it allows you to be confident and relaxed whether things are going to plan or not.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 17). You may not believe you have mystical power, but that won't stop unexplained and wondrous events from happening to you. A secret wish will be answered. You'll find a sort of treasure when you follow through on an uncanny feeling for where to "dig." And you'll be credited for making all the difference for someone. Libra and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 22, 14, 4 and 17.

ARIES SECRET SUPERPOWERS: Every sign has 'em! With the sun headed toward the start of the zodiac, let's do a rundown, starting with ARIES.

The Obvious: Aries is brave with a warrior's heart, high-energy, vivacious and the embodiment of verve.

The Uncanny: The way this sign manages adrenaline in the body is mysterious and mighty impressive. Aries has been known to go without sleep and be oddly sane and intelligent the next day.

The Weird: Aries can easily recognize people from the back by the shape of their head and seldom get it wrong.

The Extremely Useful: Even though this sign has a strong strain of individuality, group mentality is a no-brainer for Aries. Aries can switch from me-think to group-think on a dime. This is a particularly great strength to lean on at work or in team sports.

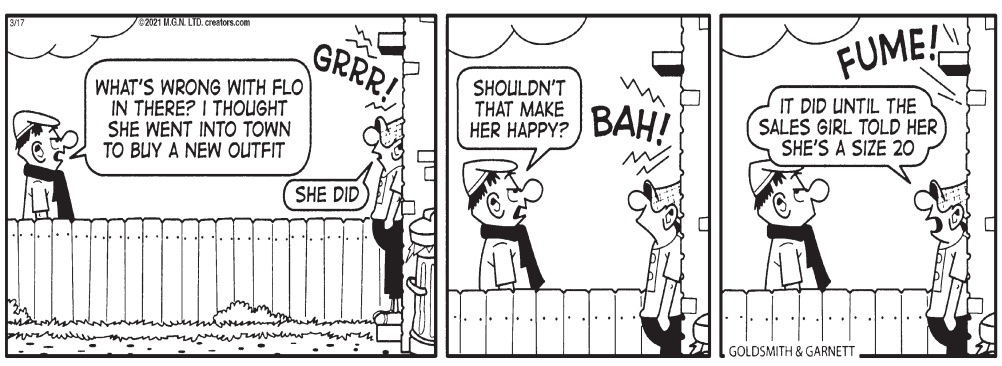
The Quietly Helpful: Aries natives don't worry as much as some other signs. They have to be taught to be fearful of unlikely outcomes. If they are not taught this, they are sources of great comfort to their peers who struggle with anxiety and doubt. When an Aries extends a hug or a reassuring pat on the back to someone who is feeling afraid, the energy that's exchanged can make a remarkable difference.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

