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BIG SPRING HERALD

VOLUME 106, NUMBER 81

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MONDAY
MARCH 7, 2011



50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

CASA in need of help

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

It's all for the best interest of the child.
CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is gearing up to train more volunteers. Training for the Howard County area will begin April 11 and continue through April 21.

"Ideally, we would like to bring on at least 10 new Howard County volunteers," Robin Reece, volunteer coordinator, said. According to Reece, there are 35 pending cases in Howard County and 62 area children in foster or relative care, with child abuse and neglect on the rise.

CASA of West Texas currently has 150 volunteers working with 444 children throughout the areas they serve, which includes Andrews, Dawson, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Martin and Midland counties.

"Every year, thousands of Texas children are removed from their homes by the Department of Family and Protective Services because of abuse or neglect," Reece said.

When it comes to these cases, the judicial court is focused on the welfare of the child. To ensure the child's safety and stability during the year-long judicial process, the courts rely heavily on CASA volunteers to serve as their eyes and ears in the case, according to Reece.

"The volunteers are here to make sure the children are receiving vital services and are well cared for while their parents are performing their court-ordered duties," Reece said.

See **CASA**, Page 3

What: Volunteer advocates are needed for child abuse victims.

How: Training will be provided April 11-21.

Contact: Robin Reece at 432-683-1114 or by e-mail at robinr@casawtx.org.



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Customers sort through rows of multi-colored items for sale at the 42nd annual Big Spring Prospector's Club Gem and Mineral Show Saturday.

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Routine agenda for city council

□ To convene at 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday in council chambers.

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Tuesday's meeting of the Big Spring City Council features a rather routine agenda, as the government panel looks to give final approval to a resolution supporting House Joint Resolution 56, a bill currently being considered by the Texas Legislature that would outlaw certain mandates in the Lone Star State.

During its Feb. 22 meeting, the council approved first reading of the resolution, which calls for a constitutional amendment pro-

hibiting unfunded and underfunded mandates passed down from the state level to city and county governments.

"No bill enacted by the legislature on or after Jan. 1, 2012, requiring a local government to establish, expand or modify a duty or activity that requires the expenditure of revenue by the local government shall be effective until and unless the legislature appropriates or otherwise provides for the payment or reimbursement, from a source other than the revenue of the local government, or the costs incurred for the biennium by the local govern-

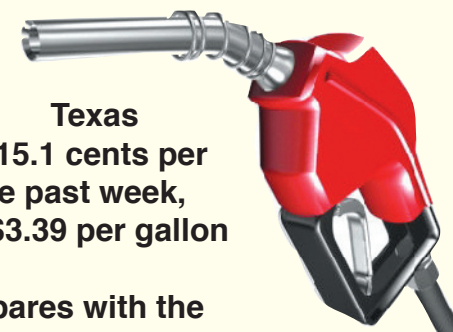
See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

Gasoline prices

Average retail gasoline prices in Texas have risen 15.1 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.39 per gallon Sunday.

This compares with the national average that has increased 12.6 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.47 a gallon, according to gasoline price website TexasGasPrices.com.

Prices Sunday were 78.9 cents per gallon higher than the same day one year ago and are 45.5 cents per gallon higher than a month ago. The national average has increased 36.0 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 73.6 cents per gallon higher than this day one year ago.



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Obituaries

Marie Turner Cruz



Marie Turner Cruz, 92, passed from this life in her home March 6, 2011, after an extended illness. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Joey Bacon officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Monday, March 7, 2011, at the funeral home.

She and her twin sister, Ruby, were born to Marvin Turner and Viola Isabell Turner on July 26, 1918, in Thackerville, Okla. The family moved to Westbrook when she was a small child. She attended Westbrook school and graduated from high school.

She moved to Big Spring, where she became interested in nursing and working with elderly people. She worked at Mountain View Lodge for several years and served as a medication aide. While working there, she met and married Edward Cruz. They had a good life and he was her constant companion and helper during her illness.

She was a faithful member of First United Methodist Church and her Sunday school class until she became home bound.

Marie had no children, but she assumed the roll of being a great aunt to her many nieces and nephews.

She is survived by her husband, Edward; two brothers, Travis Turner of Colorado City and Wendell Turner of Portland; and one sister, Joy Phillips of Odessa.

