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Warming up a cold case

DPS program asks for public's help in solving Hailey Dunn homicide

By AMANDA ELSTON
Managing Editor

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Texas Ranger Unsolved Crimes Investigation Team are asking for the public's help in solving the murder of Colorado City teen Hailey Dunn, 13, as part of a public awareness program.

The recently launched program by DPS will feature one unsolved case a month "in an effort to generate new investigative leads and bring added attention to unresolved or 'cold cases' across the state", reads a DPS news release.

Hailey was reported missing almost five years ago. On Dec. 27 2010, she left her mother's Colorado City home to go to a friend's house, but never arrived. Her body was found nearly three years later on March 16, 2013 near Lake J.B. Thomas in Scurry County.

The feature on the unsolved case comes just a couple of months after Hailey's father, Clint Dunn, sat down with NewsWest 9 for an interview. Clint told KWES-TV that



Dunn

Cleaning day



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Looking for just the right tool to reach that hard-to-clean spot? This crew goes vertical with a winched platform to clean windows outside the Hotel Settles Wednesday afternoon.

Lots of sizzle, but no steak

Sullivan: Pipeline rupture produces light show, but little damage

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

A burst gas pipeline produced plenty of fireworks but little damage near Ackerly.

A break in a section of a high-pressure natural gas line near the intersection of county roads 17 and 54 caused an impressive light show, according to Howard County Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan.

"Flames were shooting up 80 feet to 100 feet in the air," Sullivan said. "The crew responding from the Forsan station could see it all the way from there."

But the fire proved to be mostly bark and no bite for firefighters. Four units — three from Howard County and one from Ackerly — concentrated on making sure the flames didn't spread while crews from pipeline owner WTG shut off the flow of gas through the affected section of the pipeline.

"All we did was sit back and watch it burn itself out.," Sullivan said. "It was a highly volatile, but low maintenance situation."

FoL draws more than 1K on first night

BY LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

Opening night of the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights drew in more than 1,000 visitors to the city-owned park to view the twinkling displays made up of a million-plus lights and 1.2 miles of ex-

hibits.,

Despite a few opening night kinks and a chilly, if not down right cold, evening, Pat Simmons, founder of the Festival of Lights said, 1,016 visitors from 14 states and even a tourist from Mexico viewed the 14 displays throughout the park.

"Of course, we had the first night kinks," Simmons said. "There were a few lights we had to replace and a few Christmas cards that were not ready. We've got everything worked out so

See **LIGHTS**, Page 3

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To reach us:
Please call 263-7331.
Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

54414 79720 9

Courtesy photo

Santa and Mrs. Claus (Lonnie and Rita Self) paid a visit to the patients of Big Spring State Hospital during the hospital's Annual Carol of Lights. The patients enjoyed refreshments from the Volunteer Services Council and music from the First Church of the Nazarene Youth Group.

Assault suspect sought

BY LYNDEL MOODY
Staff Writer

GARDEN CITY — The Glasscock County Sheriff's office is requesting help from the public to solve a aggravated assault and robbery incident that occurred Monday.

See **ASSAULT**, Page 3

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, WOODSTOCK... MOST FAMILIES PREFER LARGER BIRDS FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER.

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Obituaries

Mary Bradberry



Mary Bradberry, 69, of Big Spring, died Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel, with Pastor Doug Shelley of East Side Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be at Westbrook Cemetery.

Mary was born March 2, 1946, in Big Spring, Texas to Neva (Brock) Hunt and Sarge Clair Hunt. She had lived in Big Spring for most of her life. She

was a homemaker, but had worked at Cabot, Furr’s Cafeteria and Home Health Care. She attended Life Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Kelly Forsee and Debra Bradberry, both of Big Spring; five grandchildren, Brandon Barraza and wife Sarah, Ashley DeLeon, Clifton Davis, Kristen Thamez and Misty Davis; four great-grandchildren, Matthew Barraza, Kayden Thamez, Michale Barraza and Kaysen Thamez; and a special friend who was like a third daughter, Pam Puga.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

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

Paid obituary

Police/Sheriff

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

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 600 block of Douglas St.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1500 block of E. Old Colorado City Hwy.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Hwy 350 and S. Frontage Rd. and the intersection of 4th St. and Tulane.
- **THEFT** was reported in the

200 block of N. Gregg St.

- **STOLEN VEHICLE** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80.
- **HARASSMENT** was reported in the 1000 block of Hilltop Rd.
- **PHONE HARASSMENT** was reported in the 4200 block of Hamilton St.

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having

58 inmates at the time of this report.

- **TYRONE DEON CLEMONS**, 25, was booked by the DPS on a warrant for driving while license invalid with previous convictions/suspensions.
- **PEARLA NAYELI MENA**, 17, was booked by the DPS on charges of no driver’s license and failure to maintain financial responsibility and warrants for no driver’s license, failure to maintain financial responsibilities and violate promise to appear.

Take Note

- The Big Spring Art Association meets every third Tuesday, September through May at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Howard County Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Memberships are available. The annual dues are \$20.

- Howard College will be hosting several “update meetings” throughout Howard County for interested citizens to gather more facts and information about Howard College as they prepare for the tax rate rollback election to be held in January 2016. Those dates are: Tuesday, Jan. 5, 12:30 p.m. Hall Center for the Arts Auditorium, Howard College Campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane, (sign language interpretation provided); and Tuesday, Jan. 5, 6:30 p.m. Hall Center for the Arts Auditorium, Howard College Campus, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

- Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

- Mobile meals is in need of volunteer delivery drivers. If you donate one hour per week to help deliver meals to the elderly, call Kim Plew at 263-4016 or 213-7960.

- Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

- Victim Services is a non-profit independent community-based program serving victims of all violent crime, including, but not limited to, assault, sexual assault and domestic violence. Victim Services advocates are available 24 hours of day, 365 days a year to provide crisis intervention or accompaniment to the hospital and law enforcement agencies as needed. If you can commit to 30-hour training, an interview process and a background check, we need you. For more information, call Linda Calvio at 432-263-3312.

- The Big Spring Symphony Board of Directors meets every first Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the symphony office, 808 Scurry Street.

- The Kiwanis Club of Big Spring meets at noon every Thursday in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Visitors are welcome.

- Howard County Community Health Center, 1300 South Gregg St., has certified application counselors who will help you apply and enroll in the Healthcare Marketplace during open enrollment.

Support Groups

FRIDAY

- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls).

Open meeting at 7 p.m.

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles.

Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

MONDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, As Bill Sees it, 615 Settles, 6:06 p.m. to 7 p.m.

- VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

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

- Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring

Town Plaza (inside the mall, next to Attitudes Hair Salon, down by Bealls).

Open meeting at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

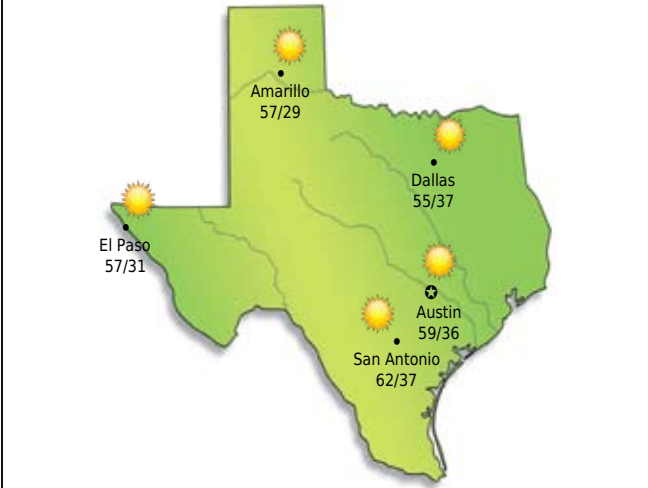
- Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for all Parkinson’s disease patients, spouses and caregivers. For more information about the support group, call 806-785-0942

Samuel W. Wells

Samuel W. Wells, 94, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2015, at his residence. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com

Local 5-Day Forecast				
Fri 12/18	Sat 12/19	Sun 12/20	Mon 12/21	Tue 12/22
 57/31 Mainly sunny. High 57F. Winds SSW at 15 to 25 mph.	 62/43 More sun than clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 40s.	 69/36 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	 67/39 Sunny. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	 65/41 Sunshine. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise: 7:41 AM Sunset: 5:44 PM	Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 5:44 PM	Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 5:45 PM	Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 5:45 PM	Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 5:46 PM

Texas at a Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Ablene	56	27	Sunny	Kingsville	69	42	P Cloudy
Amarillo	40	21	Sunny	Livingston	59	38	Sunny
Austin	66	38	Sunny	Longview	58	34	Sunny
Beaumont	61	39	Sunny	Lubbock	50	23	Sunny
Brownsville	70	49	Cloudy	Lufkin	60	36	Sunny
Brownwood	60	27	Sunny	Midland	58	28	Sunny
Corpus Christi	67	44	Sunny	Raymondville	72	46	Cloudy
Corsicana	60	35	Sunny	Rosenberg	64	40	Sunny
Dallas	59	33	Clear	San Antonio	68	38	Sunny
Del Rio	68	35	Sunny	San Marcos	67	37	Sunny
El Paso	51	25	P Cloudy	Sulphur Springs	58	34	Sunny
Fort Stockton	57	30	Sunny	Sweetwater	57	28	Sunny
Gainesville	56	29	Sunny	Tyler	57	34	Sunny
Greenville	57	33	Sunny	Weatherford	58	31	Sunny
Houston	65	41	Sunny	Wichita Falls	55	28	Sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	65	38	Showers	Miami	83	75	P Cloudy
Boston	52	48	Cloudy	Minneapolis	27	16	Cloudy
Chicago	38	27	Cloudy	New York	59	50	Cloudy
Dallas	59	33	Clear	Phoenix	59	39	Clear
Denver	24	15	Clear	San Francisco	60	48	P Cloudy
Houston	45	24	Clear	Seattle	43	41	Rain
Los Angeles	66	45	Clear	Saint Louis	41	27	P Cloudy

Moon Phases

			
First Dec 18	Full Dec 25	Last Jan 2	New Jan 10

UV Index

Fri 12/18	Sat 12/19	Sun 12/20	Mon 12/21	Tue 12/22
3	3	3	3	3
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

0

11

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mation, contact Jimmy Ruth at 271-2176.

- Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St., has a brief, inspirational message before giving away food and clothing on Thursday mornings. It’s a great way to work off community service and get help, too. Be there at 9-11 a.m. and get two for one, plus a rehab meeting.

- For information on Garrett Parrish’s condition, or to post messages of support, visit his Facebook page ([#GPSTRONG](https://www.facebook.com/GPSTRONG)). Parrish was seriously injured in a sledding accident.

- An account has been set up at Wells Fargo Bank for Briana Mendoza to help with medical cost. Briana was recently diagnosed with cancer.

- Staked Plains Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner is at 6 p.m.) at 219 ½ Main St.

- The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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News in brief

Officer’s mistrial in Gray’s death a letdown for both sides

BALTIMORE (AP) — As jurors deliberated the fate of one of six police officers charged in the death of Freddie Gray, Baltimore braced for a possible repeat of the protests, destruction and dismay that engulfed the city in April, when Gray died of a broken neck in the back of a police van. But instead of a dramatic conclusion, there was confusion.

Baltimore Circuit Judge Barry Williams declared a mistrial Wednesday after jurors made it clear they were hopelessly deadlocked over whether Officer William Porter had committed any crimes due to actions he didn’t take prior to Gray’s death.

The mistrial leaves prosecutors, defense attorneys and a populace anxious to find closure back at square one. Lawyers are scheduled to meet in the judge’s chambers Thursday to discuss dates for a possible retrial.

Members of the community still trying to process the news gathered outside the courthouse Wednesday afternoon following the verdict and about 100 demonstrators carried signs of protest as they marched peacefully through the streets.

“I’m not expecting our community to repeat April,” said Erika Alston, a community leader who runs a children’s after-school program in the heart of West Baltimore, in reference to the violence, looting and unrest that erupted the day of Gray’s April 27 funeral. “But it is a bit of a kick in the chest.”

Putin says Russia’s ready to improve ties with the US

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia is ready to improve ties with the United States and work with whomever is elected its next president, President Vladimir Putin said Thursday. He said his talks with U.S. Secretary John Kerry earlier this week showed that Washington is ready to “move toward settling the issues that can only be settled through joint ef-

ASSAULT

Continued from Page 1

According to Glasscock County Sheriff Keith Burnett, a 68-year-old man walked into his residence located in the northern part of the county near the Midland County line when he found a black, male allegedly robbing his home.

According to Burnett, the subject repeatedly struck the victim with the butt of a 22 shot-gun, which was owned by the victim. The victim was

left at the scene for approximately 14 hours before his employees found him, Burnett said.

The victim was transported to Midland Memorial Hospital where he is reported as in critical but stable condition, Burnett said.

Anyone with information about this crime is asked to call the Glasscock County Sheriff’s Office at 432-354-2361.

Staff Writer Lyndel Moody can be contacted at 263-7331, ext. 234, or by e-mailing citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

LIGHTS

Continued from Page 1

far.”
The Festival of Lights runs nightly until Dec. 31 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. with the park gates locking promptly at close.

Visitors are asked to enter the park through the Highway 87 entrance near Wal-Mart. Volunteer greeters will be on hand to give directions and welcome each visitor. The entrance is located by the Big Spring dam which is lighted nightly by large,

forts.”

Addressing Russia’s strained relations with some of its neighbors at his annual news conference, attended by hundreds of Russian and foreign journalists, Putin said he saw no possibility of overcoming the tensions with Turkey under its current leadership, and wanted to see the conflict in Ukraine settled as soon as possible.

Putin said the Russian military operation in Syria will continue until a political process starts, but it is up to the Syrians to decide when to stop fighting and sit down for talks. “We aren’t going to be more Syrian than the Syrians themselves,” he added.

He also offered assurances that the Russian economy was showing signs of stabilization despite plummeting oil prices, in fielding an array of questions from journalists representing state-owned media organizations about whether the government was coping with the challenges and whether the country could afford waging a war.

The economy is set to decline by 3.8 percent this year, and average income has dropped this year for the first time since Putin was first elected in 2000.

Syria activists in hiding after Islamic State group killing

ISTANBUL (AP) — The murder of the young Syrian activist took place close enough to his family’s home that his youngest brother heard his piercing scream. Ibrahim Abdelqader’s attackers stabbed him dozens of times and left his partially decapitated corpse hanging from a doorframe.

His family and colleagues say he was killed by a secret operative from the Islamic State group who befriended him before he struck. The message from IS was clear: Its enemies are not safe, even across borders.

More than a month after the slaying of Abdelqader and his friend Fares Hamadi, the media collective that Abdelqader belonged to — which secretly documents life at the heart of the Islamic State group’s self-proclaimed caliphate — has been forced into deep hiding.

IS claimed responsibility for the murders in a video message warning that “every apostate will be slaughtered silently.” It was a grim riff on the media collective’s name — Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently, a reference to the Syrian city of Raqqa that has become synonymous with IS and its efforts to build a caliphate.

Last month, the activist media group collected the 2015 Committee to Protect Journalists’ International Press Freedom Award for its work in one of the most terrifying cities of the world, monitoring IS and countering its steady stream of propaganda with factual accounts.

Pentagon says defense secretary used personal email

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon acknowledged Wednesday that Defense Secretary Ash Carter used a personal email account to do some of his government business during his first months on

the job.

Carter’s press secretary, Peter Cook, released a statement saying Carter believes his use of personal email for work-related business was a mistake. Cook declined to say whether it was a violation of Pentagon email policies. Cook said Carter stopped the practice, but Cook did not say when.

The Pentagon statement was in response to a report published late Wednesday by The New York Times. The newspaper reported it had obtained 72 work-related emails that Carter sent or received from his personal email account.

Hillary Clinton came under heavy criticism when it was revealed in March that she had used a personal email account as secretary of state. Carter took office in February.

Led by GOP, House poised to renew over \$600B in tax cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans are ready to whip a year-end tax-cut compromise through the House as Congress prepares to finish 2015 in a flurry of accomplishment that belies the partisan collisions sure to dominate the coming election year.

Though House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi was leading a Democratic charge against the tax measure, GOP leaders seemed certain to push it through the chamber Thursday. That would set the stage for House passage Friday of a companion bill providing \$1.1 trillion to finance government in 2016, leaving only Senate action before the 2,200-page bundle is shipped to President Barack Obama for his promised signature.

Though the tax bill would mostly renew scores of existing breaks that have lapsed or are about to, its scope was impressive and its victories distributed to Republicans and Democrats alike.

Tax credits for college expenses, child costs and lower-earning families would be made permanent, as would cuts for companies that do research or buy equipment.

Also made permanent or at least extended were reductions for some charitable contributions, builders of energy-efficient homes, producers of Puerto Rican and Virgin Islands rum and owners of auto race tracks.

Turing CEO Martin Shkreli in custody after securities probe

NEW YORK (AP) — Martin Shkreli, the former hedge fund manager under fire for buying a pharmaceutical company and ratcheting up the price of a life-saving drug, is in custody following a securities probe.

Calls to an attorney that has represented Shkreli in the past were not immediately returned. His arrest was confirmed Thursday by FBI spokeswoman Kelly Langmesser.

Shkreli stirred public outrage earlier this fall when his company, Turing Pharmaceuticals jacked the price of a drug used to treat a life-threatening infection by more than 5,000 percent. Turing raised the price on Daraprim from \$13.50 to \$750 per pill.

DUNN

Continued from Page 1

it it very unlikely that Hailey would have gotten lost or runaway.
“Everybody told the police, ‘That’s not even in her vocabulary,’” said Clint. “She’s not a runaway. She did not run away with anybody. She did not run away at all.

“We stressed that to the police, but it still took them seven days to see that this wasn’t a runaway.”

The investigation provided few leads, one of

them being Shawn Adkins, Hailey’s mother’s boyfriend who was the last person to see Hailey.

“Focus has shifted on 25-year-old Adkins since a series of affidavits were released revealing disturbing details of items and information found in the Dunn home following the execution of a search warrant, as well as numerous inconsistencies in Adkins’ - along with the young girl’s mother, Billie Dunn- stories,” the *Big Spring Herald* reported in Jan. 2011.

The *Herald* report stated that affidavits

glowing, iron Christmas poinsettias.

Even Old St. Nick will be lending a helping hand to the festival.

Beginning tonight until Dec. 23, Santa will be visiting with children at Belaski Pavillon, near the Cotton Maze baseball field from 7 p.m. to

9 p.m. A gift shop will be found nearby selling t-shirts, coffee cups, and different knick-knacks. Proceeds from the sales will go to fund the annual festival of lights. Also various carolers and bands will perform on different nights by the gift shop.

Rangers’ Cold Case website or contact the Missing Persons Clearinghouse at 1-800-346-3243.

Contact Managing Editor Amanda Elston at 432-263-7331, ext. 230 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

showed that Adkins had previously threatened the lives of both Haley and her mother Billie in February 2010. According to *The Odessa American*, police confiscated a computer from Adkin’s mother’s home which was found to contain almost 109,000 images of child pornography, bestiality, and deviant acts.

Adkins was never charged and no arrests have ever been made in the murder of Hailey Dunn.

Anyone with information about this unsolved case can submit a tip through the Texas

As for volunteers and visitors alike, Simmons gives one piece of advice, bring a coat.

“It gets cold out there in the park,” she advised.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234.

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

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Mary Bradberry, 69, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM today at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 2:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Burial will be at Westbrook Cemetery.

Bradley Ugstad, 62, died Tuesday. Memorial service will be at 3:00 PM Saturday, December 19, 2015, at Myers & Smith Chapel.