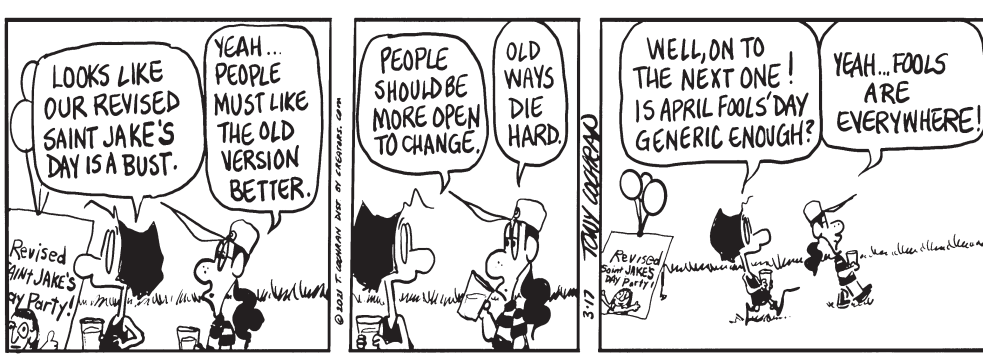
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	KMID 3 Midland	UNI 4 Spanish	KPEJ 5 Odessa	KOSA 7 Odessa	KTLE 8 Telemundo	KWES 9 Midland	KMLM 12 Odessa	KPBT 13 Odessa	KWWT 14 Odessa	KWES2 15 Midland	WTBS 33 Atlanta	TNT 34 Atlanta	ESPN 35 Sports	ESPN2 36 Sports	FSN 38 Sports	USA 55 New York	A&E 58 New York	DISC 60 Discovery
5 :PM	Big 2	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS 7	Tele	News	For Such	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor	SportsCenter	Daily Wager	High School Basketball	NCIS (DVS)	Court	Expedition Unknown
5 :30	ABC	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS	Noticias	News	Freedom	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Fam. Guy		NBA Basketball: Bucks at 76ers	2021 NIT Basketball Tournament			Court	
6 :PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatlón Estados Unidos (SS)	News	Cowgirl	Xavier	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang				Spotlight	NCIS (DVS)	Court	Expedition Unknown
6 :30	Wheel		Big Bang	ET		News	Israel	Molly	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang						Court	
7 :PM	Gold	Te doy la vida	The Masked Singer	Tough as Nails		Chicago Med	News	Hero	Dateline	Riverdale	Big Bang	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite			Inside	WWE NXT	Court	Expedition Unknown
7 :30	House						Truth	Odd			Big Bang				Mavericks		Court	
8 :PM	Conners	Amor eterno	Game of Talents	A Grammy Salute to the Sounds	La suerte de Loli	Chicago Fire	Light of Southwest	Arthur	Dateline	Nancy Drew	Big Bang			2021 NIT Basketball Tournament	Mavs Pre.		Court	
8 :30	Call Your							WordGirl			Big Bang		NBA Basketball: Clippers at Mavericks		NBA Basketball: Clippers at Mavericks		Court	
9 :PM	The Con (DVS)	Como tú no hay dos	FOX 24 News at 9		Buscando a Frida	Chicago P.D.	Light of Southwest	Cyber	Mike	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Movie: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor				(:08) Movie: Olympus Has Fallen (DVS)	I Survived	Expedition Unknown
9 :30								Molly	Mike	Seinfeld	Full						I Survived	
10 :PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Pink	Friends	Creek	Conan			SportsCenter			Court	Expedition Unknown
10 :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Noticias	Tonight Show	Words of	Elinor	Friends	Creek	Full						Court	
11 :PM		Contacto deportivo	Mod Fam		Caso cerrado (SS)		Dr. Wil	Sesame	CBS 7	Gold	Seinfeld		SportsCenter	UFC Archival	Mavs		Court	Expedition Unknown
11 :30	Nightline		Funny	James Corden		Seth Meyers	Issues4	Tiger	Jokers	Gold	Conan				World Poker	(:37) Movie: Olympus Has Fallen (DVS)	Court	
12 :AM	Extra	Inocente de ti	Two Men		Sin Senos Sí		News	Go Luna	Holly	Steve Wilkos Show	Wipeout		SportsCenter	Around			Court	
12 :30	DailyMail		Simpsons	Drew Barrymore		Late-Lilly	Jesus IS	Nature	Forensic					Pardon	NBA Basketball: Clippers at Mavericks		Court	
1 :AM	Paid Prg.	Papá a toda madre	Pawn		Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Wild Kratt	Jerry Springer	Short List	Wipeout		SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Bucks at 76ers			I Survived	Expedition Unknown
1 :30	Paid Prg.		Pawn	Dr. Carras	Programa	Inside Ed.		Wild Kratt		MAXX							I Survived	

