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## Obituaries

### Lurlene F. Gregg

Lurlene F. Gregg, 78, of Odessa died Tuesday, May 3, 2011, in an Odessa hospital. Her services are pending with Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

## Support Groups

### WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### THURSDAY

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

• Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. and noon, each lasting an hour. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

### FRIDAY

• 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.

## Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1800 block of FM 700. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Mesa. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2700 block of Cindy. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 500 block of N. First Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Vines. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1400 block of 16<sup>th</sup> Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

## Dr. Rudy Haddad

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## Police blotter

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

- JUANITA CANALES RIOS, 44, of 905 E. 16<sup>th</sup> St., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license invalid and two warrants from another agency.
- SHANE EDDIE ANDERSON, 39, of 1200 E. Lloyd, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- CARLOS RENE GARCIA, 32, of 600 S. Bell, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for theft – shoplifting, failure to maintain financial responsibility and bail jumping – failure to appear (fine only).
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 1100 block of S. Benton.
- THEFT was reported:  
In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.  
In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.  
In the 200 block of W. FM 700.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1600 block of Owens.

## Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 74 inmates at the time of this report.
- JUANITA CANALES RIOS, 44, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of expired driver's license, no liability insurance and driving while license invalid.
- THOMAS RIOS, 29, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of a controlled substance.
- SHANE ANDERSON, 39, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- CARLOS RENE GARCIA, 32, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of theft – shoplifting, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear.
- GARY DON WEEKS, 51, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
- SEAN PARKER BAXTER, 19, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation and minor in consumption of alcohol.

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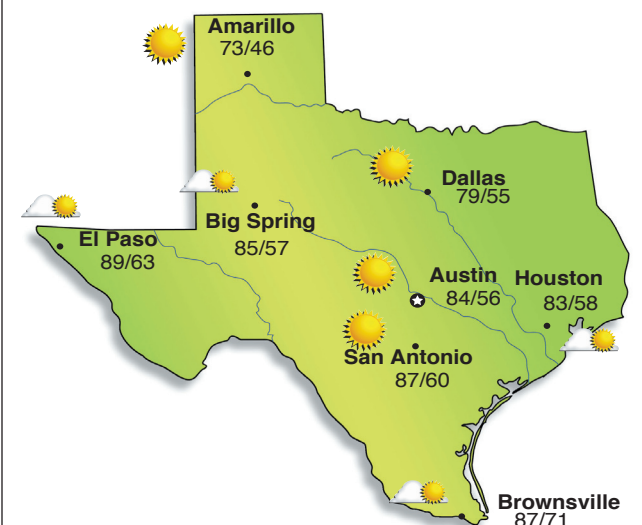
5011 E. Midway Rd. 432-264-0623  
(1/2 Mile South of I-20)

## Today's Weather

### Local 5-Day Forecast

| Thu<br>5/5                                                                                    | Fri<br>5/6                                                                           | Sat<br>5/7                                                                         | Sun<br>5/8                                                         | Mon<br>5/9                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                               |                                                                                      |                                                                                    |                                                                    |                                                                                     |
| <b>85/57</b><br>Some clouds in the morning will give way to mainly sunny skies for the after. | <b>92/64</b><br>Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the mid 60s. | <b>99/66</b><br>Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the mid 60s. | <b>102/66</b><br>Sunny. Highs 100 to 104F and lows in the mid 60s. | <b>101/65</b><br>Windy with a few clouds. Highs 99 to 103F and lows in the mid 60s. |
| <b>Sunrise:</b><br>6:56 AM<br><b>Sunset:</b><br>8:30 PM                                       | <b>Sunrise:</b><br>6:55 AM<br><b>Sunset:</b><br>8:30 PM                              | <b>Sunrise:</b><br>6:55 AM<br><b>Sunset:</b><br>8:31 PM                            | <b>Sunrise:</b><br>6:54 AM<br><b>Sunset:</b><br>8:32 PM            | <b>Sunrise:</b><br>6:53 AM<br><b>Sunset:</b><br>8:32 PM                             |

### Texas At A Glance



### Area Cities

| City           | Hi | Lo | Cond.     | City            | Hi | Lo | Cond.     |
|----------------|----|----|-----------|-----------------|----|----|-----------|
| Abilene        | 83 | 54 | sunny     | Kingsville      | 86 | 64 | mst sunny |
| Amarillo       | 73 | 46 | sunny     | Livingston      | 83 | 53 | pt sunny  |
| Austin         | 84 | 56 | sunny     | Longview        | 79 | 52 | pt sunny  |
| Beaumont       | 81 | 57 | pt sunny  | Lubbock         | 78 | 47 | sunny     |
| Brownsville    | 87 | 71 | pt sunny  | Lufkin          | 83 | 53 | pt sunny  |
| Brownwood      | 86 | 55 | sunny     | Midland         | 85 | 59 | sunny     |
| Corpus Christi | 83 | 65 | mst sunny | Raymondville    | 87 | 68 | pt sunny  |
| Corsicana      | 78 | 54 | sunny     | Rosenberg       | 83 | 58 | pt sunny  |
| Dallas         | 79 | 55 | sunny     | San Antonio     | 87 | 60 | sunny     |
| Del Rio        | 87 | 66 | sunny     | San Marcos      | 85 | 56 | sunny     |
| El Paso        | 89 | 63 | pt sunny  | Sulphur Springs | 78 | 53 | pt sunny  |
| Fort Stockton  | 88 | 60 | sunny     | Sweetwater      | 84 | 54 | pt sunny  |
| Gainesville    | 77 | 52 | pt sunny  | Tyler           | 80 | 52 | pt sunny  |
| Greenville     | 76 | 52 | sunny     | Weatherford     | 78 | 52 | sunny     |
| Houston        | 83 | 58 | pt sunny  | Wichita Falls   | 83 | 51 | sunny     |

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or your team will  
be disqualified**

**For more information contact  
Donna @ The Big Spring Herald, 263-7331**



# ► Take Note

- Thursday is the National Day of Prayer. Locally, a non-denominational prayer service will be held at 7 p.m. that day in the Howard College Cactus Room. Everyone is invited.
- All Coahoma High School alumni are invited to an all-school reunion on July 23. This year’s program will focus on CHS music, to include honoring anyone associated with former CHS bands, choirs, musical groups, etc. Please help spread the word by sharing this information with any CHS alumni among your family/friends. The Reunion Planning Committee is meeting every other Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Coahoma Dairy Queen. Contact Joyce York Baumann at 432-816-1588 or Patti Lee Meeks at 432-267-6688 for additional information, or with mailing addresses for CHS alumni. Addresses can also be e-mailed to Harold Aberegg at aberegg66@gmail.com.
- Compass Hospice is in need of your help. If you would be interested in offering your love and God’s comfort to those who are suffering, or to their families, contact Michelle Coutermarsh at 263-5999. Volunteers are needed in many categories in addition to patient care. You may give as much or as little time as you wish. Any amount of time will be greatly appreciated. Free training is offered beginning May 10. Hospice training is invaluable for those who have a desire to make a difference to someone in need of a blessing. Training location and schedule: Compass Hospice Team Room, 1003 E. FM 700, Big Spring, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 10-11 and 13, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. You must attend all three days to become a hospice certified volunteer.
- A fund has been established at T&P Federal Credit Union for the Gary Nelson family, who lost their home to a fire. Funds raised will go toward rebuilding the home. Anyone who would like to help can do so by contacting the credit union at 101 Main or by calling 263-1631.
- Fridays are live band dance nights at Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler. Senior adults are invited to an evening of fellowship (and good exercise)

# VOTE

Continued from Page 1A

approved or rejected by voters.

The amendment would prevent council members from running for re-election after serving two consecutive terms, according to City Attorney Linda Sjogren.

“If the proposed charter amendment passes... the net effect is that council members may only run for two consecutive terms in one position then must sit out one election before running again for that same position,” said Sjogren.

“Council members may run for any other position than the one

they currently hold if their term is expiring or if they are within the last year of their term, without sitting out a term. Council members cannot be elected to fill a vacancy (unexpired term) in any position on the council within six years of having served in any position on the council.”

Some local residents have embraced the idea of term limits in hopes of ousting “career politicians” sitting on the city council. Others, however, have shown sharp opposition to the measure, saying it is a violation of voters’ rights to say who can and can not be elected based on arbitrary term limitations.

# BANDS

Continued from Page 1A

that all three bands received straight ones.”

The importance and exceptional nature of the accomplishment has yet to sink in, Harris said, but added it is only the beginning of what’s to come. He said all the achievements coming out of the high school this year only go to show good things are happening for the school district.

“None of this could happen without the support from the faculty, administration and the teachers,” Harris said. “This is just one more

thing that shows the direction the school is going in and the band is a part of that.

“Hats off to the students and the wonderful rehearsals that they’ve had this year,” Harris said. “Their work ethic has definitely shown through.”

Harris said the seniors will be able to end their year on a positive note and leave a high benchmark for the students next year.

“You have to realize if that’s the quality that is in all the bands then we should be looking forward to a strong marching band,” Harris said. “It’s a great standard to have and live up to.”

He said the rankings

from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. each Friday. Cost is \$6 per person. For more information or to find out what band is playing, call the Senior Center at 432-267-1628.

- The Salvation Army has funding for Texas Military Personnel now serving or has served in Iraq or Afghanistan. The military member or their family member may apply at 811 W. Fifth St. or call 267-8239. The grant is funded by the TRIAD Fund of Permian Basin Area Foundation.
- The HCV Section 8 waiting list for the Big Spring Housing Authority is open. The authority is accepting new applications. The office is located at 201 NE Seventh in Big Spring.
- Mobile Meals is in need of volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound elderly in Big Spring. If you can donate at least one hour a week, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016 and leave a message.
- An account has been set up to help Bob and Jeanine Fishback with Bob’s medical and travel expenses: Bob Fishback Medical Account 915967, Big Spring Education Employees Federal Credit Union, 1110 Benton, Big Spring 79720. For more information, call 263-8393.
- A fund has been established at Citizen’s Credit Union for the Lupe Chavarria family, which lost all of its possessions in a house fire. For more information, contact the credit union at 267-6373.
- Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. Thursdays 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.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meet the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the BSHS Band Hall. All band parents are welcome.
- The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nur-

Voters are also being asked to decide the fates of the District 1 and District 3 seats on the city council.