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Opinion

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

—FIRST AMENDMENT

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

ADDRESSES	
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	
• BARACK OBAMA President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500	Texas 72nd District P.O. Box 2910 Austin, 78768 Phone: 512-463-0331
• TED CRUZ U.S. Senator B40B Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305 Phone: 202-228-0462	• KEL SELIGER State Senator Texas 31st District Phone: 432-268-9909
• JOHN CORNYN U.S. Senator 517 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-4305 Phone: 202-224-2934	BIG SPRING CITY COUNCIL
• RANDY NEUGEBAUER U.S. Representative 19th Cong. District 1510 Scurry Big Spring Phone: 432-264-0722	• LARRY MCLELLAN , MAYOR — Office: 267-2711. • JIM DEPAUW — 263-0008. • CARMEN HARBOUR — Work: 264-2401. • RAUL MARQUEZ JR — Cell: 816-1015. • JUSTIN MYERS — Home: 263-3771. • STEVE WAGGONER — Home: 267-8058. • RAUL BENAVIDES — Work: 267-2501.
STATE GOVERNMENT	HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
• GREG ABBOTT Governor State Capitol, Room 2S.1 P.O. Box 12428 Austin, 78711 Phone: 512-463-2000	• KATHRYN WISEMAN , COUNTY JUDGE — Office: 264-2202. • OSCAR GARCIA — Home: 264-0026. • CRAIG BAILEY — Office: 816-5270. • JIMMIE LONG — 432-267-4224. • JOHN CLINE — Home: 263-7158.
• DREW DARBY State Representative	

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 at editor@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

Letter Policies

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. We ask you to follow these guidelines:

- 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 e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com or mailed to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

Daily Prayer

May we remain diligent about reading Your word, Lord, for our life.

Amen

Ted Cruz’s festival of fraud

You have to feel sorry for Ted Cruz. Donald Trump has hogged so much

airtime with his cynical demagoguery that the senator from Texas has had a hard time capturing the attention of Republican voters. That is surprising, because when it comes to cynical demagoguery, this is the first time Cruz has ever lost out to anyone.

His patented formula is a mix of repellent ingredients: misrepresentation of facts, baseless smears, exaggerated sincerity and pretended solidarity with the average person. If Cruz tells you it’s raining, you can leave your umbrella at home.

Most candidates need a full-length speech or a 45-minute town hall meeting to show off all the qualities that should disqualify them. But an interview he did with NPR the other day captured the essence of Cruz in six minutes of nonstop mendacity.

The topic was global warming. Every major scientific body has confirmed its existence, but as “the son of two mathematicians and computer programmers and scientists,” he feels particularly qualified to debunk it.

“The scientific evidence doesn’t support global warming,” he informed NPR. “For the last 18 years, the satellite data — we have satellites that monitor the atmosphere. The satellites that actually measure the temperature showed no significant warming whatsoever.”

There are two flaws in his ar-



STEVE CHAPMAN

gument. The first is that satellite data are not the only scorecard. Records of surface temperatures, for example, show that “warming during the first 15 years of the 21st century is at least as great as the last half of the 20th century,” according to a study by scientists at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The second is that the satellite data don’t refute global warming. NASA says that based on surface temperatures, 2014 was the warmest year on record. Based on satellite data, it was the third-warmest.

The same data indicate that of the 14 hottest years ever, 13 occurred in this century. When Cruz says there has been “no significant warming” since 1997, he’s engaging in brazen deception.

That’s his usual way. Confronted with an overwhelming scientific consensus that human activities are heating up the Earth, he charged that “a number of scientists receiving large government grants” are happy to “disregard the science and data and instead push political ideology.” Without naming names or furnishing evidence, Cruz accused climate experts of being thoroughly corrupted by money.

It’s a nervy charge coming from him.

His super PAC got a whopping \$15 million last summer from two oil and gas billionaires. Since his 2012 Senate race, his biggest corporate supporters have been from the petroleum industry.

“I would not be in the United States Senate if it were not for the Club for Growth,” he has admitted. Among its other causes, the Club for Growth has opposed action against fossil fuel emissions. Which scenario

is more plausible, thousands of scientists pretending to believe in global warming to get government grants or Cruz denying it to get campaign donations?

He says climate change is a ruse by “liberal politicians who want government power over the economy, the energy sector and every aspect of our lives.” In his view, any acknowledgment of the alleged problem would lead to a massive expansion of federal control.

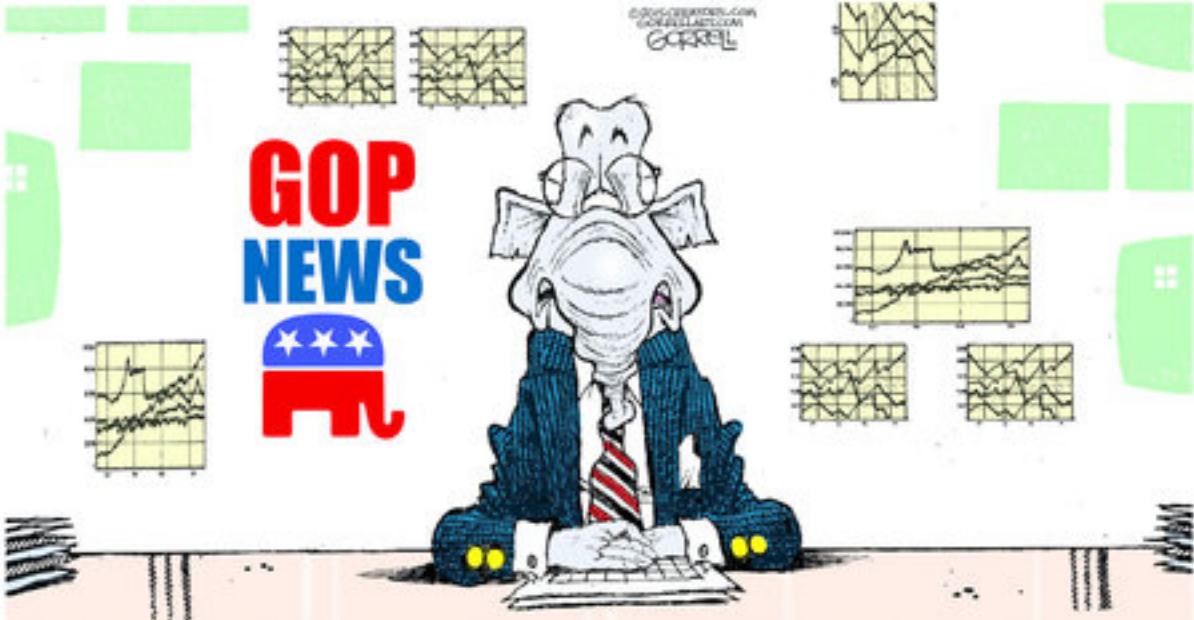
What he omits is that the best way to curtail greenhouse gas emissions is a carbon tax. This option has one great advantage, as Gregory Mankiw, who was chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President George W. Bush, has noted.

“You don’t need all the regulations; you don’t need what economists refer to as control solutions,” he says. “You let the market work it out.” A carbon tax, in fact, would make it easier to dismantle environmental regulations Cruz detests by making them redundant.

He insists that if action is taken to limit greenhouse gas emissions, ordinary people will suffer. “I’m trying to keep power with the single mom waiting tables not to drive up her energy bills,” he asserted.

Note his patronizing premise: Waitresses don’t care about a healthy planet. Even if that were true, a carbon tax could be offset with tax cuts elsewhere — say, in payroll taxes, boosting the take-home pay of that single mom.

The NPR interview was typical of a presidential campaign that amounts to a traveling circus of fraud. Cruz accuses his opponents of deceiving the public to get money, grab power and advance a dangerous ideological agenda. Look who’s talking.



“AND WITH TRUMP CONTINUING TO LEAD IN MOST POLLS, THE ESTABLISHMENT IS TWENTY PERCENT CONFUSED, THIRTY PERCENT WORRIED, AND A HUNDRED PERCENT PANICKED!”

The revenge of Garrison Keillor

Garrison Keillor is rightly known as an American

author, storyteller and humorist who hosts the weekly radio variety show “A Prairie Home Companion,” in which he gives his fictional hometown report from Lake Wobegon, “where all the women are strong, all the men are good-looking and all the children are above average.”

Obviously, all children are not above average. But you would not know that from our national habit of awarding a trophy to every child — irrespective of effort or contribution — who simply shows up, however irregularly, for any sports team. Keillor’s influence has reached all the way to the elite precincts of Harvard Yard, where the dean of undergraduate education has publicly admitted that the median grade (half the students score above it, and half score below it) awarded to Crimson students is an A-minus and that “the most frequently awarded grade in Harvard College is actually a straight A.”

When fixed standards are devalued or, worse, abandoned, we



MARK SHIELDS

should expect the sort of national calamity we now collectively face in the next three weeks. Look at the TV schedule. Barely a generation ago, the country got by with just a handful of college football bowl games — Rose, Cotton, Orange and Sugar come to mind — but America has experienced unchecked bowl inflation, to the point where we now have 40, count ‘em, bowl games being played and televised.

You can be forgiven for not knowing all about the Motel 6 Cactus Bowl in Phoenix or the Raycom Media Camellia Bowl in Montgomery, Alabama, or even the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl — formerly the Humanitarian Bowl (now sponsored, logically, by the Idaho Potato Commission) — in Boise.

Once, in order to be invited to the postseason bowl game, the college team needed to have had a successful season, with just one or perhaps two defeats.

That is no longer the case in Lake Wobegon America. In the AutoNation Cure Bowl, scheduled for Dec. 19 in Orlando, Florida, the San Jose State Spartans, who won five and lost seven games in 2015, will square off against the Georgia State Panthers, who lost as many games — six — as they won. The Nebraska Cornhuskers’ 5-7 sea-

son record was rewarded with an invitation to Santa Clara, California, to play UCLA in the Foster Farms Bowl, and the Minnesota Golden Gophers, another 5-7 team, will escape that state’s arctic winter and travel to sunny Detroit to tangle with the Central Michigan Chippewas (seven wins, five losses) in the Quick Lane Bowl.

It used to be, when even semi-fixed standards prevailed, that a coach who had a less-than-mediocre 5-7 record immediately set about pursuing “other professional interests” because he could expect to be fired. In today’s everybody-gets-a-trophy culture, such a coach can instead point to his team’s being honored with a “major” bowl invitation.

When everybody gets an award, the awards become meaningless. Unearned public recognition and undeserved praise do not build character or prepare anyone for a competitive life. The continuing proliferation of college bowl games with teams that don’t deserve to play in them — all for national TV appearances and an elusive payday — is just further proof of the havoc Garrison Keillor has wrought with his dangerous throwaway line that “all the children are above average.”



BSJHS band earns seven top spots at UIL All-Region contest

Big Spring Junior High School band students swept the competition at UIL All-Region tryouts recently.