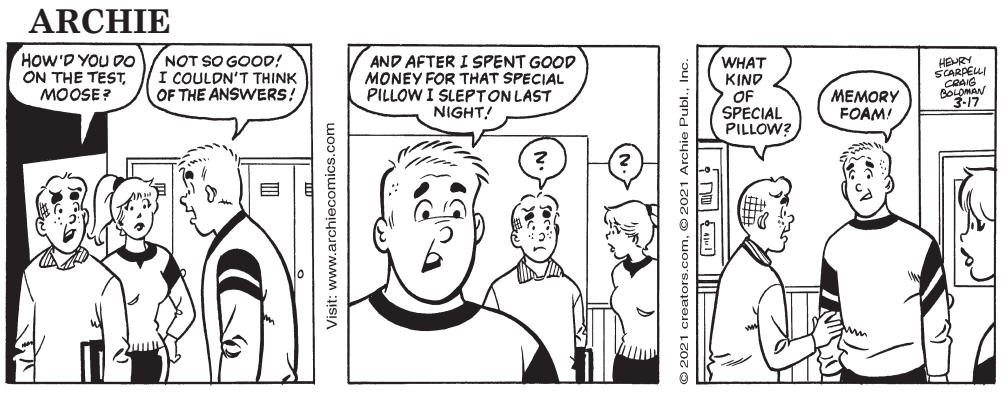
ANDY CAPP



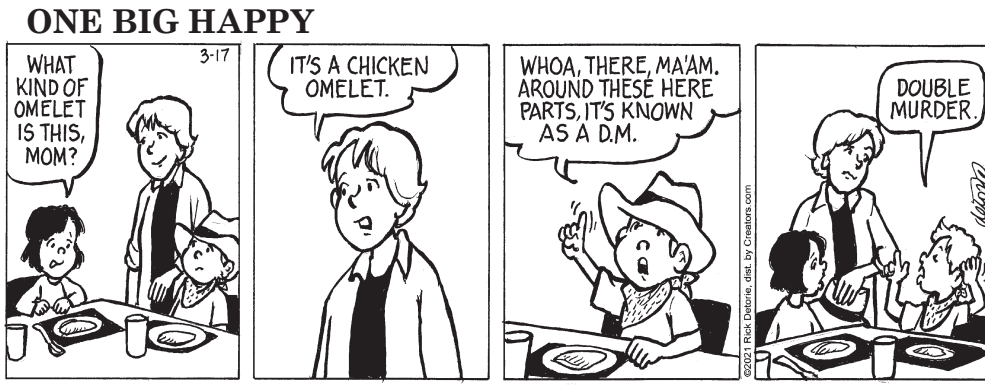
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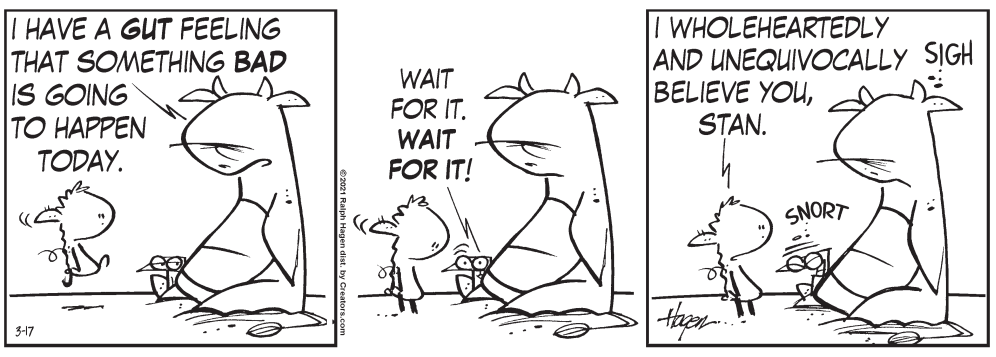
ARCHIE



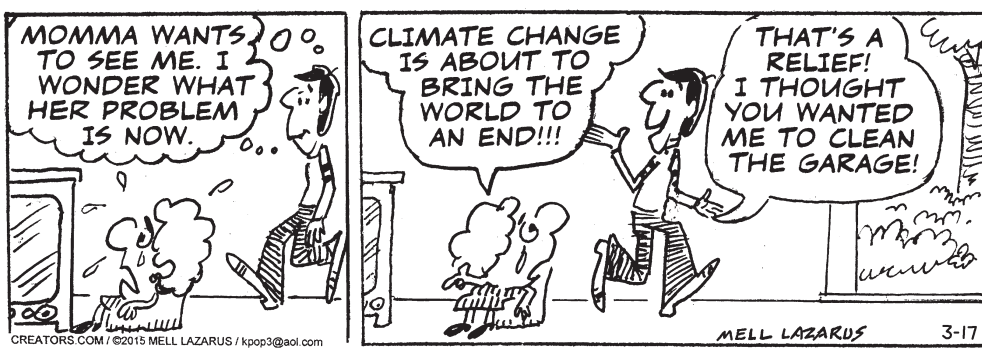
ONE BIG HAPPY



THE BARN



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, March 17, the 76th day of 2021. There are 289 days left in the year. This is St. Patrick's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 17, 1762, New York held its first St. Patrick's Day parade.

On this date:

In 1776, the Revolutionary War Siege of Boston ended as British forces evacuated the city.

In 1936, Pittsburgh's Great St. Patrick's Day Flood began as the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers and their tributaries, swollen by rain and melted snow, started exceeding flood stage; the high water was blamed for more than 60 deaths.

In 1941, the National Gallery of Art opened in Washington, D.C.

In 1959, the Dalai Lama fled Tibet for India in the wake of a failed uprising by Tibetans against Chinese rule.

In 1966, a U.S. Navy midget submarine located a missing hydrogen bomb that had fallen from a U.S. Air Force B-52 bomber into the Mediterranean off Spain. (It took several more weeks to actually recover the bomb.)