District 1 Councilwoman Stephanie Horton is defending her seat on the council from challenger Marcus Fernandez, while the race for the District 3 seat has four candidates — incumbent Councilwoman Joann Staulcup, Shannon Thomason, Glenn Carrigan and write-in candidate Oscar Velasco.

Early voting polls — located on the third floor of the Howard County Courthouse — are open daily from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. through Friday, according to Bloom.

“We’ll have extended

hours Tuesday and Thursday, when the polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.,” she said. “Our hope is the extended hours will give area residents that have to work between standard business hours a chance to come in and cast their ballots early.”

Area voters planning to cast their ballot by mail have until Friday to fill out an application, according to Bloom.

“Voters who are 65 and older, disabled or will be out of the county and unavailable to vote during early voting or election day can apply for a ballot by mail,” Bloom said. “If you want to apply, you need to contact the elections office so we can mail out the

turing and permanent home. We currently have 55 children in foster care without a volunteer. We need your help. If you’re interested in volunteering please contact Suzy Milliken at 1-877-316-8346 or visit [www.BecomeaCASA.org](http://www.BecomeaCASA.org) or [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org).

- Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.
- Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children’s Protective Services office at 263-9669.
- HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact the “Hat Lady,” Marci Lykken at 267-2915 or the local ACS office at 432-683-6375.
- Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call (877) 277-1618.

form. Voters must request this application, it won’t automatically be sent out.”

Election day is set for May 14. For more information on early voting, contact Bloom at 264-2273.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at [citydesk@bigspringherald.com](mailto:citydesk@bigspringherald.com)

Devotion To Saint Jude

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, loved, preserved & glorified throughout the world now and forever. The sacred heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us, St. Jude, Helper of the Hopeless, pray for us. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ for the help of your servant St. Jude in listening to my prayers. Say this prayer nine times for nine days. By the end of the eighth, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. Jude for prayers answered.

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Ron Midkiff Publisher... Ext. 250

Bill McClellan Managing Editor... Ext. 235

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

|                                          |                                 |                                       |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Bill McClellan</b><br>Managing Editor | <b>Ron Midkiff</b><br>Publisher | <b>Steve Reagan</b><br>Staff Writer   |
| <b>Amanda Moreno</b><br>Staff Writer     |                                 | <b>Thomas Jenkins</b><br>Staff Writer |

## OUR VIEWS

## Broadway comes to Howard College

The Howard College Dance Troupe and other dance students will be joining together to perform for three nights at the Hall Center for the Arts Florence T. Hall Studio Theatre.

The show will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets should be purchased in advance due to the high demand. Students will be selling tickets this week in the lobby of the Hall Center from noon to 1 p.m. Admission for Howard College students, staff and faculty is \$3 and general admission tickets are \$5.

The night will start with a 20-minute dance troupe presentation of “Broadway Forte.” The audience will experience dance set to contemporary music and after a short intermission will change pace and experience a ballet version of “Dark of the Moon.”

“Dark of the Moon” was first performed in the 1940s and will come to life again on the Howard College stage. The audience will experience the journey of a young boy falling for a girl who he is not allowed to have. Through a little bit of magic the boy’s dreams are bound to come true, until an unexpected twist comes about, proving that love can’t be found through magic, but it can be torn apart.

The play has been referred to, a cross of “Romeo and Juliet” and “McBeth.”

The dance is expected to be something to see, as well as the costumes that will be displayed during the performance.

This weeks performance comes from a combination effort from the fine arts students as well as cosmotology students.

The entire show will be about an hour long, including intermission. Each presentation will be about 20 minutes long.

For those who are wanting tickets but can’t make it during the allotted times, reservations can be made by calling 432-264-5161. Tickets can be reserved as long as they are picked up before opening night. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the show.

According to McIntosh, dance troupe instructor, this presentation is a unique experience for all to see. The entertainment is for all ages and is for everybody in the community.

Take the time and experience a little bit of Broadway right in your backyard.

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

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

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

## LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

## A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we handle our relationships with others  
with You in mind, Lord.

Amen

# A serving of pundits for the politicians that were attending

The White House Correspondents' Association dinner — live on C-SPAN! — this Saturday is just a party. So why all the controversy? And if politics is just show business for ugly people, as Jay Leno once famously said, why do all the show business types want to mingle with us ugly people?

They do not need, as they will get, yet another red carpet and yet another party where their evening wear will be evaluated. (In 2009, Aston Kusher's bowtie was criticized for being too large. Nothing about his date, Demi Moore, was criticized for being too large.)

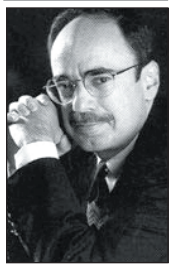
The answer, I guess, is that the stars get to see the president. And also they must experience a little frisson, a secret little thrill, when they — Kim Kardashian, Eliza Dushko, Justin Bieber! — draw crowds while members of the Supreme Court, sans robes, go unrecognized.

And the parties! The wonderful parties before and after, at which the reporters scan the crowds for important people to prove they are important enough to get invited to parties where important people get invited.

Frankly, the dinner is a burden on the president, whose aides spend hours writing his jokes and briefing him on how to deliver them. Unless they are briefing him on how not to deliver them, as happened in 2007, after the massacre at Virginia Tech, when President George W. Bush said this was no time to be a "funny guy."

Which should be pretty uncontroversial, right? Thirty-two people killed, so the president skips the yuks, right? Wrong! This is the White House Correspondents' Association Dinner, and so nothing is uncontroversial.

Columnist Frank Rich wrote in The New York Times: "Why did the killings in Iraq not preclude



ROGER SIMON

this being a "funny guy" at other press banquets we've watched on C-SPAN?"

What's more, Rich wrote, the media "served as captive dress extras in a propaganda stunt, lending their credibility to the president's sanctimonious exploitation of the Virginia Tech tragedy for his own political self-aggrandizement on national television. Meanwhile, the war was kept as tightly under wraps as the troops' coffins."

Whoa! And I, sitting there in my tux and clip-on bowtie, thought this was a party. Which, to most, it still is, though a party destined to be endlessly fraught with controversy, especially from the comics who are paid big bucks to deliver monologues each year to "lighten" the evening:

Such as Wanda Sykes' two "hilarious" riffs in 2009:

"Rush Limbaugh said he hopes this administration fails.

I hope his kidneys fail. How 'bout that? He needs a little waterboarding. That's what he needs."

To which she added: "It feels so good to have a black president ... unless you screw up. Then everyone will be asking, 'What's with that half-white guy? Who ordered up a mulatto?'"

A blogger who goes by the apt name of BooMan wrote in 2009: "The primary importance of the WHCA Dinner is to document yearly just how out of touch our elite politicians and journalists are with the rest of the country and to confirm the rest of us in our hatred and resentment of this class of people who have led us like thieves and incompetents for decades without let up."

A point Stephen Colbert might endorse. Colbert was savaged in the press after his monologue in 2006, in which he said: "The President makes decisions. He's the decider. The press secretary announces those decisions, and you people of the press type those decisions down. Make, announce, type. Just put 'em through a spell check and go home."

Mr. Colbert has not been invited back.

And The New York Times has not been back at the dinner since 2007. "I think our rationale — and this is ours without judging anyone else," Dean Baquet, the Times Washington bureau chief told me in an e-mail, "(is) that it makes it appear that everything in Washington is a big game, theater. But that a couple times a year the press and pols take their costumes off, sing together mingle with celebrities and act like we are all in it together. I just don't like the appearance."

Baquet pointed out that Times employees are allowed to attend dinners if they have won an award and that he attended a dinner when a Times reporter, the late Robin Toner, was memorialized. But, other than that, dinners such as the White House Correspondents' Association Dinner are off-limits.

"I'm not holier than thou," Baquet wrote. "Not judging. But that's my view. And I feel even more strongly while we are in two wars, other conflicts, and budget battles. It makes us look like part of the establishment. I don't much like that image."

I e-mailed Maureen Dowd, star columnist for the Times, and she had a different view.

"I miss going to the dinner. It's revealing to hear a president give a humor speech. And I always got a lot of work done there. What's the difference if you're talking to sources in a parking garage, a Senate corridor or a ballroom?" she wrote. "As long as Washington has existed, reporters have done some of their work in social settings. You don't drop your professional standards just because you're wearing a cocktail dress."

Me, I'm going again this year. I don't have any professional standards to drop.

*To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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# Osama bin Laden fall means Afghanistan could spring

Nothing succeeds like success. In the years since 9/11, Americans have had to live with the fact that President George W. Bush failed to take Osama bin Laden "dead or alive" — to use the phrase that the former president came to regret.

President Obama didn't have to eat his words. In 2008, candidate Obama declared, "We will kill bin Laden." Now Public Enemy No. 1 is dead at U.S. hands.

Thank the intelligence operatives and military analysts who — as the public settled for neutralizing bin Laden — considered his demise to be "a moral imperative," says Tom Umberg, an Orange County, Calif., attorney, former state lawmaker and Army Reserve colonel who served in Afghanistan.

The hunt for bin Laden also demonstrates U.S. intelligence services' determination. According to The Associated Press, the CIA first learned of a trusted al-Qaida courier when interrogating confessed 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and his captured successor in agency prisons in Poland and Romania. The New York Times reports that Guantanamo Bay detainees gave interrogators a nom de guerre for the courier.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

According to a senior White House official, intelligence forces uncovered the courier's true identity four years ago. It took another two years to learn where the courier and his brother operated.

In August, U.S. intelligence tracked the two men to the Abbottabad compound where bin Laden lived and died — hiding among women behind 12-foot-high concrete walls and far from the war front.

Though recognizing that most of the credit for the success of the operation belongs to President Obama, UC Berkeley law professor John Yoo, who worked for the Bush Department of Justice, wrote on National Review Online that the raid also served as "a vindication of the Bush administration's terrorism policies." And: "According to anonymous government sources quoted in the press today, it was the interrogation of al-Qaeda leaders, that led to the identification of the courier, who led us to bin Laden's hiding place."

National Security Adviser John Brennan credited Obama for "one of the gutsiest calls of any president in recent memory." I salute the commander in chief for authorizing a successful boots-on-the-ground mission that, great political risk of failure notwithstanding, provided forensic proof of bin Laden's death, and without U.S. casualties.

Brennan also told reporters, "If

we had the opportunity to take him alive," U.S. troops would have done that.