“We took the top chairs in seven out of 14 sections,” said Emily Andrews, junior high school band director, who added that she and the other band directors were proud of the student’s achievements and behavior during the contest.

Fifty-five students made the trip to Lamesa to compete against six other schools in the region with 300 students competing total.

The following are Big Spring Junior High band students who made the Honor band and will get to perform in the clinic/concert in January.

Flute: Alison Flores, 3rd chair; and Amelia Martin, 4th chair.

Oboe: Ransom Colette, 1st chair

Bassoon: Autumn Golden, 2nd chair.

Clarinet: Jayden Torres, 1st chair; Mariah Chavarria, 2nd chair; Olivia Bancroft, 3rd chair; Anna Erwin, 4th

chair; Arali Mendez, 5th chair; Andrea Melendez, 6th chair; Katie Humphries, 7th chair; Marisa Salazar, 10th chair; and Brianna Lopez, 14th chair.

Bass Clarinet: Bradie Leuschner, 1st chair; and Madison Kuykendall, 2nd chair.

Alto Saxophone: Chris Viasana 1st chair; and Diego Rios, 4th chair.

Baritone Sax: Tyler Lopez, 1st chair.

Cornet: Elijah Flores, 8th chair; and Isaiah Solis, 9th chair.

French Horn: Kenra Theibault, 1st chair; Zach Whitehead, 3rd chair; Luke Theibault, 4th chair; and Jaden Woods, 8th chair.

Trombone: Nancy Pope, 2nd chair; and X’Zavier Knox, 3rd chair.

Euphonium: Mark Sanchez, 2nd chair; and Rocky Ramirez, 3rd chair.

Tuba: Christian Roberts, 2nd chair

Percussion: Amber Martinez, 1st chair; and Ashlin Calvio, 6th chair

— Lyndel Moody

The Big Spring Junior High School band recently held its Christmas concert. Seven members of the band earned the top spot at All-Region band tryouts held. In all, 27 of the 55 Big Spring student who competed were named to All-Region band. A concert/clinic will be held in January.

Courtesy photos

**Sumit education news to
citydesk@bigspringherald. com
by noon on Tuesday
for Thursday’s paper**

BSJHS students shine at academic contest

Fifteen Big Spring Junior High School students placed at the Sweetwater UIL academic competition recently.

“I would like to give a big thank you to all of our UIL coaches and congratulations to these students for a job well done,” said Rebecca Otto, junior high principal.

Results are as follows:

Eighth Grade: Ready Writing, Gino Mendez, 4; Spelling, Keysi Melendez, 2; Oral Reading, Bianca Villalobas, 5; Modern Oratory, Kadence Orbison, 2, Butch Montemayer, 3, Madison Kuykendall, 4; Impromptu, Rocky Ramirez, 6; Andrea Melendez, 5; Chess Puzzle, Darrian Oyler, 2; Science II, Kenra Thibeault, 8.

Seventh Grade: Impromptu, Evelyn Diosdado, 5; Mathematics, Ransom Colette, 2, Shawn Mendoza, 6; Numbersense, Ransom Colette, 4; Chess Puzzle, Faithe Carrillo, 5.

7th Grade Mathematics Team Competition, Big Spring, 2. Team consisted of Daniel Blount, Shawn Mendoza and Ransom Colette.

UIL Coaches for Big Spring Junior High School are Mathematics, Mrs. Sampay; Chess, Mrs. Webb; Ready Writing, Mrs. Van Pelt; Impromptu, Modern Oratory, Speaking Events, Ms. Lovett; Science, Mr. Williams; Maps / Graphs / Charts, Mr. Scott; Calculators, Mr. Kobus; and UIL Chair, Mrs. Kendall.

— Lyndel Moody



Courtesy photo

The Big Spring Junior High School team recently competed at UIL academic contest.

You deserve a factual look at . . .

Paris. Jerusalem.

Recent terror sprees in Paris and Jerusalem were both wrought by radical Islamists—part of a global jihad seeking to conquer the world and kill infidels.

ISIS terror acts in France are motivated by the same Islamist obsession that inspired the 9/11 bombings in the U.S., as well as deadly knife, gun and car attacks in Jerusalem and throughout Israel—a fanatical conviction that Christians, Jews and moderate Muslims must be driven out of “Muslim lands.”

What are the facts?

ISIS, the latest, most brutal and militarily successful Islamist terror group, grew as an offshoot of al Qaeda, responsible for 9/11 and recent terror attacks in Mali. This year, ISIS has murdered more than a thousand innocent people in France, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya and Turkey, in addition to thousands of Christians, Yazidis and Shiite Muslims killed in its conquest of broad swaths of Syria and Iraq. ISIS’s avowed goal is to create an Islamic caliphate—empire—consisting of land it perceives to belong to Islam, including most of the Middle East, North Africa and Spain. ISIS’s bloody conquest has been virtually unimpeded by Syrian and Iraqi armies and, until recently, almost ignored by Western nations, despite the group’s downing of a Russian airliner and warnings to the U.S. that “we will drown you in blood.” Indeed, U.S. intelligence affirms that ISIS’s long-term goal is to attack America.

Likewise, Hamas and other Palestinian jihadists have killed hundreds of innocent Jews in Israel in suicide bombings and missile attacks with a similar objective—to conquer Palestine and expel non-Muslims. Indeed, since Hamas violently seized control of Gaza in 2007, it has ruled with an iron Islamist hand, imposing strict sharia religious law and driving Christian Arabs out by the thousands. Hamas’s charter states its goal is to conquer the entire Holy Land and kill all its Jews. The Palestinians’ latest “knife intifada,” which has already killed 20 innocent people and injured more than 350, underscores this commitment. No surprise that recent polls confirm an overwhelming majority of Palestinians—over 80%—agree that all of Palestine belongs to them and there can be no Jewish state.

How Should the World Respond?

While no Western nation seeks another war in the Middle East or Africa, the pattern and frequency of recent terror attacks compel us finally to unite in a concerted campaign to defeat this barbarity. In order to end the escalating slaughter of innocents, we must adopt a three-pronged strategy:

1) **Identify the enemy.** If we deny that these acts of

imperial, terrorist aggression are perpetrated by self-avowed Muslims—as some notable politicians still do—we will surely fail to understand or defeat them. French President Francois Hollande took the first step when, just following the Paris massacres, he said, “We are at war with jihadi terrorism.” While this is correct, France has conspicuously not stepped forward to condemn identical attacks against innocent civilians in Israel. This misunderstands the global jihad that plagues us, and it misses the opportunity to form solidarity with the world’s nations most effective at fighting radical Islam, of which Israel is preminent.

ISIS and Palestinian terrorists share a fanatical commitment to drive infidels from “Muslim lands.”

2) **Take the battle to the enemy.** Likewise, the United States, the world’s most powerful military force, has been a reluctant player in fighting ISIS. For example, the U.S. currently flies on average just seven sorties a day against the Syria-based terror group, compared with the 1,100 daily sorties we flew against Saddam Hussein in the first Iraq war. The U.S. and other nations have proven equally passive in condemning a steady drumbeat of Hamas terror missiles and other Palestinian terror attacks mounted against Israelis. In fact, if we are to defeat Islamist terrorism, we must vigorously oppose all forms of it. In fact, military experts agree that enemies like ISIS and Hamas must be engaged forcefully not just by air—but on the ground—in order to defeat them.

3) **Enjoin moderate Muslims to fight the enemy.** Finally, while Western diplomats speak eloquently of “moderate Islam,” the world has seen precious little assistance—either symbolic or material—from Muslim leaders who oppose radical Islam. While there are Christian and Jewish organizations dedicated to opposing Islamic extremism, for example, Muslim leaders are nearly always silent in the face of Muslim terror attacks on Israel and elsewhere. While several French Muslim community leaders condemned the Paris assaults, U.S. Muslim groups are generally inert, as are leaders of major Muslim countries like Indonesia and Pakistan. In order to defeat extremism among any group, the leaders of that group must not only disapprove, but they must actively fight it in word and deed.

It’s time for countries endangered by the global Islamist jihad to join in solidarity to defeat this cruel and bloody scourge. We must condemn Islamist terror in all its forms, we must confront this enemy on the ground, and we must challenge Muslim leaders to help us in this battle. Only in this way can we prevent horrors such as those we suffered in Paris and Jerusalem.

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FLAME

Facts and Logic About the Middle East
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Gerardo Joffe, President ■ James Sinkinson, EVP

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Supporting local education



Courtesy photo

In September, the Big Spring High School class of 1965 raised funds during their class reunion and recently made a donation to the scholarship fund at Howard College. “We are so grateful for the ongoing support of our community and know that this donation will help open the doors of higher education for many students,” said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, Howard College President. Pictured left to right: Margaret Davidson, Jan Foresyth, Dr. Cheryl T. Sparks, Annette Williams, Jan Hansen, Cheryl Cahill, and Linda Sumersell

Spurs beat Wizards for team-record 23rd straight home win

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The San Antonio Spurs are off to the best start at home in franchise history and are leading the league in several defensive categories.

Coach Gregg Popovich is there to remind them as only he can that there is still much to improve.

Kawhi Leonard scored 27 points and the Spurs set a franchise record with their 23rd straight home victory, rolling past the Washington Wizards 114-95 on Wednesday night.

After trailing early into the second quarter, San Antonio rallied following a fiery timeout to win its franchise-best 14th straight home game to open the season.

"We're feeling good, but we're not in a mood where we think we're going to beat everybody and we're better than everybody," Spurs super sub Manu Ginobili said. "We still know we have a lot to improve."

LaMarcus Aldridge added 14 points and Ginobili and Patty Mills each had 11 for San Antonio (22-5), which has won 16 straight at home

against the Washington.

John Wall and Marcin Gortat had 20 points apiece for the Wizards. Gortat grabbed 10 rebounds.

Washington was without leading scorer Bradley Beal and fellow starter Nene, but their absence wasn't felt early.

Wall and Ramon Sessions attacked the interior with Tim Duncan sitting out for rest, helping the Wizards shoot 60 percent in the first quarter.

"The first quarter we came out ready to play," Gortat said. "We were really engaged and a lot of players played at a high level. To be honest, to beat a team like that you need pretty much everybody on the team to play their best to beat a team like that."