In 1969, Golda Meir became prime minister of Israel.

In 1970, the United States cast its first veto in the U.N. Security Council, killing a resolution that would have condemned Britain for failing to use force to overthrow the white-ruled government of Rhodesia.

In 1988, Avianca Flight 410, a Boeing 727, crashed after takeoff into a mountain in Colombia, killing all 143 people on board.

In 1992, 29 people were killed in the truck bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In Illinois, Sen. Alan Dixon was defeated in his primary reelection bid by Carol Moseley-Braun, who went on to become the first Black woman in the U.S. Senate.

In 2003, edging to the brink of war, President George W. Bush gave Saddam Hussein 48 hours to leave his country. Iraq rejected Bush's ultimatum, saying that a U.S. attack to force Saddam from power would be "a grave mistake."

In 2009, U.S. journalists Laura Ling and Euna Lee were detained by North Korea while reporting on North Korean refugees living across the border in China. (Both were convicted of entering North Korea illegally and were sentenced to 12 years of hard labor; both were freed in August 2009 after former President Bill Clinton met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il.) The Seattle Post-Intelligencer published its final print edition.

In 2010, Michael Jordan became the first ex-player to become a majority owner in the NBA as the league's Board of Governors unanimously approved Jordan's $275 million bid to buy the Charlotte Bobcats from Bob Johnson.

Ten years ago: The U.N. Security Council paved the way for international air strikes against Moammar Gadhafi's forces, voting to authorize military action to protect civilians and impose a no-fly zone over Libya. U.S. drone missiles hit a village in Pakistan; U.S. officials said the group targeted was heavily armed and that some of its members were connected to al-Qaida, but Pakistani officials said the missiles hit a community meeting, killing four Taliban fighters and 38 civilians and tribal police. Country music entertainer Ferlin Husky, 85, died in Westmoreland, Tennessee.

Five years ago: The Obama administration formally concluded the Islamic State group was committing genocide against Christians and other minorities in Iraq and Syria. An Arizona man was convicted of a terror charge tied to an attack on a Prophet Muhammad cartoon contest in Texas, marking the second conviction in the U.S. related to the Islamic State group; Abdul Malik Abdul Kareem, an American-born Muslim convert, was later sentenced to 30 years in prison. Finally bowing to years of public pressure, SeaWorld Entertainment said it would no longer breed killer whales or make them perform crowd-pleasing tricks.

One year ago: A three-week shelter-in-place order took effect in six San Francisco-area counties, requiring most residents to stay inside and venture out only for food, medicine or exercise. State TV in Iran warned that "millions" could die if Iranians kept traveling and ignored health guidance; the coronavirus death toll in Iran neared 1,000. More movie theaters closed nationwide; the nation's largest chain, AMC, said its theaters would close for at least six to 12 weeks. Bus riders in Detroit were stranded after most drivers didn't report to work. The Kentucky Derby and the French Open were each postponed from May to September. A case of the coronavirus was reported in West Virginia, the only U.S. state that hadn't seen one until that point. As Florida, Arizona and Illinois went ahead with presidential primaries, hundreds of poll workers dropped out, forcing state officials to scramble. Joe Biden swept to primary victories, increasingly pulling away in the Democratic race.