I sure hope that's not true. There are simply too many things that could go wrong — all for the dubious benefit of bin Laden dying in a jail cell after enjoying the opportunity to make a mockery of the U.S. justice system — or worse, because it would be so easy, an international court. The beauty of the terror king's two-bullet ending was that it had an ending.

On Monday, Umberg spoke of sacrifices made by members of the military and their families, and noted, "The sacrifices are not over."

Al-Qaida still exists. Afghanistan remains a dangerous haven. As Bush discovered, the more successful a president is in keeping America safe, the less voters support measures to protect themselves. Bin Laden's death will fuel the pressure for a precipitous withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan. But this is no time to lose resolve.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sfcchronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sfcchronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

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## ► News briefs

### In the end, the terrorist who posed with a menacing assault rifle was cornered without a gun

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. commando's curt message to superiors signaled the end had come for the world's most wanted terrorist: "Geronimo EKIA," meaning enemy killed in action.

Osama bin Laden, the al-Qaida leader who liked to pose with a menacing AK-47 assault rifle in his hand or by his side, was discovered without a gun by the Navy SEALs who barged into his room and shot him dead.

The White House on Tuesday gave a more complete picture of the assault — and corrected some key details from earlier official accounts — as the team that pulled off the storied raid in Pakistan briefed officials and rested back at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington.

The administration possesses graphic images of bin Laden's corpse, at least one of which is likely to be released, according to CIA Director Leon Panetta. Officials hope that doing so would quiet any doubts that bin Laden is indeed dead. The worry is that anti-U.S. sentiment would be inflamed as a result.

Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., among the lawmakers who had the images described to them, played down that concern. "They're not going to scare people off," he said. "Nothing more than you'd expect with a person with a bullet in his head."

### No guts, no glory: Mission to kill or capture bin Laden was risky business for Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — No guts, no glory.

The nail-biting, 40-minute clandestine operation that resulted in Osama bin Laden's death could have been a calamitous political and military failure; a bloodbath in Pakistan that left U.S. forces and scores of civilians dead or captured by America's most ferocious enemy.

Or, as it happened, it could unfold largely in textbook fashion — delivering a stunning success for the often maligned intelligence community, a political and national security coup for a struggling president and revenge for Americans still carrying vivid memories of Sept. 11.

By secretly sending a team of special operations forces into an enemy fortress in a suburban neighborhood of a sovereign country, President Barack Obama chose the path of greatest risk, but also greatest reward.

There were so many ways it could have gone wrong.

### NYPD: Reports of suspicious packages spike after bin Laden's death, fitting post-9/11 pattern

NEW YORK (AP) — Within minutes of a news conference at ground zero where authorities preached calm and vigilance after the killing of Osama bin Laden, the alarming 911 call came in.

The caller in Times Square on Monday afternoon reported that a suspicious package was sitting on the sidewalk at West 43rd Street and Eighth Avenue — a mere two blocks from where admitted terrorist Faisal Shahzad had failed in his frightening attempt to blow up a car bomb almost exactly a year earlier.

Unlike the Shahzad case, the scare fizzled out in a more familiar way: The New York Police Department patrol officers who swarmed the area quickly determined the package was a bag of garbage.

The NYPD says such false alarms have become a

frequent but necessary annoyance for authorities laboring to protect a nervous city in the post-9/11 world.

There were 10,566 reports of suspicious objects across the five boroughs in 2010. So far this year, the total was 2,775 as of Tuesday compared with 2,477 through the same period last year.

### Republicans, House leaders seek political points in fight to revive Nevada nuclear waste dump

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Yucca Mountain is a wild expanse of desert brush, red mountains and extracted rock 100 miles outside of Las Vegas where deer, coyote and antelope roam isolated fields and human visitors must pass background checks before they are allowed past heavily guarded fences.

Republicans claim this stark landscape is the nation's best hope for a national nuclear waste dump.

But with Democrats running the White House and Senate, the Yucca Mountain nuclear site has been shuttered with no chance of reopening.

Critics claim the project is dangerous. The half-built nuclear junkyard would require nuclear plants to ship their waste to rural Nevada along the nation's vulnerable roadways and railways.

Yet some proponents refuse to back down. A House subcommittee on energy and commerce plans to question nuclear leaders in a hearing Wednesday that is part of an ongoing investigation into the legality of abandoning the project.

### Despite rapid growth and wealth, India continues to let its girls die at alarming rate

MORENA, India (AP) — The room is large and airy, the stone floors clean and cool — a welcome respite from the afternoon sun. Until your eyes take in the horror that it holds. Ten severely malnourished children — nine of them girls.

The starving girls in this hospital ward include a 21-month-old with arms and legs the size of twigs and an emaciated 1-year-old with huge, vacant eyes. Without urgent medical care, most will not live to see their next birthday.

They point to a painful reality revealed in India's most recent census: Despite a booming economy and big cities full of luxury cars and glittering malls, the country is failing its girls.

Early results show India has 914 girls under age 6 for every 1,000 boys. A decade ago, many were horrified when the ratio was 927 to 1,000.

The discrimination happens through abortions of female fetuses and sheer neglect of young girls, despite years of high-profile campaigns to address the issue. So serious is the problem that it's illegal for medical personnel to reveal the gender of an unborn fetus, although evidence suggests the ban is widely circumvented.

### Lawsuit against computer rental company raises questions over technology privacy expectations

PITTSBURGH (AP) — You didn't pay your bill. We need our computer back. And here's a picture of you typing away on it, the computer rental company told a client as it tried to repossess the machine.

Those allegations appear in a federal lawsuit alleging that the firm, Atlanta-based Aaron's Inc., loaded computers

with spyware to track renters' keystrokes, make screenshots and even take webcam images of them using the devices at home. The suit filed by a Wyoming couple Tuesday raises anew questions of how invasive custodians of technology should be in protecting their equipment.

Computer privacy experts said Aaron's, a major furniture rental chain, has the right to equip its computers with software it can use to shut off the devices remotely if customers stop paying their bills, but they must be told if they're being monitored.

"If I'm renting a computer ... then I have a right to know what the limitations are and I have a right to know if they're going to be collecting data from my computer," said Annie Anton, a professor and computer privacy expert with North Carolina State University.

But the couple who sued Aaron's said they had no clue the computer they rented last year was equipped with a device that could spy on them. Brian Byrd, 26, and his wife, Crystal, 24, said they didn't even realize that was possible until a store manager in Casper came to their home Dec. 22.

### In the middle of the tornado's ruins, survivors find sentimental family treasures, keepsakes

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) — When Lois Sayer's three daughters returned to their tornado-wrecked childhood home, they mourned the loss of their 88-year-old mother and discovered a few of the irreplaceable keepsakes that will tell the story of their parents' lives.

Across the twister-ravaged South, residents and family members continued picking through the ruins, collecting whatever family treasure or piece of their cherished past they could.

Volunteers used sledgehammers to knock down walls and break concrete so Sayer's daughters could retrieve their father's World War II uniform, complete with his Bronze Star. They found their mother's prized necklace, the one with a shell casing on it that reminded her of the factory where she worked during the war. It was that job that helped their parents build an \$8,000 house, which was demolished in the epic Tuscaloosa storm.

"That was a time when ladies first went into the workforce. She was really, really proud to have been a part of the war effort," said Sayer's daughter, Cindy Meyers.

Sayer, whose husband Maurice died four years ago, was killed in the house she had lived in for 62 years.

### FEMA defends no more help over Texas wildfires

AUSTIN (AP) — The Federal Emergency Management Agency has defended its decision refusing to provide more assistance to Texas after devastating wildfires.

Gov. Rick Perry late Tuesday criticized the White House for rejecting his April 16 request for a federal major disaster declaration and additional help.

FEMA spokeswoman Rachel Racusen (RAK'-uh-sen) on Wednesday said federal assistance already has been provided to Texas through grants for response activities. She says, based on information provided by the state, there was not a need for additional support at this time.

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

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## California women ages 65, 72 facing marijuana charges

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — Two women described by a prosecutor as “marijuana grannies” were jailed on allegations that they were growing hundreds of pot plants in their San Bruno home, authorities said Tuesday.

Aleen Lam, 72, and Virginia Chan Pon, 65, were arrested Friday after neighbors called police to report a burglary, said San Mateo County District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe.

When officers arrived, they found the door had been kicked in and nobody was home.

Through the broken door, police could see marijuana growing inside the house, Wagstaffe said.

Police obtained a search warrant and found 800 marijuana plants, \$3,000 in cash and an electrical bypass that allowed the women to tap into a Pacific Gas and Electric Co. power line to steal electricity, Wagstaffe said.

“This has not happened in the 34 years that I’ve been here,” he said in describing the operation and the suspects’ ages.

During an arraignment Monday, Lam and Pon

pleaded not guilty to cultivation of marijuana, maintaining a house for the sale of marijuana, possession of marijuana for sale and unlawful theft of electricity from a utility, Wagstaffe said.

## Cat spends a week alone in camper after SC wreck

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Spencer the cat is now down to eight lives after surviving a crash in South Carolina and a week on his own.

The Post and Courier of Charleston reports the 11-year-old gray cat was in a camper that wrecked along Interstate 95 in the southeastern part of the state.

Ann Laubacker of New York was driving home from Florida with her mother, a dog and four cats. Neither woman was hurt, and two of the cats and a dog were located after the wreck. A third cat was seen running into the woods but no one could find Spencer.

That is until Tuesday, when an insurance adjuster checked the camper and found the cat hiding. The animal was badly dehydrated but is recovering with a vet’s care.

# Hints from Heloise

## Dont stop meds without asking

**Dear Heloise:** As a nurse, I have become very concerned about

lawyers advertising against drug manufacturers.

I see advertising about a different medication every day. I just ignored them until I



HELOISE

had a person tell me she was considering not taking a medicine because of the claims of one of these advertisements.

Please encourage your readers to speak to their physician (or health-care provider, nurse, etc. — Heloise) before ever stopping any medication. There are medicines that can have negative effects if stopped abruptly. The medications that I have seen on the advertise-

ments are very important and can make life better for a lot of people.

People always should read the inserts for side effects, and discuss any concerns with their physician. Unfortunately, there are no medications without possible side effects. Always take them as directed.

Encourage your readers to ask questions if they do not understand the instructions. As a nurse, I would rather answer 100 questions than have a person take medication in the wrong way. Thank you for your time! — Amy, a very concerned nurse, via email

the lights and use the flashlight to find the lens! — David M., Jackson, Miss.