The Spurs got a defensive boost when 7-foot-3 rookie Boban Marjanovic entered late in the first quarter.

Marjanovic disrupted Kelly Oubre's shot and then blocked his follow attempt by standing over him with his arms outstretched. Mar-

janovic was active in disrupting pick-and-roll attempts and switching on picks.

"I feel great, I want to help my teammates," Marjanovic said. "I try to bring good defense and not bother guys who can score. I think I do a great there, because I get second opportunities for us."

Marjanovic finished with seven points, six rebounds and two blocks in 15 minutes.

"I like his height," Popovich said. "I guess that sounds funny, but he uses it well. It helps him on the offensive boards. He's a great target on the pick-and-rolls. Besides that, he's trying to change shots and play defensively, so he's doing a good job."

The biggest boost came during the third quarter, when a red-faced Popovich screamed at his players and forcefully pointed at several during a timeout. That was followed by a 17-6 run that led to a 78-62 advantage.

San Antonio, which leads the league defen-

See **SPURS**, Page 7



AP photo

San Antonio Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard (2) drives around Washington Wizards forward Kelly Oubre Jr. (12) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2015, in San Antonio. San Antonio won 114-95.

2016 Lady Hawk Buddies Basketball Program

On January 16, 2016 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Howard College Lady Hawks head coach Earl Diddle, associate head coach Tara Lisle, and the Lady Hawks will be running a basketball clinic for boys and girls in kindergarten through 8th grade. Registration runs from 8:30 a.m.- 9:00 a.m. followed immediately by the clinic until 11:30 a.m. After the clinic there will be a pizza party until 12:00 p.m. The \$20.00 entry fee includes a Hawk basketball, free admission for all family members to Hawk home games, entry to the clinic with lectures on goals and basketball fundamentals, a pizza party with the Lady Hawks, and admission to Buddies night. Buddies night will be Thursday, February 11th against Frank Phillips College. During halftime, the Buddies will be recognized in front of the crowd and following the game, the Lady Hawks will sign autographs and take pictures court side.

For more info, call Tara Lisle at 264-5155 or Earl Diddle at 264-5043.

Scoreboard

NBA Monday's Games Indiana 106, Toronto 90 Orlando 105, Brooklyn 82 L.A. Clippers 105, Detroit 103, OT Chicago 115, Philadelphia 96 Memphis 112, Washington 95 Miami 100, Atlanta 88 San Antonio 118, Utah 81 Dallas 104, Phoenix 94 Denver 124, Houston 108 Portland 105, New Orleans 101 Tuesday's Games Cleveland 89, Boston 77 Denver 112, Minnesota 100 Sacramento 107, Houston 97 L.A. Lakers 113, Milwaukee 95 Wednesday's Games Indiana 107, Dallas 81 Orlando 113, Charlotte 98 Miami 104, Brooklyn 98 Detroit 119, Phoenix 116 New York 107, Minnesota 102 Chicago 98, Memphis 85 Oklahoma City 106, Portland 90 Atlanta 127, Philadelphia 106 San Antonio 114, Washington 95 New Orleans 104, Utah 94 Golden State 128, Phoenix 103 L.A. Clippers 103, Milwaukee 90 Thursday's Games Toronto at Charlotte, 7 p.m. Oklahoma City at Cleveland, 8 p.m. Houston at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m. Friday's Games Brooklyn at Indiana, 7 p.m. New York at Philadelphia, 7 p.m. Portland at Orlando, 7 p.m. Atlanta at Boston, 7:30 p.m. Detroit at Chicago, 8 p.m. Sacramento at Minnesota, 8 p.m. L.A. Clippers at San Antonio, 8 p.m. Toronto at Miami, 8 p.m. Memphis at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.	p.m. Denver at Utah, 9 p.m. Milwaukee at Golden State, 10:30 p.m. New Orleans at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m. NHL Monday's Games Edmonton 3, Boston 2, OT Washington 4, Pittsburgh 1 Tampa Bay 2, Columbus 3 Ottawa 5, Los Angeles 3 Buffalo 2, Detroit 1 Tuesday's Games New Jersey 2, Buffalo 0 Florida 5, N.Y. Islanders 1 N.Y. Rangers 4, Edmonton 2 Philadelphia 4, Carolina 3, OT Tampa Bay 5, Toronto 4, OT San Jose 3, Montreal 1 Calgary 2, Nashville 1, OT Minnesota 6, Vancouver 2 St. Louis 4, Winnipeg 3 Colorado 3, Chicago 0 Dallas 5, Columbus 1 Wednesday's Games Washington 2, Ottawa 1 Boston 3, Pittsburgh 0 Thursday's Games Anaheim at Buffalo, 7 p.m. Florida at New Jersey, 7 p.m. Vancouver at Philadelphia, 7 p.m. San Jose at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. Los Angeles at Montreal, 7:30 p.m. Nashville at St. Louis, 8 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Edmonton at Chicago, 8:30 p.m. Calgary at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Colorado, 9 p.m. Columbus at Arizona, 9 p.m. Friday's Games Boston at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m. Tampa Bay at Washington, 7 p.m. Florida at Carolina, 7 p.m. San Jose at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m. Vancouver at Detroit, 7:30 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Winnipeg,	8 p.m. TRANSACTIONS BASEBALL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE — Suspended free agent 2B Rafael Toribio 25 games for violating the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program. American League DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with C Albert Cordero on a minor league contract. LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Agreed to terms with OF Daniel Nava on a one-year contract. SEATTLE MARINERS — Designated LHP Tyler Olson for assignment. Claimed RHP A.J. Schugel off waivers from Arizona. National League ATLANTA BRAVES — Assigned OF Dian Toscano outright to Gwinnett (IL). Agreed to terms with C Tyler Flowers on a two-year contract. Named Ricky Alcantara trainer of Gwinnett (IL). Luis Salazar manager and Kyle Damschroder trainer of Mississippi (SL). Ralph Wheeler manager and Nick Flynn trainer of Carolina (Carolina). Dan Meyer pitching coach and Joe Luat trainer of Rome (SAL). Robinson Cancel manager and Gabe Luckert pitching coach of Danville (Appalachian) and Nestor Perez manager, Mike Alvarez pitching coach and Nick Jensen trainer of the GCL Braves. CINCINNATI REDS — Sent 3B Todd Frazier to the Chicago White Sox, who sent 2B Michael Johnson, RHP Frankie Montas and OF Trayce Thompson to the L.A. Dodgers. The Dodgers sent INFs Brandon Dixon and Jose Peraza and OF Scott Schebler to the Reds. COLORADO ROCKIES — Agreed to terms with INF Mark Reynolds on a one-year contract. MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Agreed to terms with 3B Will Middlebrooks on a minor league contract.	NEW YORK METS — Named Dick Scott bench coach. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Named Adam Olsen trainer. American Association GARY SOUTHSORE RAILCATS — Signed RHP Matt Solter. LINCOLN SALTDogs — Signed RHP Kyle Bogese. Can-Am League NEW JERSEY JACKALS — Sold the contract of INF Peter Mooney to the Miami Marlins. TROIS-RIVIERES AIGLES — Sold the contract of RHP Kaohi Downing to the L.A. Dodgers. Frontier League GATEWAY GRIZZLIES — Released INF Ryan Johns. TRAVERSE CITY BEACH BUMS — Signed OF Jeff DeBlieux to a contract extension. FOOTBALL National Football League BALTIMORE RAVENS — Signed OT Marcel Jones to the practice squad. BUFFALO BILLS — Placed CB Stephon Gilmore on injured reserve. Signed DE Max Valles from Oakland's practice squad. CINCINNATI BENGALS — Signed QB Keith Wenning from the practice squad and WR Michael Bennett to the practice squad. CLEVELAND BROWNS — Waived WR Darius Jennings. Claimed LB Raheem Mostert off waivers from Baltimore. INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Claimed S Akeem Davis off waivers from Seattle. Released LB Edwin Jackson from the practice squad. Signed RB LaDarius Perkins and LB Amarlo Herrera to the practice squad. JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — Waived WR Rashad Lawrence. Signed RB Jonas Gray from Miami's practice squad. MIAMI DOLPHINS — Waived OL Jeff Linkenbach. Signed QB Logan Thomas from the practice squad. NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Placed RB LeGarrette	Blount on injured reserve. Released WR Damaris Johnson. Signed DL Ishmael Kitchen. Released RB Trey Williams from the practice squad. Signed LB Kevin Snyder to the practice squad. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Released DE Phillip Hunt. NEW YORK GIANTS — Released S Brandon Meriweather. ST. LOUIS RAMS — Waived PK Zach Hocker. Signed DT Louis Trinca-Pasat from the practice squad. SAN DIEGO CHARGERS — Signed S Adrian Phillips and QB Brad Sorensen from the practice squad. Signed S Matt Daniels and CB Keith Lewis to the practice squad. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Signed RB Christine Michael. TENNESSEE TITANS — Placed RB Dexter McCuller on injured reserve. Signed S Josh Aubrey from the practice squad. Signed QB Mike Kafka and WR Nick Harwell to the practice squad. WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Signed TE Ray Hamilton to the practice squad. Canadian Football League WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed WR Jhomo Gordon. HOCKEY National Hockey League BUFFALO SABRES — Assigned F Colin Jacobs from Rochester (AHL) to Elmira (ECHL). NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Reassigned F Joseph Blandisi on loan to Albany (AHL). PHILADELPHIA FLYERS — Assigned D Jesper Pettersson from Lehigh Valley (AHL) to Reading (ECHL). TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled F Brian Hart from Greenville (ECHL) to Syracuse (AHL). American Hockey League MILWAUKEE ADMIRALS — Returned F Zach Budish to Cincinnati (ECHL). WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON PENGUINS — Recalled	G Brian Foster and Fs Sahir Gill and Ty Loney from Wheeling (ECHL). ECHL ELMIRA JACKALS — Claimed F Tyler Maxwell off waivers from Alaska. EVANSVILLE ICEMEN — Signed F Mike Duco. MANCHESTER MONARCHS — Signed D Anthony Pisano. SOCCER Major League Soccer COLUMBUS CREW — Announced an affiliation agreement with Pittsburgh (USL) for the 2016 season. LA GALAXY — Signed G Clement Diop from LA Galaxy II. PORTLAND TIMBERS — Re-signed Ms Ben Zemanski and Nick Besler and D Andy Thoma. North American Soccer League JACKSONVILLE ARMADA — Signed F Alex Dixon. United Soccer League LOUISVILLE CITY FC — Exercised options on Fs Ilija Ilic, Magnus Rasmussen and Cameron Lancaster. SWOPE PARK RANGERS — Signed D Johnny Grant, G Zac Lubin and Fs Dane Kelly and Kris Tyrpak. COLLEGE EMORY & HENRY — Announced the resignation of associate head football coach Rob Grande to become head coach at Ferrum. ILLINOIS — Announced offensive line coach Tom Bratton will not be retained. MAINE — Promoted interim football coach Joe Harasymiak to permanent football coach. SOUTHERN CAL — LB Su'a Cravens will enter the NFL draft. SUNY Old Westbury — Named Joe Gugliero women's assistant basketball coach. UTICA — Named Nikki Kiefer interim field hockey coach.
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Ellis, George lead Pacers past Mavericks 107-81

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Pacers guard Monta Ellis didn't have to circle the date on his calendar. He knew when his former team was coming to town.