She was preceded in death by he parents, five brothers and two sisters.

Her family would like to thank the staff at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, the Crossroads Hospice staff, the aides, Dr. Nandlal Patel and his wife for the loving care they extended to them.

In lieu of flowers, a living memorial may be sent to the First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1229, Big Spring 79721-1229; or to Crossroads Hospice, 432 Main St., Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Harvey Cooper



Harvey Cooper, 70, of Big Spring died Saturday, March 5, 2011, in a local hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at Trinity Memorial Park with Ken Thomas officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at the funeral home.

He was born Jan. 15, 1941, in Rockwood and married Glenda Anderson on June 3, 1960, in Lubbock.

Harvey loved carpentry and became a master carpenter. He was a member of Masonic Lodge #1341 in Ft. Worth and had been a resident of Big Spring since 2005.

Survivors include his wife, Glenda Cooper of Big Spring; two daughters, Tammy Russo of Arlington and Angelia Palmer and husband David of Haltom City; his mother, Pauline Cooper of Anton; three brothers, Reginald Cooper, Garland Cooper and Jerry Cooper; three sisters, Sherron Isenberg, Helen Jennings and Ginger Stanley; and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Rex Ray Cooper; and one son, Glen Edward Cooper.

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

Stormee Nix Alexander

Stormee Nix Alexander, 31, of Iraan, formerly of Big Spring died Saturday, March 5, 2011, in Crockett County. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Betty Lou Benson



Betty Lou Benson, 77, of Big Spring died Friday, March 4, 2011, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Dec. 18, 1933, in Ada, Okla., to Eva Mattie and William Albert Norton. She was a homemaker. She had lived most of her life in Big Spring. She was a

Lutheran.

She is survived by two daughters, Pam Meyers and husband Henry of Comanche and Michele Boyles and husband Marvin of Big Spring; two sons, Mike Ploog and wife Benita of Dalhart and Keith Ploog of Midland; seven grandchildren, Ronda Ploog, Ian Boyles, Ashley Woodard, Terry Tatum, Jason Ploog, Jacob Ploog and Stevie Brewer; three great-grandchildren, Tara Tatum, Katlyn Ploog and Liberty Brim; one brother, Phillip Norton of Dalhart; and one sister, Shirley Hunt of Ada, Okla.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Floyd C. Benson, five brothers and two sisters.

Pallbearers will be Jacob Ploog, David Norton, Ian Boyles, Mike Allen, Abel Carrillo and Spencer Stephenson.

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

Paid obituary

Opal Mealer

Opal Mealer, 90, of Big Spring died Monday, March 7, 2011, in a local nursing home. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Catharine B. Green

Catharine B. Green, 94, of Big Spring died Saturday, March 5, 2011, at Marcy House. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- DANIEL MONTEZ VIERA SR., 23, of 1907 S. Main St., was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

- JUAN ARNULFO CARDONA, 25, of 109 Algerita, was arrested Saturday on charges of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle, driving while intoxicated – open container, no driver's license – when unlicensed and failure to appear (three counts).

- AMANDA RENEE MCGREGOR, 22, of Lamesa, was arrested Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- FLAVIO GARCIA, 25, of 3609 Hamilton, was arrested Saturday on a charge of assault causing bodily injury – family violence.

- JOHN ANTHONY MIER, 22, of 404 E. Sixth St., was arrested Saturday on charges of evading arrest or detention, theft, hindering officers discharging official duties, failure to appear (two counts), consumption of alcohol by a minor (two counts, warrants), public intoxication and disorderly conduct – fighting.

- LUIS ALBERTO GARFIAS, 22, of 2305 Marshall, was arrested Saturday on a charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and a warrant from another agency.

- DIANE JANE DOW, 50, of 1402 Tucson, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

- TRACY ABETO DIMALANTA, 25, of 2510 Chanute, was arrested Sunday on a charge of disorderly conduct – noise.

- THOMAS ROBERT HANSEN, 29, of 2510 Chanute, was arrested Sunday on a charge of disorderly conduct – noise.

- CHRISTOPHER ANDREW YANEZ, 18, of 1100 E. Fifth St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- FRANK FIERRO JR., 63, of 603 N.W. Fifth St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- MICHAEL WAYNE GOMEZ JR., 17, of 2703

Carol, was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- THEFT was reported in the 1400 block of S. Birdwell Lane.

- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 2300 block of Warren.

Sheriff

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

Note – Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report.

- GENE ALBERT RODRIGUEZ, 29, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for contempt of court – non payment of child support.

- ROBERT WILLIAM LITKE, 25, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on charges of displaying a expired license plate, displaying an expired registration and a judgment/sentence for contempt of court – non payment of child support (two counts).

- IRMA VALERIE ORTIZ, 28, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for contempt of court – non payment of child support.

- OSCAR HERNANDEZ, 44, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated.

- KYLE D. LACEY, 48, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

- LEONARD SHANE SLATON, 45, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of theft of property – more than \$1,500, less than \$20,000.

- AMANDA RENEE MCGREGOR, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

- DANIEL MONTEZ VIERA JR., 23, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- JUAN ARNULFO CARDINA, 25, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention with a motor vehicle, driving while intoxicated – open container, no driver's license and failure to appear (three counts).

- JOHN ANTHONY MIER, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention, hindering a police officer discharging official duties, failure to appear (two counts), theft, minor consuming alcohol (two counts), public intoxication and disorderly conduct – fighting.

- FLAVIO SERRANO GARCIA, 25, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of assault causing bodily injury – family violence.

- RICHARD LEE BERNAL, 25, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on charges of attorney general – failure to appear for motion for enforcement and a motion to revoke probation for hindering apprehension or prosecution of a known felon.

- LUIS ALBERTO GARFIAS, 22, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention with a motor vehicle, evading arrest or detention and public intoxication.

- DONNI KAY ROBERTSON, 26, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on municipal warrants for possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to appear, driving while license invalid and violation of a promise to appear.

- DIANE JANE DOW, 50, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- NORA ANN FLORES, 39, was arrested Sunday by DPS on charges of failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear.

- TRACY ABETO DIMALANTA, 25, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a noise violation.

- THOMAS ROBERT HANSEN, 29, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a noise violation.

See **SHERIFF**, Page 4



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► News briefs

Armored transport deal for
Gadhafi's army got State
Department approval but Congress
balked

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the months before Libyans revolted and President Barack Obama told leader Moammar Gadhafi to go, the U.S. government was moving to do business with his regime on an increasing scale by quietly approving a \$77 million dollar deal to deliver at least 50 refurbished armored troop carriers to the dictator's military.

Congress balked, concerned the deal would improve Libyan army mobility and questioning the Obama administration's support for the agreement, which would have benefited British defense company BAE. The congressional concerns effectively stalled the deal until the turmoil in the country scuttled the sale. Earlier last week, after all military exports to the Gadhafi regime were suspended, the State Department's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls informed Capitol Hill that the deal had been returned without action — effectively off the table, according to U.S. officials who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe the deal's sensitive details.

State Department spokesman Mark C. Toner said the proposed license was suspended along with the rest of “what limited defense trade we had with Libya.”

The Gadhafi regime's desire to upgrade its troop carriers was so intense that a Libyan official told U.S. diplomats in Tripoli in 2009 that the dictator's sons, Khamis and Saif, both were demanding swift action. Khamis, a commander whose army brigade reportedly attacked the opposition-held town of Zawiya with armored units and pickup trucks, expressed a “personal interest” in modernizing the armored transports, according to a December 2009 diplomatic message disclosed by WikiLeaks, the whistleblower website.

The administration's own interest in the deal amounted to a first cautious step toward allowing a major arms purchase by Gadhafi's regime even as U.S. officials waved off other Libyan approaches for weapons systems and military aid.

China's military buildup challenges
U.S. decades-long dominance in the
Asia-Pacific

WASHINGTON (AP) — When China launched threatening war games off Taiwan 15 years ago on the eve of an election on the self-governing island, the U.S. deployed two aircraft carriers, and China

quickly backed down.

Things don't seem so one-sided any more.

China's military has been on a spending spree at a time that the debt-ridden U.S. government is looking to cut defense costs.

On Friday, China announced a 12.7 percent hike for this year, the latest in a string of double-digit increases.

That trend has triggered worries in Congress and among security analysts about whether the United States can maintain its decades-long military predominance in the economically crucial Asia-Pacific.