### Earring back

**Dear Heloise:** I am always dropping my earring backs when I take out my earrings. I came up with an idea to help me find them.

I cleaned out the dirt and dust from my hand-held vacuum, then vacuumed the area where I dropped a back. I carefully opened the vacuum, and it was in there! — Jackie in Illinois

### Here’s a Heloise hint:

Just cover the opening with a piece of pantyhose, and you don’t even have to open up the vacuum. — Heloise

### Cord safety

**Dear Heloise:** Toaster ovens get very hot on the surface. The wire/cord often rests on the back even if the appliance isn’t up against the wall. To prevent scorching and hazards involved with the cord, use a magnetic hook and lift the cord away from the back of the hot oven. A cup hook or something similar would work as well. — A Reader, via email

Send a money-saving or timesaving hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795000, San Antonio, TX 78279-5000, or you can fax it to 1-210-HELOISE or email it to Heloise(at)Heloise.com. I can’t answer your letter personally but will use the best hints received in my column.

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## Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

### A One-Shot Decision

East dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

| NORTH      |  | EAST             |  |
|------------|--|------------------|--|
| ♠ K Q 5    |  | ♠ 9 3            |  |
| ♥ A J 7 4  |  | ♥ 9 6 2          |  |
| ♦ Q 8 3    |  | ♦ A 10 4         |  |
| ♣ K 10 4   |  | ♣ Q 9 6 5 2      |  |
| WEST       |  | SOUTH            |  |
| ♠ 2        |  | ♠ A J 10 8 7 6 4 |  |
| ♥ Q 10 8 5 |  | ♥ K 3            |  |
| ♦ K J 5 2  |  | ♦ 9 7 6          |  |
| ♣ A J 7 3  |  | ♣ 8              |  |

The bidding:  
East 3♣ South Pass West Pass North 4♣  
Opening lead — two of diamonds.

Certain defensive plays are considered by many to be virtually automatic, such as playing second-hand low or covering an honor with an honor. But those with sufficient experience have learned that there are exceptions to all such “rules.”

Take this case where a defender could easily go wrong playing by rote. West had a choice of unattractive leads against four spades and finally settled on the two of diamonds. Declarer played low from dummy, and East, after considerable thought, inserted the ten! When this held, the defenders quickly collected

the A-K of diamonds and ace of clubs to put South down one.

As can be seen, had East played the ace of diamonds rather than the ten — following the rule of “third-hand high” — declarer would have made the contract. The question, therefore, is what made East decide to play the ten?

The answer lies in East’s assessment that rising with the ace would almost surely hand South the contract. After dummy came down, East could see that, in due course, declarer would score seven spades, the ace of hearts and the king of clubs. East also knew from his partner’s lead of the diamond deuce (fourth-best) that South had three diamonds. The play of the ace at trick one would thus ultimately establish the diamond queen as declarer’s 10th trick.

East could think of only one case where putting up the ace would be right. If South held ♠ A J x x x x ♥ x x ♦ J x x ♣ x, East would have to take the diamond ace and return a heart before declarer could establish the king of clubs for a heart discard.

But East reasoned that if declarer had this hand, West would have led the heart king from K-Q-x-x rather than a diamond from K-x-x-x. East therefore placed South with the king or queen of hearts, which meant that playing the diamond ten offered the best chance of defeating the contract.

Tomorrow: Thrust and counterthrust.

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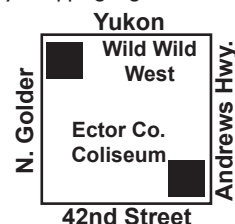
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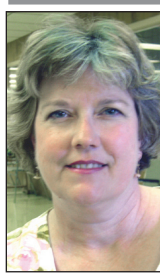


# Why not check this out? At the county library

Michelle Moran is known for her previous books “Nefertiti, The Heretic Queen” (F MOR M,) (the library

has it) and “Cleopatra’s Daughter.” “Madame Tussaud” (F MOR M) spans five years in the pre-history of the

French Revolution and on to the Reign of Terror. Smart and ambitious, Marie begins her sculpting work by working with her uncle in their celebrated wax museum. The museum provides Parisians with the latest news on fashion, politics and



HOLLIS McCRIGHT

gossip. Marie will find that it is a very thin line to walk — between the aristocracy and the people of the revolution and it will cause heart-break and terror. If you like sweeping stories, this is one to check out.

In most of the political thrillers, you will have manly men who risk life and limb to save the U.S. from certain nuclear annihilation. In Brad Thor’s latest book, “The Athena Project” (F THO B), the roles are reversed. There is a new breed of antiterrorism operator. Delta Forces newest members are women. Code named the Athena Project, four of the Delta Forces’ best and brightest women are to undertake a very dangerous mission. As is the case, time is short and several mysterious “occurrences” all resonate into a catastrophic event.

Ellen Meister has written a book with the theme: What if you could return to the road not taken? What if you could go back in time and choose differently? In “The Other Life” (F MEI E), Quinn Braverman has that choice. Happily married with a young son and another child on the way, Quinn Braverman has the perfect life. She also has an ominous secret. Every time she makes a major life decision, she knows an alternative reality exists in which she made the opposite choice — not only that, she knows how to cross over. But even in her darkest moments-like her mother’s suicide, Quinn hasn’t been tempted to visit ... until she receives shattering news about the baby she’s carrying. Desperate to escape her grief, Quinn slips through

the portal that leads to her other life: the life in which she stayed with her exciting but neurotic ex-boyfriend, and is childless. The life in which — as she is amazed to discover — her mother is still very much alive. Quinn is soon forced to make an impossible choice. Will she stay with the family she loves and face the painful challenges that lie ahead? Will the lure of being with her mother pull her into her other life for good?

Jan Karon’s Father Tim series continues with “In the Company of Others” (F KAR J). Tim and Cynthia take a long-awaited vacation to Ireland. A conglomeration of problems confronts the couple and it will take three generations to solve the problems that have lingered.

Greg Kincaid has written several books about dogs, how they can act as a catalyst for love and change in hearts and in communities. “A Dog Named Christmas” (F KIN G) and “Christmas with Tucker” (F KIN G) bring the magic of the season to two families, changing them forever.

This is a different take on a mystery. Mignon F. Ballard has written “Miss Dimple Disappears” (M BAL M), about the murder of a school custodian and the disappearance of a first-grade teacher. It is 1942 and the world is at war. The small town of Elderberry, Ga., is feeling the pinch of rationing. All the men are off to war or waiting for the draft to call their name. Charlie and her fellow teachers are surprised to arrive at school and find trash not emptied and the

heat not on. Discovered in a closet is Wilson the janitor, dead of an apparent heart attack. Remember this is wartime and mysterious events are happening.

C.J. Box’s Joe Pickett is in a pickle. His mother-in-law (no love lost between the two) is charged with the murder of her husband, Alden. Alden’s death might resonate with Howard County, as he is found hung from a wind turbine. The county attorney and sheriff are convinced Missy is the murderer, but Joe isn’t so sure due to events that occur. However, there are more twists and turns than the trail of a side-winder. This is another excellent mystery — “Cold Wind” (M BOX C) from C.J. Box.

Walter Mondale played a leading role in forging the modern Democratic Party and social change. With Hubert Humphrey as his mentor, Mondale became a senator from Minnesota from 1964 to 1976 and served as Jimmy Carter’s vice president from 1977-1981. His career spanned periods of great change in the American political scene and in his autobiography, “The Good Fight: A Life in Liberal Politics” (B MON W), he writes about many topics.

Be sure and look in the New Book Binder; there are far too many books for me to cover in the column.

The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The website is [www.howard-county.lib.tx.us](http://www.howard-county.lib.tx.us).

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

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

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# Lady Steers regional champs

## Win I-3A track and field title; Tuitt and Anderson shine individually

### Herald Staff Report

LUBBOCK — All track season, Brigitte Tuitt and Desiree Anderson have been counted on to provide leadership to the Big Spring High School girls' track team.

Tuesday, the duo led BSHS to the team title at the Region I-3A track meet in Lubbock.

Tuitt collected four gold medals and a silver, while Anderson netted three gold medals and a silver to lead

the Lady Steers, who scored 98 points to easily out-point runner-up Abilene Wylie.

"One of the deals I've preached all year ... is team," said Nick Roberson, BSHS girls track coach. "The reason we've won some big track meets this year is because we're a team. Even the girls who didn't win medals (Tuesday), like Cerbi Ritchey (fourth in the discus), earned important points for us."

Buitt's and Anderson's medal haul began Monday

when they finished first and second, respectively, in the long jump, but that proved to merely be an indicator of things to come.

Tuesday, Tuitt won individual gold in the triple jump, winning the event in a distance of 38 feet, four inches, and the 200-meter run, which she won in a time of 24.79 seconds.

Anderson reached the medal stand when she placed second in the 100-meter dash in a time of 12.45 seconds, .34 of

a second behind winner Chianne Lowe of Kennedale.

Tuitt and Anderson then teamed with April Turner and Dyrshae Vanderbilt to win both the 400-meter and 800-meter relays. In the 400 relay, Big Spring crossed the finish line in 47.98 seconds to nip Kennedale and Lubbock Estacado, which finished second and third, respectively.

BSHS' 800 relay-winning time was 1 minute, 41.13 seconds. Kennedale again finished second, while Abilene

Wylie placed third.

Individuals and relays finishing in the top two spots at the regional meet advance to the Class 3A state track and field meet later this month in Austin.

"About the only thing you can really say about Bridgette is that she seized the moment (Tuesday)," Roberson said. "When it comes to leadership, both she and Desiree are just there. They both are

See **TRACK**, Page 2B

## In brief

### Big Spring boosters to meet Thursday

The Big Spring Booster Club will hold a meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday in the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

The purpose of the meeting will be to plan the annual Spring Sports Banquet.

For more information, contact Denise Carillo at 816-1685.

### FHS sports banquet set for May 16

The Forsan High School All-Sports Banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, May 16, at Dora Roberts Community Center.

Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased at the FHS main office. High school athletes will be admitted for free.

Deadline to purchase tickets is Thursday, May 12.

For more information, contact the high school at 263-6571, ext. 1.

### Big Lake site for golf tourney

The Elnora Chamberlain Memorial four-lady scramble Golf Tournament will be held June 18-19 in Big Lake. Cost is \$300 per team.

For more information, call 325-450-6150.