Ellis scored 13 of his 19 points in the third quarter, Paul George added 19 points and the Indiana Pacers beat the Dallas Mavericks 107-81 on Wednesday night.

Ellis shot with a purpose in the first half while trying to take it to his former teammates and coach. But he was scoreless at halftime after going 0 for 8 from the floor and 0 for 1 from 3-point range, and the Pacers trailed 47-45.

With 9 minutes left in the third quarter, Ellis hit a baseline jumper in front of the Dallas bench, turning

and looking at his former team as he went down the floor. Then, he stole a pass at mid-court and finished with a layup. On the next possession, Ellis finished another fast break with a layup after a Dallas turnover, forcing the Mavericks to call timeout.

He scored six straight points and gave the Pacers the momentum they needed to put Dallas away. Indiana outscored the Mavericks 30-17 in the third quarter.

"First half, I had some good looks, they just weren't going down," Ellis said. "I got some easy buckets and shots just started falling. It was nothing personal, but Dallas was talking in the second half, a little. It probably got me going."

Ellis' performance was contagious and it spilled over to the fourth quarter to another Pacer with ties to Dallas. C.J. Miles, a Dallas native, made two 3-pointers in the fourth quarter.

Indiana outscored Dallas 32-17 in the fourth quarter and led by as many as 26 points. Miles ended the game leading his team with 20 points.

All-Star forward Paul George scored 19 points and added seven rebounds. Rodney Stuckey had 12 points and seven assists and George Hill scored 11 points.

Pacers coach Frank Vogel said Ellis has matured in his approach of late.

"Monta is at a point now where scoring 25 points a night isn't the most important

thing — winning every night is," Vogel said. "I love that he's all about winning right now."

Dallas turned the ball over 12 times, leading to 17 points for Indiana. Each team shot less than 30 percent from the floor during the first quarter, but Indiana was able to climb out of the slump, finishing the game shooting 48 percent from the floor making 43 of 89 attempts.

The Mavericks continued to struggle, finishing just 36 percent from the floor on 33 of 90 attempts. Raymond Felton led all Mavericks with 16 points. All-Star forward Dirk Nowitzki was the only other Maverick in double figures in scoring with 13 points.

Coahoma's Kyler Franks with the week 4 Built Ford Tough Trophy



Courtesy Photo
Pictured from left to right are: Coahoma High School Coach Fred Dietz, Kyler Franks Built Ford Tough Texas High School Football Player of the Week Class 3A for Week 4; David Howard, General Manager of Big Spring Ford

SPURS

Continued from Page 6

sively in opponents' points per game and field goal percentage, held Washington to 19 points in the third quarter.

"We started off pretty slow," Leonard said. "They got to the rim a lot, got easy points on the fast break. We made some adjustments and just tried to hold them to 20-point quarters."

TIP-INS
Wizards: Beal missed his fourth straight game with a stress reaction in

his lower right fibula. He missed three games earlier this season with a sore left shoulder. ... Former Spurs player DeJuan Blair was booed each time he entered the game and when he shot free throws. ... Washington's last victory in San Antonio was 99-89 on Dec. 11, 1999.

Spurs: Leonard has scored at least 20 points in 16 games this season, including a current streak of four straight. ... Duncan missed his third game this season, all due to rest. The Spurs have missed 14 total games this season, with five being for rest ... The

Spurs' last regular-season loss at home was in overtime to Cleveland on March 12.

NO EXCUSES
Besides Beal and Nene, the Wizards were also without Alan Anderson (left ankle surgery) and Drew Gooden (right calf strain).

"We can't use that as

an excuse," Washington coach Randy Wittman said. "We just haven't been consistent in terms of night in and night out. Night in and night out, your shooting can change. You take shots and miss shots, but defensively, and effort-wise putting the commitment into it has

to be every night."

BOBAN
Marjanovic had to defend Wall off a pick-and-roll, to the delight of the home crowd. The 6-4 Wall was able to drive past him but unable to convert a layup.

"He's too fast," Marjanovic said. "I'm thinking how I'm going to

defend him because he's fast and he has nice skills, nice touch. And I feel lucky."

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8	9	3	7	2	1	5	4	6
5	8	9	2	3	7	4	6	1
3	2	6	5	1	4	7	8	9
7	4	1	8	9	6	3	2	5
2	3	8	6	7	5	9	1	4
9	7	4	1	8	2	6	5	3
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Cosmic
Lunch
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First the Pisces moon agitates Saturn, which starts the day off on a moody note. No one wants breakfast served with a side of life lessons, but in some small way it happens anyway. Are we supposed to be grateful? That may be a stretch, but at least take it in stride. The happy outcome served with lunch will more than make up for it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You know the kind of person you want to be friends with, and you seek these friendships out now with some success. Common interests and beliefs are part of it, though emotional simpatico is a bigger part.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your manner of interacting will follow a course. It's important to start off right. If you interact timidly, that's how things will continue. Start out strong and there will be an en-

tirely different trajectory.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may not feel like contributing, or maybe you're just unsure of what you have to offer. Give anyway. The more you participate, the better you'll enjoy the others around you, which will lead to a more solidified group.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It would be awesome if wherever you went today you were able to feel relaxed and engaged with a real sense of belonging. It's not going to happen, but go anyway. The risk will pay off.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Take up space -- physically, audibly and spiritually -- with that big presence you've been known to turn up. By making yourself bigger you'll honor the gifts you've been hiding lately.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll get what you need when you go where you're likely to be taken care of. That means avoiding narcissists, i.e., those who simply cannot recognize the feelings and needs of others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Oct. 23). There have been times when you set your personal boundaries too wide and weak for your own good. Then you overcompensated by setting them too rigid. Today brings evidence that you've found the perfect middle ground.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You wouldn't want to be in an intimate relationship with someone you didn't love, which is all the more reason to affirm your deep appreciation and devotion to yourself. Self-love will set the tone for all other ties.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). This is a different cast of characters than you used to have around you. You've changed, so you resonate with a new set of people. You'll be attracting one more major player to your scene before the week is up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Children pretend to be superheroes. Adults on dates or in job interviews do versions of the same thing. To adopt an idealized self-image is only human. Still,

it's something to be aware of and keep in check today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're the leader again. A certain bored person may question your authority just to create mischief. Avoid this problem by anticipating it. Give everyone a task, even if you have to make it up.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Because you're sensitive, you'll notice that one of your loved ones is seeking more than the usual encouragement and validation. This dip in self-esteem is something you can help with.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 17). You are family oriented and will strike a fantastic balance between your close relationships and other passions this year. Travel will kick off 2016, and you'll be changed by the beauty you see.

You'll model yourself after a new mentor in January. May brings an important and official deal. A major stress drops off in June. Aries and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5,

24, 3, 29 and 50.

HOLIDAY STRESS RELIEVERS: So many feel spent and blue in December. What can you do to counteract holiday stress?

LIBRA: The expression "breathtaking beauty" is more than verbiage; it describes an actual physiological response that occurs quite often in aesthetically minded individuals such as Libra, for whom beauty is intrinsically connected to breath. The experience of beauty strikes a chord deep in Libra's being that physically calms and relaxes Libra as it resonates. Since this time of year highlights great feats of decoration as well as an austere aspect of nature, there is much to appreciate in the environment and plenty of opportunities for experiencing beauty. Libra can de-stress by taking advantage of as many of them as possible, from majestic natural scenery to manmade displays like light shows and shop windows.

Creating loveliness in daily life is also a way for Libra to

unwind. Of course, it's not always easy to get the desired results, so patience may be required. Whether crafting a gorgeous package, assembling the perfect table arrangement or simply putting together a great outfit, the result doesn't have to be exactly breathtaking to create a calm sense of satisfaction.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Sagittarius brings fire, confidence and superstar passion -- all evidenced in remarkable boxing champion Manny Pacquiao, a Sagittarius who takes his fight from the ring to his community and beyond through politics and philanthropy. Pacquiao's natal chart boasts the sun, moon, Mercury, Jupiter and Neptune all in fire signs. Venus and Uranus in Scorpio indicate depth of soul.

To write to Holiday Mathis, visit www.creators.com and click "Write the Author" or visit her website at HolidayMathis.com.
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Annie's Mailbox ®

Dear Annie: My husband has been stalling our divorce for two years, trying to keep me broke. We have two children, the oldest in college. Their father and his parents badmouth me to them and tell them inappropriate reasons about why I left the marriage, none of which are true. Fortunately, my children know this. But I never thought that my husband would involve his children in this manner. I never speak ill of him to the kids.

I was truly hoping that we would come out of this on good terms and be able to co-parent like adults. But my husband blames me for everything. He was raised in a home where he was indulged and never had to take responsibility for his actions. He has not been honest with his parents, which might explain why they are upset with me. But they have also treated the children poorly since the separation.

My husband brings in nearly five times my salary, but he pays a minimal amount of child support. Much of our money is being spent on lawyers because he insists on fighting over everything.

His need to hurt me is only hurting the children.