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Answer to previous puzzle

L	I	M	O		O	D	D	S		M	O	C	H	A
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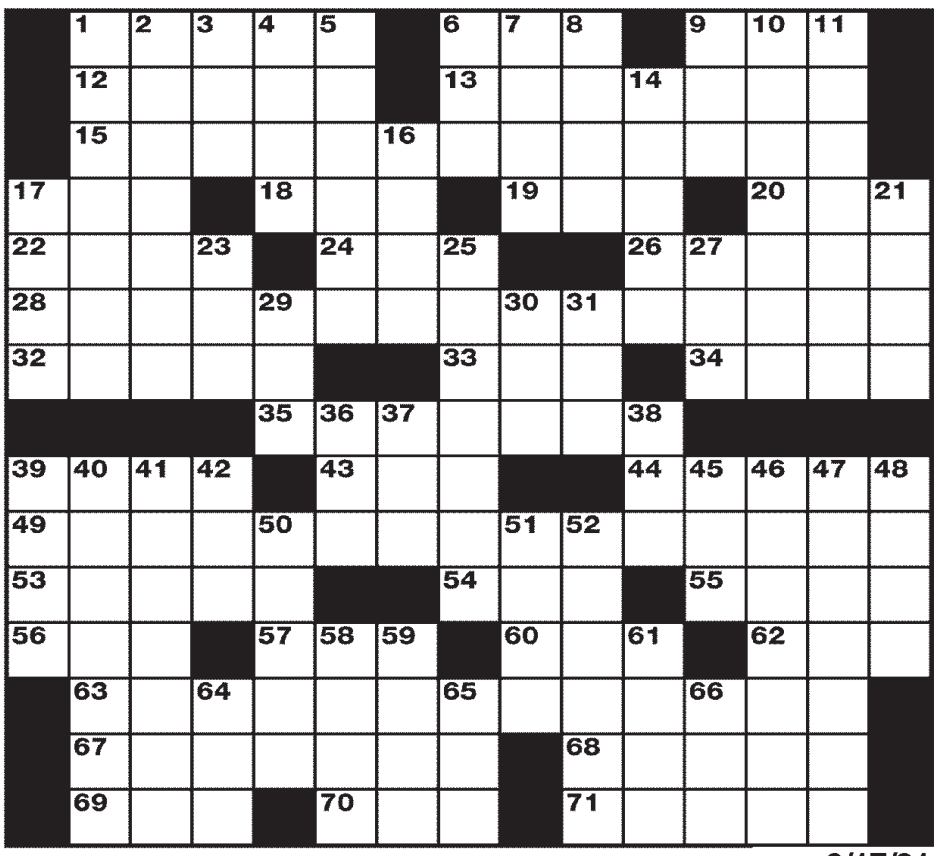
3/17/21

Newsday Crossword

ACTIVEWEAR by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Cleopatra's country
6 Tablet for writing
9 Like two peas in a __
12 Why a tire is flat
13 "Shores of" city in "The Marines' Hymn"
15 Had one's best year, as veteran athletes
17 Overacting actor
18 "Shaky" prefix for center
19 Prone to scheming
20 Encountered
22 Land east of Europe
24 Former Ugandan leader Amin
26 Being chilled, as wine
28 Groups that hire lobbyists
32 '50s unsuccessful Ford
33 Droop
34 Office helper: Abbr.
35 Auto part with electrical controls
39 Beef inspecting agcy.
43 Cul-de-__ (dead end)
44 "Belted out a song," for example
49 Avoided a commitment
53 First half of an LP
54 Brief moment, in brief
55 *Wizard of Oz* barker
56 Character-creating pastime: Abbr.
57 Glide down snowy slopes
60 Chinese frypan
62 "I tawt I __ a puddy tat!"
63 Unable to fly due to heavy haze
67 Bread-browning machine
68 Soap-on-__ (bath product)
69 Peculiar
70 Producer of acorns
71 Stares in amazement

DOWN
1 Kept in a container
2 Be inappropriate
3 Shrill bark
4 Piece of plumbing
5 Fearful
6 School's bake-sale sponsor: Abbr.
7 Curved lines
8 Face of an old watch
9 "The Raven" writer
10 Rival of LSU
11 Helms a film
14 Richard of *The Wiz*
16 "See, what __ tell you!"
17 Possess
21 Try out
23 Ingested
25 Beetles and bees
27 Teachers' union: Abbr.
29 North Pole helper
30 File-folder projection
31 Swelled head
36 Find a job for
37 Feeling mopey
38 Grandfather clock's top numeral
39 Former abbr. for Russia
40 Avoids something and arrives at
41 Acted charitably
42 "Ready when you __"
45 "Spring forward" period: Abbr.
46 Alternative form of an element
47 Power failures
48 Cat's comment
50 Jobs to do
51 Chopped down
52 Reusable tote
58 Trendy low-carb diet
59 Notion
61 Actress Sedgwick
64 Ill-mannered man
65 Annoy
66 Fancy-dressing dude



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Immigrant teens to be housed at Dallas convention center

By NOMAAN MERCHANT and JAKE BLEIBERG
Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — The U.S. government plans to house up to 3,000 immigrant teenagers at a convention center in downtown Dallas as it struggles to find space for a surge of migrant children at the border who have strained the immigration system just two months into the Biden administration.

American authorities encountered people crossing the border without legal status more than 100,000 times in February — a level higher than all but four months of Donald Trump's presidency. The spike in traffic poses a challenge to President Joe Biden at a fraught moment with Congress, which is about to take up immigration legislation, and has required the help of the American Red Cross.

The Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center will be used for up to 90 days beginning as early as this week, according to a memo obtained by The Associated Press that was sent Monday to members of the Dallas City Council. Federal agencies will use the facility to house boys ages 15 to 17, according to the memo, which describes the soon-to-open site as a "decompression center."