File photo

**Howard College's Olive Naotala hits a home run in softball action earlier this year. The Hawks open play in the Region V softball tournament Thursday when they face Frank Phillips College in a first-round game beginning at noon at Lubbock Christian University.**

# Twins' Liriano throws no-hitter

CHICAGO (AP) — In his decade-long professional career, Francisco Liriano had never thrown a shutout or even a complete game. Not at any level, not in any league.

So much for those old stats. Now, he's Mr. No-Hitter.

The struggling Minnesota lefty pitched the first no-hitter in the majors this season, hanging on Tuesday night for a most unlikely gem and a 1-0

win over Chicago White Sox.

"It's an opportunity for him that he will remember for the rest of his life," said former Twins ace Bert Blyleven, who's headed to the Hall of Fame.

Liriano (2-4) began the game with a 9.13 ERA and had been getting tagged so much that there was speculation he'd lose his spot in the Twins' rotation.

Liriano dodged six walks and struck out only two. Of his 123 pitches, just 66 were strikes.

"To be honest I was running out of gas," he said. "I just thank my teammates that they made some great plays behind me tonight."

The final out came on perhaps Chicago's hardest-hit ball of the evening, with shortstop Matt Tolbert taking two quick

steps to snare Adam Dunn's line drive.

"When I go out there I try to think positive," the 27-year-old Liriano said. "I don't want to think about, 'They're going to put me in the bullpen.'"

After lasting just three innings in his previous start against Tampa Bay, Liriano excelled on a cold night at

See **TWINS**, Page 2B

# Can Dirk roll on after upstaging Kobe in opener?

### By GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kobe Bryant and Dirk Nowitzki were born just two months apart in 1978, and they've both been NBA superstars for over a decade. They've won one league MVP award apiece, and Bryant has only a slight edge in career scoring averages and All-Star appearances.

Nobody would ever compare Nowitzki with Bryant in the metrics that matter most, however. In championships, in big-game performances, Dirk just isn't in Kobe's league.

Yet after Nowitzki and his Dallas Mavericks thoroughly outplayed Bryant's Los Angeles Lakers down the stretch of their 96-94 comeback victory in their second-round series opener, Nowitzki's teammates think this might be the season their German 7-footer

erases their mutual postseason reputation — although he'll have to damage Bryant's invincible aura to do it.

"He always wants the ball down the stretch, and he always finds a way to get it done," said Dallas guard Jason Kidd, whose veteran defensive savvy also caused problems for Bryant. "He likes that stage. You don't find a lot of guys who like that stage. Kobe is one of them, but (Nowitzki) has done a lot of work to get there with him. He and Kobe are the two best players on the floor, and he found a way to get it done last night."

Game 2 is Wednesday night at Staples Center.

Although Bryant is widely perceived to be the NBA's best late-game scorer after a 15-year career filled with clutch play, some statistics show Dirk is a better closer than Kobe, including Nowitzki's superior shooting percentage

on last-minute shots in tight games. Bryant has missed crucial shots in several buzzer-beating situations over the past few seasons, including his miss off the back rim to end Game 1.

Nowitzki scored 11 points in the fourth quarter Monday night during the Mavericks' first-ever playoff win in Los Angeles, including four in the final 40 seconds. With Staples Center collectively screaming in his ear with 19.5 seconds to play, Nowitzki coolly made two free throws to give Dallas its first lead of the second half.

"I've basically seen it all in this league," Nowitzki said after the Mavericks' workout at the Los Angeles Clippers' training complex. "It's my 13th year. I've got to be ready for anything. I can adjust to just about anything, and the good thing is we've got a lot of shooters on this team. We can do a lot of things."

Bryant scored 21 of his 36 points in the second half, but he couldn't close out the Mavs. His bad pass was stolen by Jason Terry with 20 seconds left, and he fumbled a handoff from Pau Gasol with 4 seconds to play before missing that catch-and-shoot 3-pointer.

Nowitzki was the cooler playoff customer, while Bryant made crucial mistakes to cap the Lakers' collapse. No wonder Staples Center fans appeared more confused than angry after their team blew a 16-point lead to lose their second straight series opener.

"I'm not clutch," Bryant

adnappedann sitting out

another practice at the Lak-

ers' training complex.

Nowitzki and Bryant have struck up a friendship during times together at All-Star games or the Olympics, but Bryant doesn't feel a personal rivalry with Nowitzki. After all, they had never met in the

playoffs before Game 1.

Their career postseason scoring averages are nearly identical, around 25.5 points apiece, and they're both among the highest in NBA history. But Bryant has scored at least 30 points in 81 playoff games, more than anybody except Michael Jordan, and his steady brilliance has pushed the Lakers to seven NBA finals, including the past three.

Nowitzki's offensive talents are unique among 7-footers, but he still hasn't led the Mavericks to the franchise's first title during a decade of playoff appearances.

He got close in 2006, but Nowitzki shot poorly while the Mavericks blew a 2-0 lead over the Miami Heat to lose the NBA finals. A year later, Dallas was knocked out of the first round by eighth-seeded Golden State, and Nowitzki went 2 for 13 in the Warriors' clinching victory.



# Bullpen woes again as Texas loses

**By TIM BOOTH**  
AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE — Already on a bit of a slide, Ron Washington was asked his thoughts on the performance of his pitching staff entering Tuesday night's series opener in Seattle.

"My pitching is what it is and as long as they're healthy, they're human. They're going to have bad days, too," the Texas manager said.

If the Rangers' bullpen has too many bad days, it could become more than just a little worrisome for Washington.

Justin Smoak's RBI single in the eighth inning off reliever Pedro Strop pulled Seattle even, Jack Cust followed with the go-ahead RBI single off Darren Oliver and the

Mariners rallied for a 4-3 win over the Rangers on Tuesday night.

Texas has now dropped five of six and since sweeping Kansas City April 22-24 to improve to 14-7, the Rangers have gone 2-7.

"We're not crying about it. The guys we've got down there, we've got confidence in them. We've just go to keep putting them out there and hope they get the job done," Washington said after the loss.

"We're not getting the job done right now," he added.

Already without Josh Hamilton and closer Neftali Feliz, the Rangers were given a couple of more issues on Tuesday night.

Starter Alexi Ogando

pitched well through six innings, but was forced to leave after a blister formed under his fingernail. That meant Washington had to turn to his bullpen sooner than he wanted and just a day after the Rangers relievers blew their fourth save opportunity of the season.

Strop (0-1) had allowed just one earned run in his first 10 appearances this season, but gave up three against the Mariners. Strop gave up a leadoff single to Ryan Langerhans in the seventh and Langerhans later scored on Ichiro Suzuki's double-play grounder to pull Seattle even at 2-all.

Down 3-2, Seattle opened the eighth with a bloop single by Adam Kennedy that fell in front of David Murphy in

left field. Miguel Olivo then dropped a bunt to advance pinch-runner Jack Wilson, but Strop slipped fielding the bunt and Olivo was safe.

Smoak grounded a 1-0 pitch into the hole between first and second. The grounder bounced off Mike Napoli as he dived and caromed into right field, allowing Wilson to score and Olivo to reach third.

Oliver replaced Strop and saw Cust line his first pitch back up the middle to score Olivo with the go-ahead run.

"It's good when you give your team the opportunity to win. I feel like I couldn't stop the bleeding," Strop said. "I'm upset."

Texas was held hitless for the first five innings by Seat-

tle starter Erik Bedard, who threw seven strong innings. Ian Kinsler doubled to lead off the sixth and scored on Michael Young's single for a 2-1 lead. Texas retook the lead in the eighth when Julio Borbon singled off Seattle reliever David Pauley (1-0) and later scored on Elvis Andrus' perfectly placed squeeze bunt.

"It's hard. Bedard pitched a great game," Kinsler said. "We put ourselves in position to win. If you can do that every night with our team good things are going to happen."

Texas now must wait to see how Nelson Cruz feels on Wednesday. Cruz left the game in the seventh inning with tightness in his right quad. He's expected to be re-examined on Wednesday.

## TRACK

Continued from Page 1B

built and programmed to have five-event days like this ... The competition was extremely tough, but they put in a good run for us."

Roberson indicated he might tweak the lineup of the 400-meter relay squad when it competes at the state meet May 13 at Myers Stadium in Austin.

"We're going to look at some stuff and see if we can't make (the 400 relay) even faster," Roberson said. "The 800 looks pretty solid, so we're going to leave it like it is."

Other individual finishes for Big Spring included Anderson, who placed fourth in the triple jump (37-0.25), Ritchey, fourth in discus (119-02) and Turner, fourth in the 200-meter run (26.44).

**Menefield qualifies in two events**

LUBBOCK — Just as he did in 2010, Big Spring High School's Mike Menefield will compete in two events at the upcoming state track and field meet in Austin.

Menefield qualified for the state meet by placing first in the triple jump and second in the long jump at the Region I-3A meet, which concluded Tuesday in Lubbock.

After winning the triple jump during the first day of the regional meet Monday, Menefield recorded a distance of 22 feet, 1.25 inches to place second in the long jump Tuesday.

He tried to qualify in a third event, but finished fourth in the 100-meter run with a time of 11.02 seconds.

Menefield was the only member of the BSHS boys' track team to qualify for the state meet.

Other top finishers for BSHS included Seth Pearson, who placed fourth in both the 110-meter and 300-meter hurdles.

In the relays, BSHS finished sixth in the 800-meter event and fifth in the 1,600-meter run.

**Johnson, relay squad headed to state meet**

ODESSA — The classification has changed but the destination remains the same for Forsan's Ty Johnson and the Buffaloes' 400-meter relay squad.

Both Johnson and the relay team earned their second straight trip to the state track and field meet by placing second in their respective events at the Region I-2A meet in Odessa.

Johnson and the relay went to the Class 1A state meet in 2010.

Johnson finished behind Landon Meek of Wall in the 100-meter sprint with a time of 11.36 seconds, 5/100th of a second behind Meek.

Johnson then teamed with Brendan Roman, Elgin Suazo and Kolten Smith to finish second in the 400 relay in a time of 43.3 seconds. Sonora won the event in a time of 43.06.

Forsan's Ambra Hill, who has been hampered with a groin injury, was unable to qualify for a third straight trip to the state track meet. Her best finish Tuesday was when she placed fourth in the 300-meter hurdles.

**Stanton's Montez wins regional gold**

ODESSA — Adam Montez of Stanton High School earned a spot in the upcoming Class 2A state track and field meet by winning the 800-meter run at the Region I-2A meet in Odessa Tuesday.