There are no rules at Dad's house, because he wants the kids to be able to do things with him that they can't do with me. He uses money to gain favor, and I believe he thinks they will live with him if he wipes me out. How do I get him to put his children ahead of his hate and greed? -- Fighting for My Kids

Dear Fighting: It is truly sad that so many parents are willing to hurt the children in order to punish the spouses. You cannot force your husband to be more grown up, so protect yourself. Document every instance of manipulation or parental alienation by him or his parents, and give a copy to your lawyer. It may also help to get counseling for your children (and for you) to weather the storm.

Dear Annie: I would like to add to your response to "Wiser Now" and "Foolish Daughter," whose parents left estates to children who were less involved in caring for them.

The hurt feelings caused when parents show favoritism not only affect the child who has been slight-

ed, but also the relationship the child has with the sibling who was favored -- not to mention residual feelings toward the parent.

My parents have been dead for years, but I am still acutely aware that my sister was Mom's favorite. And while I have a relationship with my sister, it is always in the back of my mind that my mother's treatment of her was different than her treatment of the rest of us. This is especially painful because my sister eventually abused my mother, and yet she still received what amounted to an equal portion of her

estate because Mom forgave a large outstanding loan. -- Still Bitter

Dear Bitter: We have stated before that the bequests in a will are often perceived by children as a reflection on how much they were loved by the parent, especially when the bequests are unequal between siblings. Parents may think they are doing the right thing, but the results can poison the relationship between siblings forever.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@creators.com.

com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. You can also find Annie on Facebook at Facebook.com/AskAnnies. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.
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sudoku

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.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Defensive Strategy

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K Q 10 9 3
♥ A 5
♦ 7 6 2
♣ A 7 4

WEST
♠ J 7 5
♥ Q 8 6 4
♦ Q J 8 3
♣ 6 5

EAST
♠ A 8 2
♥ J 7 3 2
♦ 9 4
♣ K 10 9 3

SOUTH
♠ 6 4
♥ K 10 9
♦ A K 10 5
♣ Q J 8 2

The bidding:
1 ♦ West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — four of hearts.

Part of the skill in defensive play consists of giving declarer the opportunity to choose a losing line of play. A defender who doesn't give declarer enough rope to hang himself can hardly expect him to commit suicide.

Here is a typical case. Let's first follow the "normal" line of play and see what happens.

Declarer plays low from dummy on the opening heart lead and wins East's jack with the king. He then leads a spade to the queen, which loses to the ace. Back comes a heart to dummy's ace.

South crosses to his hand with a diamond and leads another spade, successfully finessing the nine. When he next cashes the king and the jack falls, he happily scurries home with nine tricks.

Now let's go back to trick two and have East play the deuce, not the ace, on the queen of spades. South returns to his hand with a diamond and leads another spade. After West follows low, declarer has to decide which card to play from dummy.

Of course, if he sees the adverse hands, he plays the nine and acquires four spade tricks. But, lacking X-ray vision, South does not know whether to play the nine or the king.

If he plays the nine, it might turn out that East started with the J-x-x or J-x, in which case the nine play would be fatal and the king successful. Or the situation might be reversed, as in the actual hand, where the nine is the winning play.

Taking the ace of spades on the first round of the suit is clearly an error, as it enables South to avoid a critical guess. Ducking the queen is clearly correct, as it presents declarer with a chance to go wrong the next time he plays the suit.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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	KMID 3	UNI 4	KPEJ 5	KOSA 7	KTLE 8	KWES 9	KMLM 12	KPBT 13	KWWT 14	KWES215	WTBS 33	TNT 34	ESPN 35	ESPN2 36	FSN 38	USA 55	A&E 58	DISC 60
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Midland	Atlanta	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Sports	New York	New York	Discovery
5:PM	News ABC	Hotel	Big Bang	News	Tele	News	Yohanah	America	CHiPs	American	Seinfeld	Castle	SportsCenter	Around	High School	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Fast N' Loud
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Notic.	Cleveland	CBS	Noticiero	News	Messiah	Business		American	Seinfeld	Castle		Pardon	Class 3A, Division I: Teams TBA.	NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Fast N' Loud
7:PM	Wheel	Muchacha	Mod Fam	News	Caso Cer-rado	News	at 6P	Rik	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Castle	PBA Bowl-ing: World Championship.	Women's College Vol-leyball		NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Fast N' Loud
8:PM	Mod Fam	Antes Muerta que	American Country	Big Bang	Celia (SS)	Murray-Xmas	Upd	National Tree	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	NBA Basket-ball: Thunder at Cavaliers	E:60			NCIS (DVS)	The First 48	Fast N' Loud
9:PM	Barbara Walters	Pasión y Poder	World's Fun-niest	Life in	Bajo el Mismo Cielo	Blake Shel-ton-	Light of the Southwest	Get Nut-cracker	Griffith	Touched by Angel	Whose?	Big Bang				NCIS (DVS)	(:01) Night-watch	Fast N' Loud
10:PM	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Creo/los Hombres	TMZ	Elementary	Señora Acero (SS)	Running Wild		Great Houses	Heroes	Seinfeld	Broke Girl	NBA Basket-ball: Rockets at Lakers	Films	SportCtr	High School Football: UIL Class 3A, Division II: Teams TBA.	Mod Fam	(:02) The First 48	Fast N' Loud
11:PM	Nightline	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met Cleveland	James Corden	Bajo el Mismo Cielo	Seth Meyers	Israel	World	Raising	Broke Girl	Conan		SportsCenter	SportCtr	Texans	Mod Fam	(:01) The First 48	Fast N' Loud
12:AM	Extra Paid	Corona de lágrimas	Friends	Middle	Insider	Señora Acero (SS)	News	BAS	King	Cougar	Conan	Inside the NBA	SportsCenter	SportCtr	High School Football: UIL Class 3A, Division I: Teams TBA.	Law Order: CI	(:02) Night-watch	Fast N' Loud
1:AM	Paid	Alma	Law Order: CI	Ent	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Gallery	King	Cougar	NBA Basket-ball: Thunder	SportsCenter	SportsNation				

DENNIS THE MENACE

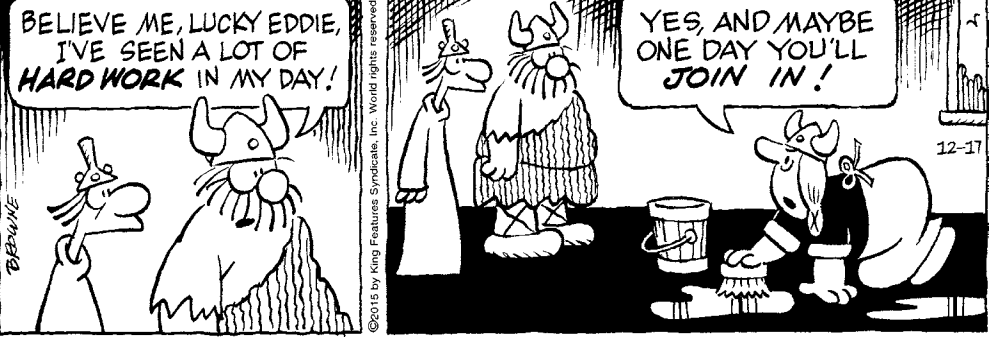


THE FAMILY CIRCUS

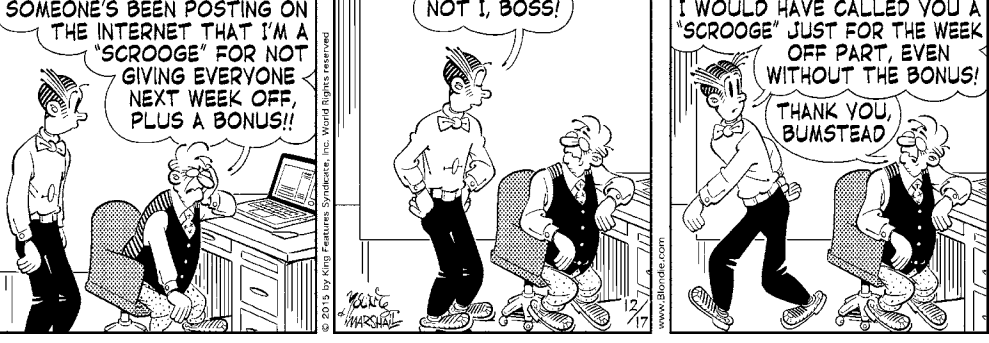
By Bil Keane



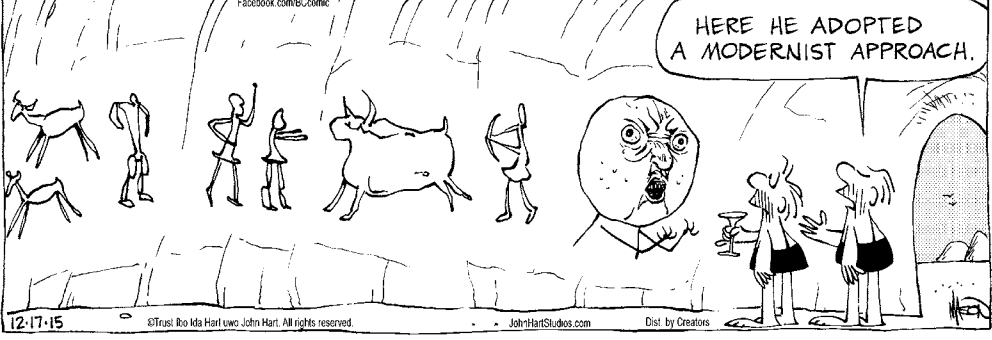
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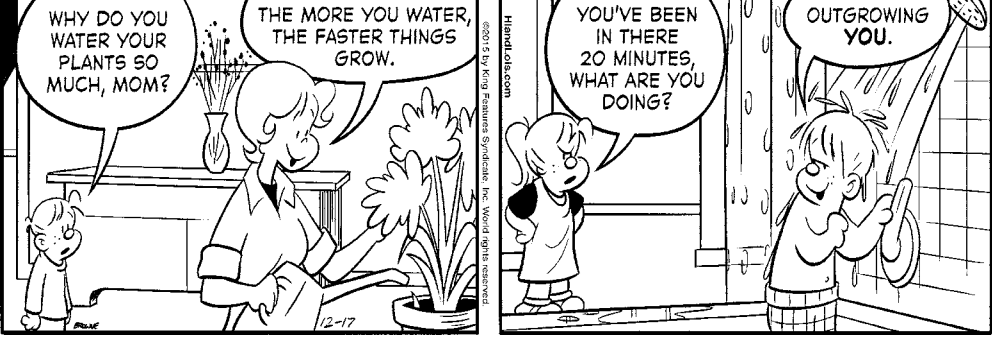
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