While the U.S. military has been drained by 10 years of costly conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, China has developed air, naval and missile capabilities that could undercut U.S. superiority in China's backyard.

White House promotes tolerance as
Congress prepares for hearing on
Muslim radicalization

WASHINGTON (AP) — With tensions rising in the debate about terrorism and radicalization within the Islamic community, the White House is trying to lay the groundwork for tolerance, cooperation and a universal “American” desire to thwart violent extremism, regardless of religious beliefs.

President Barack Obama sent his deputy national security adviser, Denis McDonough, on Sunday to a Washington-area mosque known for its cooperation with the FBI and its rejection of the al-Qaida brand of Islam.

The timing of the speech was significant, coming just four days before a controversial congressional hearing on Islamic radicalization. Speaking to an interfaith forum of Muslims, Christians, Jews and other faiths, the president's point-man on counter-ing violent extremism was clear: “We're all Americans.”

The majority of the recent terror plots and attempts against the U.S. have involved people espousing a radical and violent view of Islam, making it difficult to ignore the role religion plays in this particular threat. But focusing too closely on Islam and the religious motives of these attempted terror attacks also threatens to alienate an entire community that has nothing to do with these violent beliefs.

New York Republican Peter King, chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee that is holding the hearings, thinks the Muslim community can and should do more to help law enforcement thwart these attacks.

Woman, 31, formerly
of Big Spring, dies
in vehicle accident

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

A former Big Spring resident was pronounced dead at the scene of a traffic accident Saturday on U.S. Highway 190 in Crockett County, approximately six miles east of Iraan.

Stormee Nix Alexander, 31, of Iraan, formerly of Big Spring was killed when the vehicle she was traveling in veered off the roadway and flipped end-over-end, according to officials with the Texas Department of Public Safety.

“The accident was reported at 7:45 p.m. Saturday,” DPS Communications Office Glenda Capps said. “She was traveling as a passenger in a 2009 Toyota CTX on U.S. Highway 190. The driver was 24-year-old Michael J. Alexander.

“The driver fell asleep about six miles east of Iraan, running off the roadway and striking a guard rail. The vehicle then began flipping end-over-end several times into a concrete embankment. Nix was not wearing a safety belt at the time of the accident and was ejected from the vehicle. She was pronounced dead at the scene by Justice of the Peace James Hearn shortly after.”

Capps said Michael Alexander was transported from the scene to

Iraan General Hospital, where he was listed in stable condition.

According to reports filed by Sr. Trooper Castulo Bilano, who works out of the Ozona DPS office, Michael Alexander was wearing his safety belt at the time of the accident.

Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

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

Have an idea?
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Chase Allen Musgrove, 23, died Thursday. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at First Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Mary Jane De La Garza Garcia, 61, died Thursday. Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Betty Lou Benson, 77, died Friday. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Thomas H. Weaver, 85, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Catherine Green, 94, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

CASA

Continued from Page 1

CASA volunteers can come from anywhere, as long as they are 21 years old,. After the application process is completed, the volunteer will go through approximately 30 hours of training which will cover topics such as the court system, family dynamics, communication and more. With the completion of training, the family court judge will appoint and swear in advocates and CASA will assign a case.

“Volunteers are asked to commit to at least one

year of service or until the case is closed,” Reece said.

During a case, a continuous dialogue is to be kept with CPS staff, service providers, doctors, teachers and caretakers. Monthly contacts are to be made with the children and CASA case manager. Also, volunteers are required to maintain continuing education hours throughout the year, according to Reece. These hours can be obtained through the monthly luncheons that are provided as well as through opportunities to attend state-level conferences.

“Thorough communi-

cation is key in preparing court reports detailing the volunteer's recommendations as to the best interest of the child,” Reece said. “As a volunteer, you will be playing a valuable role in the life and future of the child.”

The children who are in the child protective court system are dealing with a life of uncertainty. The amount of time that a child is in the system can vary, but one thing that remains constant, despite the ever changing lawyers, judges and caseworkers, is the CASA volunteer, Reece said.

“The CASA remains

constant from beginning to end,” Reece said. “They know the child's story from beginning to end, inside and out, up and down.”