Montez won the event in a time of 1 minute, 58.05 seconds. Frank Baca of Muleshoe finished second, approximately two-tenths of a second behind Munoz.



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## TWINS

Continued from Page 1B

U.S. Cellular Field. The Twins ended a six-game losing streak in a matchup of shaky teams.

Liriano mixed fastballs, sliders and soft stuff, kept the White Sox

off-balance and showed the talent that he's always possessed.

"He was using all of his pitches. It was such a nice thing to see him smile like that," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "We've said that Liriano has electric stuff, no-hitter stuff. And, he did it tonight."

Liriano made history more than four years after he underwent Tommy John surgery, hoping to recover from an elbow injury that threatened to take away his eye-popping repertoire and end his career. It's been a long climb back — last season, he was picked as the AL comeback player of the year.

This year, the Twins have told Liriano to forget the strikeouts, try to pitch to contact, let the defense do the work.

With two outs in the seventh, third baseman Danny Valencia went behind the bag and into foul territory to grab Carlos Quentin's hard

hopper and then made a strong throw to first.

And on Liriano's final pitch, Dunn hit a liner that appeared headed to left field. But Tolbert moved to his right, made the catch, spun around and raised the ball in triumph with his bare hand.

"I thought it was a base hit," Liriano said. "When I saw him catch it, I was so excited."

Tolbert sprinted to the mound, where the pitcher was being mobbed by teammates, to personally deliver the prize.

A season after the Year of the Pitcher featured six no-hitters, there had been a few close calls in the opening months. Liriano, making his 205th career start in the majors and minors, finished off his bid.

Liriano survived a rocky ninth inning that began when Brent Morel grounded to shortstop, with Tolbert making a one-hop throw that first baseman Justin Morneau neatly scooped. Juan Pierre walked and Alexei Ramirez popped to shortstop.

Liriano fell behind Dunn 3-0 in the count,

then got a pair of strikes. After a foul ball, Dunn followed with his liner.

Dunn dropped to 0 for 16 against left-handers this season.

For Tolbert it was the end of an unforgettable experience. He got the start at shortstop as the Twins moved Alexi Casilla to second base.

"I was excited and a little nervous. It's not every day that you get to play behind a no-hitter," Tolbert said. "I was thinking somehow we had to get this guy (Dunn) out. I know he's so dangerous. I was playing him up the middle a little bit, and he hit it in the right spot."

Liriano was backed by Jason Kubel's fourth-inning homer. He won in a game that took just 2 hours, 9 minutes.

Liriano, 3-0 against the White Sox last season, walked Pierre leading off the first and Quentin with one out in the second, but both were erased on double plays. Chicago put two on in the fourth, and center fielder Denard Span raced into left-center to grab Quentin's long drive.

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**PIZZA INN**  
TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR ALL POSITIONS & SHIFTS. GOOD PERSONALITY A MUST. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

Help Wanted

**KITCHEN HELP & CARHOP.** Must be Neat in Appearance. Honest & Dependable. No experience necessary will train. Inquire at Wagon Wheel, 2010 Scurry St. No phone call Please!



Looking to work with a stable, well-established company. Our agency is rapidly growing and seeking new staff to join our team!

**Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapists Needed**  
Seeking Therapists to provide home visits for adults. Positions are available in a variety of locations. We are offering PRN and Contract positions. Enjoy being a part of a team that believes in leading with our values. If you are interested in joining our team send resume to: c/o P.O. Box 1431/205, Big Spring, TX 79721-1431.

**MAINTENANCE I**  
**John Crane Production Solutions** has an immediate opening for a Maintenance I technician at our Big Spring, TX facility. Responsibilities include: install, maintain, and repair a variety of production/non-production related equipment. Position also includes some building and grounds maintenance. Qualified individual should have a working knowledge of plumbing and electrical wiring, aptitude to diagnose mechanical related problems, and experience using test equipment and hand tools. Forklift operation is a requirement. This full-time position offers competitive wages, health insurance, and 401K. Apply online at [www.johncrane.com](http://www.johncrane.com)

**MAINTENANCE II**  
**John Crane Production Solutions** has an immediate opening for a Maintenance II technician at our Big Spring, TX facility. Responsibilities include: installing, maintaining, and repairing a variety of production/non-production related equipment. Position also includes some building and grounds maintenance. Qualified individual must possess electrical license. Instructs and trains personnel on major projects. Qualified individual should have a working knowledge of electrical wiring, aptitude to diagnose mechanical related problems, and experience using test equipment and hand tools. Forklift operation is a requirement. This full-time position offers competitive wages, health insurance, and 401K. Apply online at [www.johncrane.com](http://www.johncrane.com)

**NATURAL GAS** processing plant NE of Big Spring, TX is seeking an experienced mechanic for high and low speed engines and compressors. Salary DOE. Excellent benefits. Paid vacation, 401k, and paid medical insurance. Send resume to: Plant Supervisor, 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511 or fax 432-399-4290 or email [mwcol@wtggas.com](mailto:mwcol@wtggas.com)

Help Wanted

**NEED CDL Driver-** Home Nightly, Local Run, Part-time or Full-time and Shop hand with preferred constructional experience, Call (432)267-4700.

**NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE** Store now hiring cooks, cashiers, stockers. All Shifts. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700.



**NOW HIRING** Experienced Equipment Operator and (1) Yard Hand and Experienced Secretary. Must be able to pass a drug test. Apply in person @ Erath Iron and Metal. For more information call (432)268-1512.



**OIL FIELD** Company know hiring CDL Drivers in the Permian Basin area. Must have clean driving record and Hazmat in 30 days from hire date. Great pay and benefits. Call (940)549-8100 leave detailed message if no answer.

**PART-TIME SALES** Position. Must be good with math and people. Call (432)213-0775 or come by Decorator's Center 410 FM 700.

**PIZZA INN**  
**NOW HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS.** MUST HAVE CLEAN DRIVING RECORD AND INSURANCE. MUST BE ABLE TO PASS DRUG TEST. MAKE UP TO \$12.00 PER HOUR. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

**REGIS HAIR** Salon, Big Spring Market now hiring full-time hair **Stylist.** Benefits include ongoing education, stock and 401k plan, 529 college fund, incentive program. All supplies furnished except shears. Medical and eye insurance available. Come Gone Our Team. Call Diana (432)263-1111 or apply in person.

**RUSTY'S OILFIELD** Service In Stanton has immediate openings for CDL Driver, roustabout pushers and helpers. Must have valid drivers license. Apply in person at 3327 W I20 in Stanton. 432-756-2821.

**WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY** Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are background check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 19 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.



Seeking Sitters to work for Private Duty Clients. Hourly Rate. Call 1-800-201-5904.

**Travel Centers of America**  
Now hiring servers, cooks, cashiers, Asst. managers. Great benefits, apply at [www.mytajob.com](http://www.mytajob.com) or call 888-669-8256.

Help Wanted

**SECURITY OFFICERS** Needed for Hospital Federal Inmate Protection detail. All positions are Part-time and PRN.

**Physical Requirements:** Must be in general good health and vision must be correctable to 20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye. The ability to distinguish basic colors is required. Emotional and mental stability is required.

**Other Requirements:** Must be able to pass State and Federal Backgrounds and Credit Checks.

**Experience Requirements:** One year (2040) hours of experience in the armed forces or coast guard which involved significant performance of guard duty of detainees or prisoners; or the equivalent experience in a federal, state, or local government, or private organization which involved protecting/police duties, or college level training in courses such as corrections or police science may be substituted for experience at the ratio of two hours of instructions for one hour of experience. Apply at Workforce Center (in the Post Office), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

Items for Sale

\*\*HOT ITEM\*\*

2000 34' Holiday Rambler fifth wheel. 3 slideouts/washer dryer combo, 2 leather recliners, queen bed, sofa make full bed, \$20,000 OBO. Call Keith at (903)390-0012.

**12X16 PORTABLE** Office Building \$4,400.00. Good for extra room. Insulated and AC. Call (432)213-0989 or can be seen at 1603 East 3rd.

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Opening 9 am

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**SOLID OAK** Gun Cabinet-Holds 8 Guns. Queen size sleeper sofa in great condition. Call (432)517-4984 or 270-4984.

Lost and Found

**FOUND SMALL** dog (Chihuahua) near Marcy School. Call (432)816-7171 to claim.



**MISSING** Orange and White, 2 year old male from Coronado Neighborhood. Neutered. Call (432)268-9144.

Miscellaneous

**2007 SUNTRACKER** deck boat w/trailer; 19.5 ft; 40hp motor; Call (432)466-2294, 213-0713, or 264-7789.

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**FREE INSIDE** Cats, about 3 months old. Call (432)270-8330.

**FREE TO** good home 1/2 Lab & 1/2 Husky puppies. Would be good family pets. Call Local (254)485-4716.

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**1800 WALLACE**, 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, garage, CH/A. \$700. Month, \$500. deposit. No HUD. No Pets. Non-smoker. References required. Call (432)270-3849 for more information.

**511 EAST** 18th. 2 bedroom, stove & refrigerator furnished, fenced yard. Good Location. \$500. Month, \$250. deposit. Call 432-267-1543 or 270-5543.

**804 SETTLES**, Newly Remodeled 2 Bdrm, 1 bath, CH/A, no pets. \$600.00 month, \$500.00 deposit. Call (432)816-5570.

**CORPORATE-** Fully Furnished House- 2618 Albrook. All Utilities, \$1200 per month, \$600 deposit. Call 770-906-0672.



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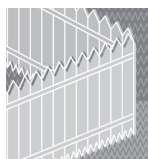
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The day gets off to a slow start, but the afternoon brings a new burst of energy and motivation. The fog of leisurely purposelessness that pervaded yesterday will dissipate, and there's a clear sightline to a beautiful future drawing us ever nearer. As the moon shifts from Taurus to Gemini, matters of finance will be hashed out in discussion.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You're sending out all the right signals, and you'll soon meet your perfect match for business and/or pleasure. Keep your people skills tuned so you can be ready to connect.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Contributions that were taken for granted will now be noticed. You'll be celebrated. Your usual graciousness will be appreciated. And if you do something extra, your loved ones will be beside themselves.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You'll be in another one of your playful moods. Your affectionate joking will be well received as long as you keep it light and steer clear of truly sensitive triggers. You'll invigorate a relationship with humor.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Your work will be a major source of self-esteem. You don't mind knocking yourself out to do a good job today, because in the end, you know it will matter. It will be nice to hear the

pleased comments.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be asked to do something you just don't understand. You need to know the purpose and the plan; otherwise, you have a hard time following through. So ask more questions. Don't act until you "get it."