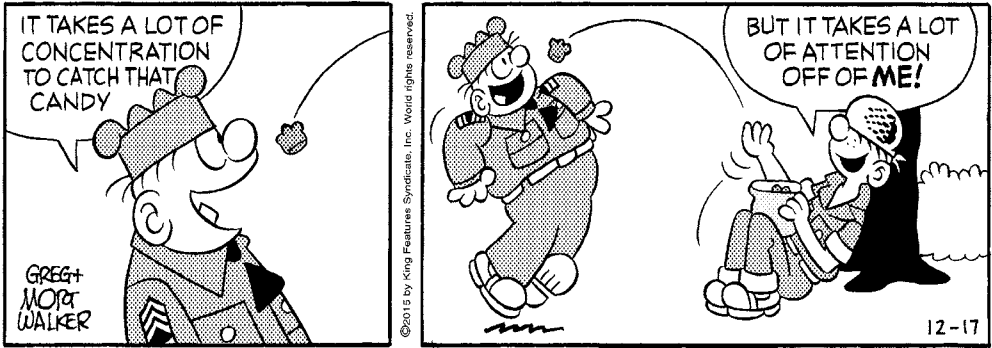
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 17, the 351st day of 2015. There are 14 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 17, 1865, Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 8, known as the "Unfinished" because only two movements had been completed, was first performed publicly in Vienna, 37 years after the composer's death.

On this date:

In 1777, France recognized American independence.

In 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright of Dayton, Ohio, conducted the first successful manned powered-airplane flights near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, using their experimental craft, the Wright Flyer.

In 1925, Col. William "Billy" Mitchell was convicted at his court-martial in Washington of insubordination for accusing senior military officials of incompetence and criminal negligence; he was suspended from active duty.

In 1939, the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee was scuttled by its crew, ending the World War II Battle of the River Plate off Uruguay.

In 1944, the U.S. War

Department announced it was ending its policy of excluding people of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast.

In 1957, the United States successfully test-fired the Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time.

In 1969, the U.S. Air Force closed its Project "Blue Book" by concluding there was no evidence of extraterrestrial spacecrafts behind thousands of UFO sightings. An estimated 50 million TV viewers watched singer Tiny Tim marry his fiancée, Miss Vicki (Budinger), on NBC's "Tonight Show."

In 1975, Lynette Fromme was sentenced in Sacramento, California, to life in prison for her attempt on the life of President Gerald R. Ford. (Fromme was paroled in August 2009.)

In 1979, Arthur McDuffie, a black insurance executive, was fatally injured after leading police on a chase with his motorcycle in Miami. (Four white police officers accused of beating McDuffie were later acquitted, sparking riots.)

In 1981, members of the Red Brigades kidnapped Brig. Gen. James L. Dozier, the highest-ranking U.S. Army official in southern Europe, from his home in Verona, Italy. (Dozier was rescued 42 days later.)

In 1994, North Korea shot down a U.S. Army helicopter which had strayed north of the

demilitarized zone. The co-pilot, Chief Warrant Officer David Hilemon, was killed; the pilot, Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall, was captured and held for nearly two weeks.

In 2011, North Korean leader Kim Jong Il died after more than a decade of iron rule; he was 69, according to official records, but some reports indicated he was 70.

One year ago: The United States and Cuba restored diplomatic relations, sweeping away one of the last vestiges of the Cold War. Sony Pictures canceled the Dec. 25 release of "The Interview," a black comedy about a plot to assassinate North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, after hackers threatened terrorist attacks and the largest multiplex chains in North America pulled the film.

Thought for Today: "A life of leisure and a life of laziness are two things."

"Poor Richard's Almanack."

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Answer to previous puzzle

COLT	SRTA	EMBED
OREO	TOOL	MAJUNA
MATT	RAUL	PILED
BLUE	BERRYHILL	FRI
SPURT	SEER	FRI
PACS	DEARER	
JAM	CHERRY	STONE
ALID	ROOM	AGES
DATE	BIRTH	SET
EMILIO	YEAS	
DOG	LIDS	ERASE
APPLE	COMPUTER	
EXTRA	MIMI	TORRE
LIEON	OFAN	ERIE
LISPS	SING	SEED

12/17/15

Newsday Crossword

DICTIONARY WHO'S WHO by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS
- 59 Montréal assent
- 60 Signature
- 64 Court VIPs
- 65 Soup flavoring
- 66 Frightening
- 67 Creator of crime solver Kinsey
- 68 Right-hand page
- 69 Proscriptions
- DOWN
- 1 Sober-minded
- 2 Western sidekick
- 3 Deep-seated
- 4 Floral neckwear
- 5 Trample
- 6 Herring family member
- 7 Homes for squirrels
- 8 Designer monogram
- 9 Beehive State collegian
- 10 Hearty lawn grass
- 11 Stick-shift selection
- 12 Portend
- 13 Acknowledge openly
- 18 Addition to natural gas
- 23 Didn't collapse
- 25 "I thought so!"
- 26 Quitting time for many
- 27 Sound starting MGM films
- 29 Full-throttle
- 30 Jazz piano great
- 31 Send out
- 32 Abacus parts
- 33 Meatloaf serving
- 34 Suffix denoting wealth
- 35 Be rewarded on the job
- 39 About a hundredth of Vatican City
- 42 City near Port Said
- 44 Spotless again
- 45 South African golfer
- 47 Five-sharp scale
- 48 Bart's toon teacher
- 51 Add glitter to
- 52 Permissible
- 53 Small guys
- 54 Okra portions
- 55 Meal with coconut milk
- 56 Make a macramé
- 57 "Horror!"
- 61 Word on a dime
- 62 Here: Lat.
- 63 Buffett title

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
20				21				22	23			
24			25				26	27				
			28			29	30				31	32
33	34	35			36				37			
38					39					40		
41			42		43				44	45		
46				47				48				
		49						50		51	52	53
54	55					56	57				58	
59				60	61	62				63		
64				65					66			
67				68					69			

Academic Star Student of the Week

Kaitlyn Brock
Forsan High School

Senior Kaitlyn Brock is in the top ten of her class at Forsan High School. She has taken the highest level of classes offered at Forsan, including dual credit courses through Howard College. She serves as the treasurer of the National Honor Society. She is a member of the cross country and basketball teams.

In her free time, Kaytlin enjoys being involved with the youth group at College Baptist Church, hunting, and working with animals.

She plans to attend Howard College in the fall and continue her education at Texas A&M in Corpus Christi. Her goal is to become an oral pathologist, and she has the drive and dedication to achieve that goal.

Kaytlin is the daughter of Janel Brock and Christopher Brock.



Congratulations, Kaitlyn!

District UIL academic champs



Courtesy photo
Pictured at top, Forsan Junior High School and, pictured left, Forsan Elementary School. Academic teams recently earned the district 8-AA academic UIL championship in their divisions.

Forsan Elementary School and Junior High School won the District 8-AA North Zone JH/Elementary, University Interscholastic League Academic Meet Team Champion recently.

The 2015 academic meet was held on Dec. 2-3 at Irion County. Seventy-five Forsan Elementary students in grades second through fifth competed in 27 events, and 67 students from Forsan Junior High, grades sixth through eighth competed in 41 events.

The events included creative writing, ready writing, editorial writ-

ing, number sense, spelling, listening skills, maps, graphs & charts, oral reading, story telling, music memory, art, social studies, dictionary skills, chess puzzle, science, modern oratory and impromptu speaking.

Forsan Elementary earned the championship with 570.3 points; Irion County won second place with 440.5 points; Christoval took third place with 417.1 points; and Miles placed fourth with 398.9 points. In the junior high division, Forsan won first place with 1,009 points;

Miles came in second with 908.3 points; Irion Co. took third with 837.3;

and Christoval placed fourth with 623.33 points.

When what to her wondering eyes should appear...

Share the Journey

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Rotarians lending a helping hand



Courtesy Photo

Rotary members John Weeks, President, and Lenier Ray Emerson, James Little, and Terry McDaniel delivered dictionaries to Washington Elementary's third grade students in Ms. Sunday, Ms. Carr, Mrs. Pittman, and Ms. Klix class.

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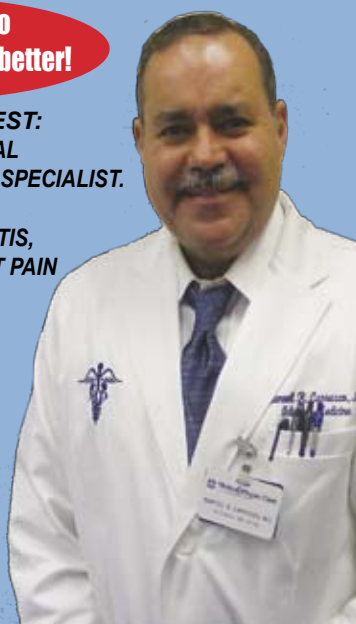
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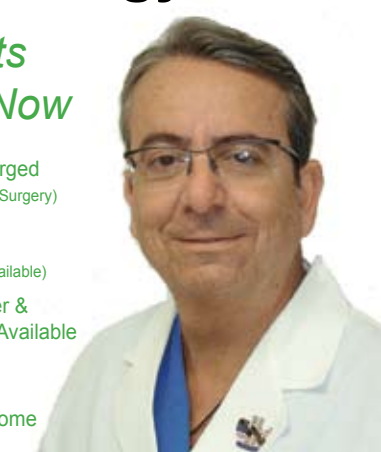
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This entry form must be received by Friday, December 18 at 5 p.m. Drop off your form at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. The winner will be the one who correctly matches the most Santas to his business/workshop. Gift certificates will be given away to use at the participating businesses. Winners will be announced in the Wednesday, December 23rd Edition of the Big Spring Herald!

All decisions are final at the discretion of the Big Spring Herald

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