The Health and Human Services Department is rushing to open facilities across the country to house immigrant children who are otherwise being held by the Border Patrol, which is generally supposed to detain children for no more than three days. The Border Patrol is holding children longer because there is next to no space in the HHS system, similar to the last major increase in migration two years ago.

A tent facility operated by the Border Patrol in Donna, some 500 miles (804 kilometers) south of Dallas, is holding more than 1,000 children and teenagers, some as young as 4. Lawyers who inspect immigrant detention facilities under a court settlement say they interviewed children who reported being held in packed conditions in the tent, with some sleeping on the floor and others not able to shower for five days.

Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas on Saturday directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help manage and care for children crossing the border.

"I am incredibly proud of the agents of the Border Patrol, who have been working around the clock in difficult circumstances to take care of children temporarily in our care," Mayorkas said in a statement. "Yet, as I have said many times, a Border Patrol facility is no place for a child."

Asked about housing migrant teens at the convention center, White House press secretary Jen Psaki said Monday that the administration has been looking for additional facilities for unaccompanied children but that she would have to look into the specifics of the arrangement in Dallas.

"Certainly we would ensure that we're meeting the standard that we have set out," Psaki said.

The growing number of child arrivals comes at politically charged moment, with Congress taking up immigration legislation this week. Biden has delighted pro-immigration advocates by backing a bill to offer a path to citizenship to all of the estimated 11 million people in the U.S. illegally. He also suspended several Trump-era policies to deter asylum, including one that forced them to wait in Mexico for court hearings in the U.S.

Republicans have seized on the numbers to portray a border spinning out of control.

"This crisis is created by the presidential policies of this new administration," House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy said Monday while leading a large congressional delegation to El Paso, Texas. "There's no other way to claim it than a Biden border crisis."

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott issued a similar statement, blaming Biden's policies for "a humanitarian crisis for unaccompanied minors coming across the border."

Democrats criticized large camps set up in Tornillo, Texas, and Homestead, Florida, to house children during previous emergencies, including in 2018 when the Trump administration separated thousands of immigrant families.

Biden has kept pandemic-related powers in place that allow him to immediately expel people who enter the country without legal status, denying them an opportunity to seek asylum. Biden aides have yet to say when the administration may lift that authority. It does not extend to children who cross the border alone.

U.S. authorities encountered children traveling alone 9,457 times in February, nearly double the number in January and the highest since May 2019, when the figure neared 12,000 during the peak of a Trump-era surge.

The memo sent to Dallas City Council members says the Federal Emergency Management Agency and HHS will "be responsible for providing shelter management and contracts" for food, security, cleaning, and medical care at the convention center. Dallas previously offered space to HHS during the 2014 surge of crossings of immigrant children.

Dallas City Manager T.C. Broadnax said in a statement that "collective action is necessary, and we will do our best to support this humanitarian effort." He referred questions to HHS, which did not respond to requests for comment Monday.

HHS also has said it will house immigrant youths in Midland. Teenagers began arriving Sunday at a converted camp for oilfield workers where volunteers from the American Red Cross will care for them. BuzzFeed News first reported the opening of the Midland facility.

The Red Cross has sent about 60 volunteers to the facilities in Midland and Dallas and expects to deploy more in the coming days, said Greta Gustafson, a spokeswoman for the group.

The surge at the U.S.-Mexico border has presented a major test for Biden's administration, which promised to break from the more restrictive measures against migrants enacted by Trump. Biden has left in place some Trump policies, notably the expulsions of immigrant adults and families under a public-health declaration citing the coronavirus pandemic.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• **JOSEPH ALTON MURLEY,** 42, of 1405 Tucson Road, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

• **KELLY ERIN PITTMAN**, 33, of 705 E. 15th Street, was arrested on a charge of burglary of habitation.

• **MANUEL REY CHAVARRIA,** 38, of 2535 Gunter Circle, was arrested on warrant from other agency (x3), possession of controlled substance less than one gram and possession of marijuana less than or equal to two ounces.

• **FOUND PROPERTY** was reported in the 2600 block of S. Gregg Street.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1500 block of E. 17th Street.

• **ASSAULT** was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 82 inmates at the time of this report.

• **MANUEL CHAVARRIA,** 38, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of parent contributing to non-attending, failure to appear, FTA/credit card or debit card abuse, possession of controlled substance less than one gram and possession of marijuana less than or equal to 2 ounces drug free zone.