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Wishing won't make it so. It's a start, though — an indicator of what goals you might be willing to put effort behind. For extra luck, make a declaration to Capricorn or Taurus about what you'll do.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be negotiating terms of intimacy. You'll be deciding whether to hug or shake hands and putting thought into the salutations at the beginning and end of every correspondence.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You stay busy, taking action because you enjoy the feeling of being in motion. This is more than a whirlwind of activity. You are dancing with life, and the two of you make a dashing duo.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov.

22-Dec. 21). You'll do your best, not because you're trying to make someone like you or because it's been suggested that it's what you should do. You'll do your best because it's who you are — a winner.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Practice will make you better. You'll figure out how to best focus your efforts. It requires humility, honesty and a lack of ego to see the results you're getting and determine what needs improving.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Galileo was arrested for saying the Earth orbits around the sun. One era's dangerous radical is another era's harmless eccentric. You have some of your own potentially incendiary ideas and must be careful whom you tell.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Your responsibilities will be many. Handling them all depends on your level of organization. Make a list and check it twice. Otherwise, something is sure to fall through the cracks.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (May 4). You have big

plans for this year, and yet you are still able to live in the moment — it's the secret to your perpetual youth. Your visual sense is brilliant, and you put your style stamp on everything in your personal environment, from your clothing to your cooking and your home, inside and out. You share a special bond with Libra and Aquarius people. Your lucky numbers are: 11, 7, 39, 26 and 4.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I'm 16, and I think it's time for me to stop being a tomboy. I've never felt comfortable in a dress, and if I start wearing them now, I know my friends will make fun of me. Yes, there's a guy I like. He's a Capricorn, and he seems to go for the more girly girls. What's your advice? I'm a Sagittarius. Could it ever work out between us if I make an effort to be more feminine?"

Experimentation and boldness are two strong suits for Sagittarius. Also, Sagittarians tend to be sophisticated beyond their years and possess a global mindset about fashion. Consider that there are plenty of

feminine looks that don't involve skirts and dresses. Get a few magazines, and tear out the pages that appeal to you. Maybe it's a mascara advertisement or a style of shoe. Make a collage of all your ideas. Then give yourself permission to change your style and to experiment as often as you want. If you feel the dress is a must, wear it around the house first, just to get used to it. When you debut your new look, act confident even if you don't feel that way. Your friends will be less likely to comment if you show a great deal of conviction.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Recording artist and talk-show host Lily Allen recently launched her own record label. This controversial British pop star was born under the Taurus sun, a terrific aspect for those who make a living with their voice. Mercury and Venus in Aries is an indication of a fighting spirit and an innovative approach to communication and every aspect of self-expression.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com) and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail.  
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Annie's Mailbox ®

**Dear Annie:** My mother is in her late 80s and is becoming increasingly difficult. She's always been rather critical, but now she is downright rude and insulting.

It's as though being old gives her the right to say anything that pops into her head without consideration for anyone else's feelings.

My husband tells me to ignore her comments. I know he's right, but old habits die hard, and I still try to defend myself, and also my family when she insults them.

I know she isn't going to change, so somehow I have to find a better way to respond to her. Please give me some strategies to control my instinctive defensive reactions — without starting an argument, being "hateful" (her word) or walking away, which would be tantamount to declaring war. — *Dutiful Daughter*

**Dear Daughter:** Your mother may be exhibiting early signs of dementia, one of which is the inability to censor what comes out of her mouth.

Ask if you can accompany her to her next doctor's appointment.

That will give you an opportunity to mention this possibility to the doctor and request an evaluation.

Perhaps if you can keep in mind that her insults are not entirely within her control, it will help you be less defensive and respond with sympathy.

**Dear Annie:** Now that my own children are adults, I am constantly being asked by family members to watch their children on evenings and weekends.

But I have a full-time job and need my downtime. Plus, my home is no longer kid friendly.

I like their children, but they are all under age

3, and it's a lot of work.

Every week, I'll get a call asking whether I can come to their home or they can drop off their child at mine.

They never offer to pay, and even if they did, I still don't care to baby-sit. I have managed to come up with some excuses, but I'm tired of lying about being busy.

Is there a tactful way to let them know I'm simply not interested in spending my free time running a day care center? — *No Day Care*

**Dear No Day Care:** You'll have to risk a little fallout if you want this problem to go away.

Tell your relatives, "I love your children dearly, but I simply don't have the energy to run after toddlers anymore. Sorry."

If you want to be especially nice, you can offer on rare occasion to baby-sit when the kids are already asleep.

*Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.*

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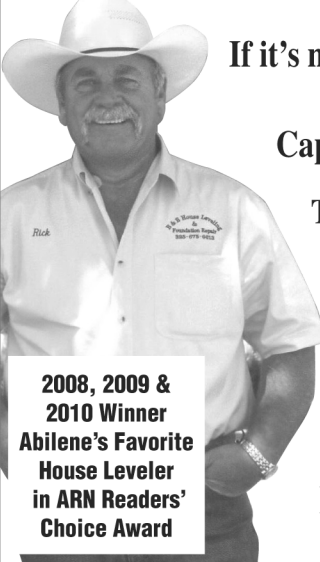


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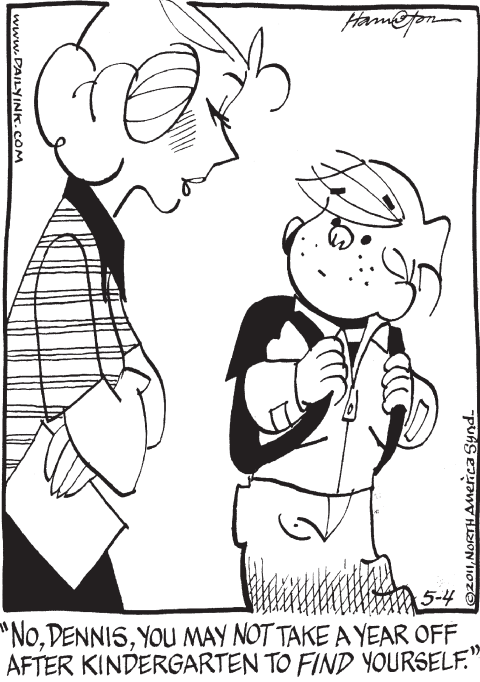
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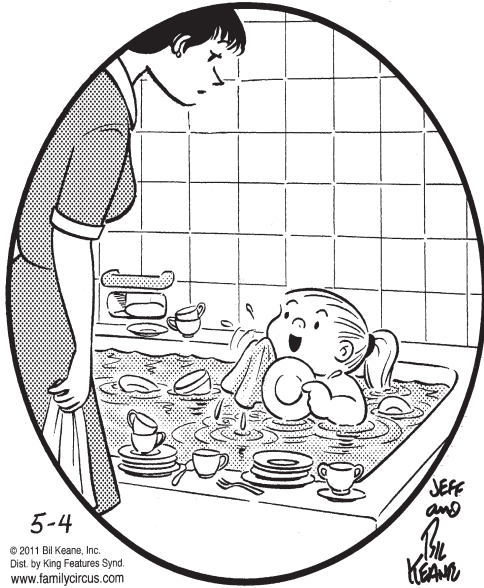
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|------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 5 :PM :30  | News ABC            | Alma Notic.        | Lopez Lopez        | News               | Noticias              | News                | Seinfeld Seinfeld    | Swallow House          | News Business             | 70s Show 70s Show   | Cash Cab Cash Cab      | man Forever, Jim Carrey                           | UFC Un-leashed         | Law & Order                                      | 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live     | Wizards Fish          | Nation Pardon        | SportsCenter              |
| 6 :PM :30  | Jeopardy! Wheel     | Cuando Me          | Two Men Two Men    | News Ent           | Caso Car-rado         | News                | King King            | McGee Dr. Diana        | PBS News-Hour             | Seinfeld Seinfeld   | MythBusters            |                                                   | UFC Un-leashed         | Bones                                            |                                   | Deck Deck             | Football NFL Live    | MLB Base-ball: Teams TBA. |
| 7 :PM :30  | Middle Better       |                    | Teresa (SS)        | Survivor-Is-land   | Aurora (SS)           | Minute to Win It    | There There          | Upd Bill Cloud         | Secrets of the Dead       | Top Model           | MythBusters            | Movie: Die Hard, Bonnie Bedelia                   | UFC Un-leashed         | NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA. | Game Game                         | Movie: 16 Wishes      | Year/Quar-terback    |                           |
| 8 :PM :30  | Family Cougar       |                    |                    | Criminal Minds     | Herederos-Monte       | Minute to Win It    | Browns Browns        | Light of the Southwest | NOVA (DVS)                | Top Model           | MythBusters            |                                                   | The Ultimate Fighter   | Coal                                             |                                   | Deck Deck             | Year/Quar-terback    |                           |
| 9 :PM :30  | Happy Family        | Triunfo del Amor   | Simpsons How I Met | C.M.: Sus-pect     | La Reina del Sur      | Law & Order: SVU    | Payne Payne          |                        | Saving the Bay            | Payne Browns        | MythBusters            |                                                   | Coal                   | NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA. |                                   | Deck Deck             | Year/Quar-terback    | Baseball Tonight          |
| 10 :PM :30 | News Nightline      | Impacto            | Noticiero          | News Letterman     | Noticias Ei Cartel    | News Jay Leno       | Conan                | Bill Cloud Chumney     | Charlie Rose              | Roseanne Roseanne   | MythBusters            | Movie: Terminator 2: Judgment Day, Edward Furlong | The Ultimate Fighter   | Coal                                             | The Mo'Nique                      | Wizards Wizards       | Sport Sci-ence       | SportsCenter              |
| 11 :PM :30 | Jimmy Kim-mel Live  | Para Volver a Amar | Law & Order: SVU   | Late               | Decisiones (SS)       | Late Night          | Lopez Tonight        | Cortes Sala            | World T. Smiley (Off Air) | South Pk South Pk   | MythBusters            |                                                   | Coal                   |                                                  | Wendy Wil-liams                   | Hannah Hannah         | SportsNation         | Baseball                  |
| 12 :AM :30 | Extra Paid          | Destilando Amor    | Paid Raymond       | Insider            | Pagado                | News                | Conan                | Upd Light              |                           | Cops TBA            | MythBusters            |                                                   | UFC Un-leashed         | Inside the NBA                                   | Movie: Back in the Day, Pam Grier | Wizards Wizards       | NASCAR               | SportsCenter              |
| 1 :AM :30  | Paid Paid           | Mujer... Cero      | King/Hill          | TMZ (37) Up to     | Pagado                | Poker After Dark    | Lopez Tonight        | Light of the Southwest |                           | Gospel Tripp        | Overhaulin'            | Breaking Bad                                      | Amazing Video          | Southland                                        |                                   | Suite Life Suite Life | SportsNation         | SportsCenter              |

DENNIS THE MENACE



"No, Dennis, you may NOT take a year off after kindergarten to FIND yourself."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

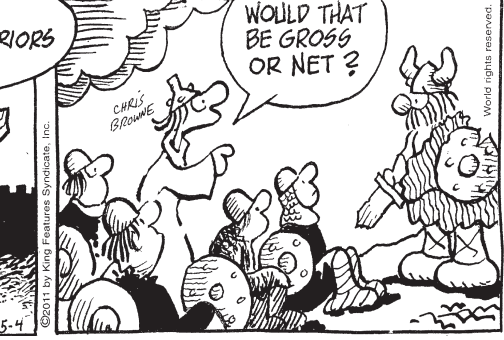


"Why don't you get YOUR dishes and join me, Mommy?"

HAGAR

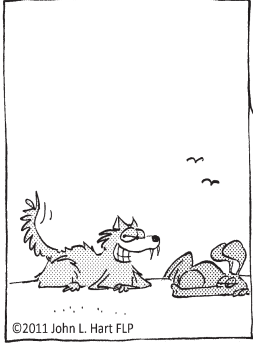


THE FIRST MAN WHO CLIMBS YON CASTLE WALL AND FIGHTS THROUGH HUNDREDS OF VICIOUS WARRIORS WILL RECEIVE A THOUSAND GOLD COINS !!

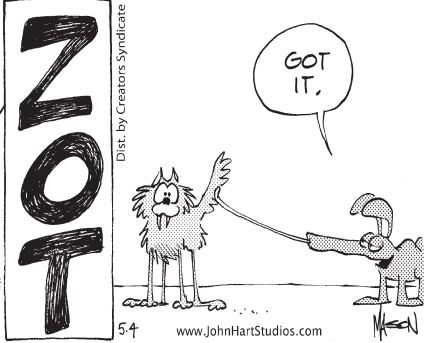


WOULD THAT BE GROSS OR NET ?

BC

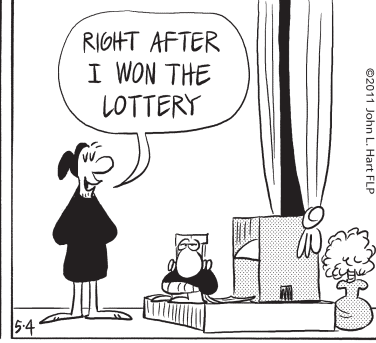


CHASING YOUR TAIL, HUH ? LOOKS LIKE FUN. .. MAYBE I'LL GIVE IT A TRY.



GOT IT.

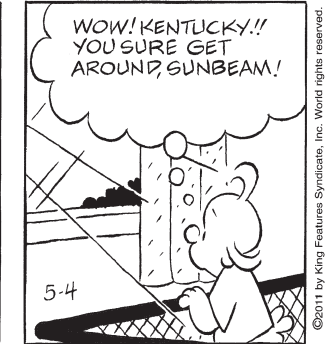
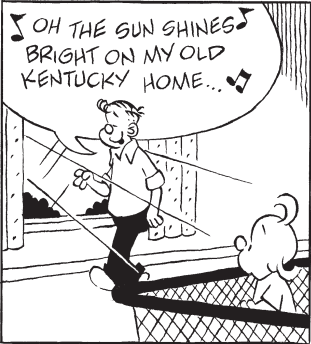
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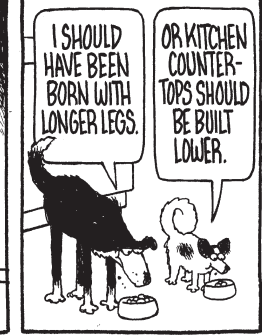
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HI AND LOIS



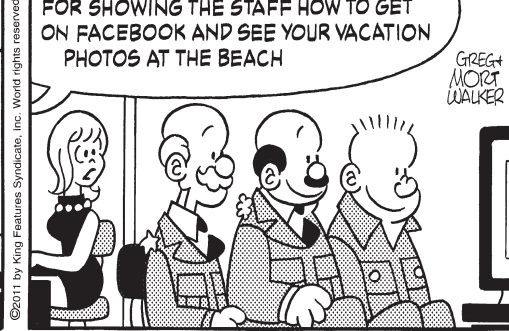
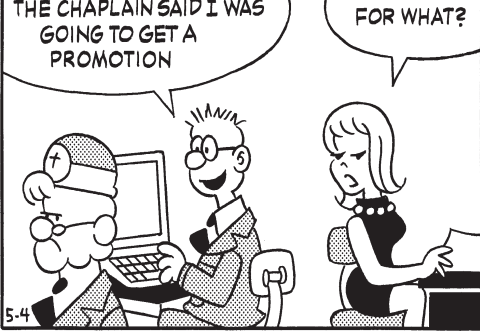
THE OTHER COAST



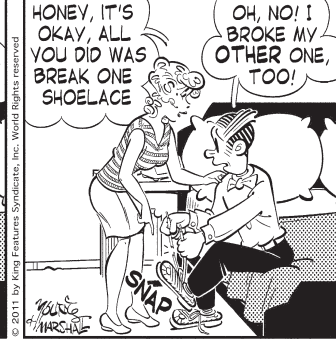
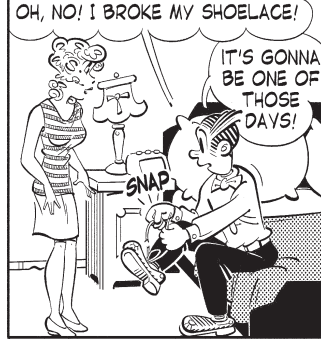
SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, May 4, the 124th day of 2011. There are 241 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 4, 1961, the first group of "Freedom Riders" left Washington, D.C., to challenge racial segregation on interstate buses and in bus terminals. (The Freedom Riders were repeatedly attacked by violent mobs, mostly in Alabama.)

On this date:

In 1626, Dutch explorer Peter Minuit landed on present-day Manhattan Island.

In 1776, Rhode Island declared its freedom from England, two months before the Declaration of Independence was adopted.

In 1886, at Haymarket Square in Chicago, a labor demonstration for an 8-hour work day turned into a deadly riot when a bomb exploded.

In 1904, the United States took over construction of the Panama Canal.

In 1916, responding to a

demand from President Woodrow Wilson, Germany agreed to limit its submarine warfare. (However, Germany resumed unrestricted submarine warfare the following year.)

In 1932, mobster Al Capone, convicted of income-tax evasion, entered the federal penitentiary in Atlanta. (Capone was later transferred to Alcatraz Island.)

In 1942, the Battle of the Coral Sea, the first naval clash fought entirely with carrier aircraft, began during World War II. (The outcome of the battle was considered a tactical victory for Japan, but a strategic one for the Allies.)

In 1959, the first Grammy Awards ceremony was held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Domenico Modugno won Record of the Year and Song of the Year for "Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu (Volare)"; Henry Mancini won Album of the Year for "The Music from Peter Gunn."

In 1970, Ohio National Guardsmen opened fire during an anti-war protest at Kent State University, killing four students and wounding nine others.

In 1980, Marshal Josip Broz Tito, president of Yugoslavia, died three days before his 88th birthday.

Today's Birthdays: The former president of Egypt, Hosni Mubarak, is 83. Opera singer Roberta Peters is 81. Jazz musician Ron Carter is 74. Rock musician Dick Dale is 74. Singer-songwriter Nick Ashford is 69. Pop singer Peggy Santiglia (The Angels) is 67. Actor Richard Jenkins is 64. Country singer Stella Parton is 62. Actor-turned-clergyman Hilly Hicks is 61. Irish musician Darryl Hunt (The Pogues) is 61. Singer Jackie Jackson (The Jacksons) is 60. Rhythm-and-blues singer Oleta Adams is 58.

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|                           |            |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Answer to previous puzzle |            |        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 June honorees  
5 Ear part  
9 The States, for short  
14 Pennsylvania port  
15 Legendary lawman  
16 Cruise ship  
17 Major Atlanta thoroughfare  
20 Puts into a scrapbook, perhaps  
21 Letter starter  
22 Cunning  
23 Sound of relief  
25 Syrup source  
27 Bit of butter  
30 They're heard  
33 Leave out  
37 Choose  
39 Stable dweller  
40 Downfall  
41 Rich vocalization  
44 Factual  
45 From square one  
46 Bring to bear  
47 Internet address opener  
48 Start up again  
50 Corral kin  
51 Smidgen  
53 Bits of butter  
55 Charged particle  
58 Problem-solving aid  
61 Halloween costumes  
65 Seafood in a shell  
68 Come next

- 69 To be, to Marie  
70 Green Hornet's aide  
71 Pampers, with "on"  
72 Four-hand piano piece  
73 Male deer  
DOWN  
1 Pirates of the Caribbean star  
2 Sector  
3 José's days  
4 Religious groups  
5 "C'mon!"  
6 Low-tech propeller  
7 Brought up  
8 Sporting blade  
9 Prefix meaning "beyond"

- 10 Military address  
11 Small bills  
12 Become conscious of  
13 Pretentious  
18 Robberies, so to speak  
19 Talked fresh to  
24 Sympathetic  
26 Ltr. receptacle  
27 One of three dimensions  
28 Wide-awake  
29 Lulu  
31 What shirt collars cover  
32 Drafted, as a contract  
34 Shaggy locks  
35 Not moving  
36 Peevish

- 38 Moved like a tot  
42 Not at all  
43 Get new canines  
49 Tourist draw  
52 Lots of land  
54 Haberdashery supply  
55 On the rocks  
56 "Horrors!"  
57 Cozy retreat  
59 Took off the shelf  
60 Shakespearean rebuke  
62 Venetian-blind part  
63 Parting word  
64 Urban blight  
66 Feel bad about  
67 Rock to refine

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