• **JOSEPH ALTON MURLEY**, 42, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• **KELLY ERIN PITTMAN,** 33, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of burglary of habitation.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2600 block of Alamesa. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 4200 block of Hamilton. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 4200 block of Bilger. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Blvd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 100 block of N. Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1500 block of Wood Street. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block of Aylesford. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

• **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 7200 block of S. Service Road. No transport was required.

Storms taking aim at South could bring strong tornadoes

ATLANTA (AP) — Storms dumped as much as 6 inches of rain on Mississippi and Alabama on Tuesday ahead of threatening weather that forecasters said could include tornadoes across a large part of the South from Texas to Georgia.

With isolated flooding already being reported in western Alabama, the Storm Prediction Center said large hail and intense twisters were possible across the region Wednesday. More than 6 million people live in an area stretching from eastern Arkansas to eastern Alabama that forecasters said was most at risk for violent weather.

At least 10 Alabama school systems canceled classes or planned online sessions because of the threat, and more could be added to the list.

Forecasters issued tornado warnings in southwest Alabama as storms moved through overnight, but no damage was reported immediately. Schools in Cullman County, north of Birmingham, delayed opening Tuesday because of downpours that were particularly intense around the Mississippi-Alabama state line, where as much as 6 inches (15 centimeters) of rain fell.

"'We did get a strong band of pretty heavy precipitation," said Ashlyn Jackson, a forecaster in the National Weather Service office in Jackson, Mississippi. "We've been getting hit pretty hard."

On Wednesday, strong twisters that stay on the ground for an extended period are possible in a region that includes large parts of Arkansas, Mississippi and Alabama as well as parts of Louisiana and Tennessee, forecasters said. Residents need to pay attention to alerts in cities including Memphis, Tennessee; Birmingham, Alabama; and Jackson forecasters said.

In Tennessee, Shelby County, which includes Memphis, has canceled vaccination appointments for Wednesday because of the threat of severe weather. Most public vaccination sites in the state's most populous county are outdoors, with people getting shots in their cars, and officials are concerned that strong winds, rain, hail and the threat of tornadoes could make vaccination operations unsafe.

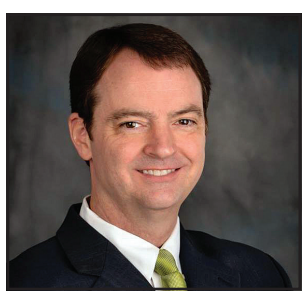
In Alabama, strong tornadoes, golf ball-sized hail and winds of up to 60 mph (97 km/h) will be possible Wednesday, the weather service's Birmingham office said.



Collins joins senators who want to stop ineligible gun buys

BANGOR, Maine (AP) — Maine Sen. Susan Collins has joined a bipartisan group of colleagues that wants states to better enforce laws that prevent ineligible people from buying a gun.

Collins, a Republican, said Tuesday she is supporting the NICS Denial Notification Act, which she said would help states utilize the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. She said the proposal would require U.S. authorities to notify state and local enforcement within a day when an ineligible person lies on a background check and attempts to buy a gun.


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Hawks beat Rockets 119-107; Houston drops 17th straight Game of Season

By JORDAN GODWIN
Associated Press

Danilo Gallinari scored 20 of his 29 points in the first half and the Atlanta Hawks beat Houston 119-107 on Tuesday night, dealing the Rockets a franchise record-tying 17th straight loss.

Atlanta won its sixth straight, matching its longest since the first month of the 2016-17 season.

Houston's losing skid ties the the franchise record by the San Diego Rockets in the team's inaugural 1967-68 season. The Rockets haven't won since Feb. 4.

Atlanta led 73-58 at the half, but Houston won the third quarter 34-20 to pull within 93-92 entering the fourth.

"Our defense in the fourth quarter really gave us the win," Hawks coach Nate McMillan said. "Our guys, they stayed with it, didn't get rattled and we kept our composure."

The Hawks were without starting and backup centers Clint Capela (heel) and Onyeka Okongwu (adductor). Without their main two big men, the Hawks started power forwards Gallinari and John Collins.

"I thought both of those guys did a good job of taking advantage of the small-ball they were playing," McMillan said. "We did a really good job of recognizing where the matchup was and taking advantage of it."

Gallinari hit 5 of 8 from 3-point range and has scored at least 20 points in four of his last five games after reaching that mark just twice in his first 23 games this season.

"I'm just a lucky guy," Gallinari said of his recent hot stretch. "I think we have a good rhythm and our chemistry is really getting going. We're moving the ball and finding the right guy at the right time."

Collins scored 20 points, and Trae Young had 13 points and 14 assists. Five Hawks scored in double figures by halftime, and six scored at least 10 in the game.

Victor Oladipo led Houston with 34 points, Jae'Sean Tate had 25, and Kevin Porter, Jr., scored 22.

The Rockets were without a slew of players, including Christian Wood, John Wall, Eric Gordon, P.J. Tucker and Ben McLemore. Houston played with the league-minimum eight players, including two players on two-way contracts and one on a 10-day contract.

"I thought we tried hard, and we fought, and we had eight guys and we kind of ran out of gas in the fourth quarter," Rockets coach Stephen Silas said. "It's painful, regardless, but you look for small victories in this stretch when we are completely decimated."

TIP-INS

Hawks: Capela, who was traded last February from Houston to Atlanta, received a highlight tribute video and was given an ovation by the Toyota Center crowd during a timeout in the first quarter. ... Without their big men, the Hawks were narrowly outrebounded 38-37.

Rockets: Houston is hopeful Wood (ankle) can return Wednesday against the Warriors. The Rockets have gone 0-17 since his injury. Oladipo is unlikely to play, Silas said. The Rockets are also hoping for a Wednesday return for Danuel House Jr., (right knee contusion). Wall (left knee contusion) is hopeful for a Friday return.

BACK TO .500

The win moves Atlanta to 20-20, back to a .500 record for the first time since Feb. 1. The team fired Lloyd Pierce on March 1 and named McMillan the interim. The Hawks are 6-0 under McMillan.

"Of course, I'm looking at it, but we're just taking this one game at a time and focusing on trying to get better every game," McMillan said. "I haven't talked with the guys a whole lot about our schedule, but this was a goal to try and get on a winning streak and put together a string of wins."

HE SAID IT

"The fact that we're in this awful stretch, and they're not letting go of the rope, and they're fighting their tails off and showing so much character. Everything I ask them to do, they try to do and that's what a coach wants his group to do." -- Rockets coach Stephen Silas

WOMEN'S HISTORY NIGHT

As part of Women's History Night, the Rockets honored four-time WNBA champion and two-time WNBA League MVP Cynthia Cooper-Dyke, who played for the Houston Comets and is the current head women's basketball coach at Texas Southern.

"My journey with the Houston Comets was amazing, and I'll never forget it," Cooper said in a video.

UP NEXT

Hawks: Atlanta returns home to host the Thunder on Thursday night.

Rockets: Houston hosts Golden State on Wednesday night.

Bears agree to 1-year, $10 million contract with QB Dalton Giving QB another chance to show he can play

By ANDREW SELIGMAN AP Sports Writer

The Chicago Bears agreed to a one-year, $10 million contract with former Cincinnati Bengals and Dallas Cowboys quarterback Andy Dalton, agent Jeffrey Nalley said Tuesday.

The three-time Pro Bowler could earn an additional $3 million in bonuses.

Dalton signed with Dallas last May to back up Dak Prescott after getting released by Cincinnati. He wound up starting nine games, officially going 4-4 to bring his career record to 74-65-2, with Prescott suffering a season-ending ankle injury in Week 5. The Cowboys finished 6-10 and missed the playoffs for the second year in a row.

Dalton has thrown for 33,764 yards, 218 touchdowns and 126 interceptions. He set several Bengals passing records over nine seasons and made the Pro Bowl in 2011, 2014 and 2016. But he never led Cincinnati past the first round of the playoffs.

Signing Dalton gives the Bears two veteran quarterbacks with Nick Foles also on the roster. And it almost certainly shuts the door on 2017 No. 2 overall draft pick Mitchell Trubisky re-signing.

The Bears seemed to make clear their feelings about Trubisky prior to last season when they acquired Foles from Jacksonville and declined their fifth-year option for 2021 on their once-prized QB.

Trubisky got benched in a Week 3 comeback win at Atlanta and didn't return to the lineup until late November. In between, Foles struggled and suffered a hip and glute injury.

The Bears made the playoffs despite going 8-8 in the regular season for the second year in a row, then got knocked out in a convincing wild-card loss at New Orleans.

Also on Tuesday, the team announced a three-year extension through 2023 with defensive end Mario Edwards Jr.

Edwards had a career-high four sacks and seven quarterback hits after signing with Chicago prior to last season. He has 14 1/2 sacks and 30 QB hits over six seasons with the Raiders, New York Giants, New Orleans Saints and Bears.