The case load is ever-growing in Howard County and the ideal situation would be to not have case supervisors take on personal cases, but instead have volunteers assigned to those cases. To ensure that the volunteer can throw themselves into the investigation, they are only assigned one case at a time.

“Being assigned one case allows them to offer a more thorough report to the judge on the best

interest of the child,” Reece said.

If you would like to become a CASA volunteer, contact Reece at 432-683-1114 or e-mail her at robinr@casawtx.org.

Contact Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

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COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

ment in complying with the requirement,” Mayor Tommy Duncan said, reading the details of the proposed bill to the council and audience during the previous meeting.

The resolution was approved by a unanimous vote, although District 4 Councilwoman Gloria McDonald was unable to attend the Feb. 22 meeting.

If approved by the

Texas Legislature, the proposed constitutional amendment would go before the voters during general elections in November.

Also on the agenda are:

- Presentation and acceptance of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation's annual audit the the year ending Sept. 30, 2010.

- Emergency reading of a resolution supporting Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 17, a proposed constitutional amendment providing that a limit on the maximum percentage increase in the appraised value of

a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes established by the legislature applies regardless of the number of years since the most recent tax appraisal.

- First reading of an ordinance amending the the annual budget for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2011, to increase the Motel Tax Fund budget to provide additional event funding.

- First reading of a resolution authorizing the city manager or his designee to approve the terms and conditions of an inter-local agreement with the Harris County Department of

Education, which sponsors Choice Facility Partners.

- Approval of an agreement with Buxton Company for a retail development strategy and authorizing the city manager to execute any necessary documents.

Tuesday's meeting is expected to get under way at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, located at 307 E. Fourth Street. Fore more information call 264-2401.

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

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sudoku

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

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811

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SHERIFF

Continued from Page 2

- SAMUEL PAUL WILSON, 21, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the Martin County Sheriff's Office on a motion to revoke probation for burglary of a habitation.
- ROBERTO DUTCHOVER PEREZ, 25, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the Martin County Sheriff's Office on a motion to revoke probation for theft of material.
- DAVID HERNANDEZ, 51, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated.
- SUSAN ET'TA OVERTON, 24, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – open container and second offense.

sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

- MICHAEL S. HUMPHERY, 43, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.
- CHRISTOPHER ANDREW YANEZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JOSHUA DOUGLAS SIGGINS, 21, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- FRANK FIERRO JR., 63, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MICHAEL WAYNE GOMEZ, 43, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

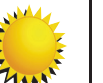
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of Simler. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of E. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Main. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Gregg Street. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy. 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 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of W. Third Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 169 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. Service

refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1200 block of W. County Road 35. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Warren. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of W. Third Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 400 block of N. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of W. 15th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of W. Third Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 3/8	Wed 3/9	Thu 3/10	Fri 3/11	Sat 3/12
 80/38 Mostly sunny skies with gusty winds. Warm. High around 80F.	 75/40 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.	 79/48 Sunny. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	 86/47 Sunshine. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 40s.	 78/46 Sunshine. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 40s.
Sunrise: 7:05 AM Sunset: 6:49 PM	Sunrise: 7:04 AM Sunset: 6:50 PM	Sunrise: 7:03 AM Sunset: 6:50 PM	Sunrise: 7:02 AM Sunset: 6:51 PM	Sunrise: 7:00 AM Sunset: 6:52 PM

Dear Margo: by Margo Howard

Yet Another Adoption Dilemma

Dear Margo: Ten years ago, my husband and I adopted a beautiful baby boy from a teenage girl, “Anna.”

The three of us, plus her boyfriend, “Kyle,” agreed to keep in contact to allow the two of them and “Ethan” to have a relationship.

While I had certain misgivings at the time, it really has worked out wonderfully.

Anna and Kyle, who are now married, visit every few months, and Ethan considers them a favorite aunt and uncle.

The problems I worried about have not come up: They’ve never tried to take Ethan from us; he’s never been upset about being adopted; my husband and I have never worried about our place in his life.

Ethan understands that Anna and Kyle actually had him but couldn’t take care of

him, and that my husband and I are his parents. There had never been any real confusion or hurt feelings among the five of us — until now.

Recently, Anna announced that she is pregnant. Ethan became upset about why they would give him up but not their soon-to-be child.

My husband and I have tried to explain to him that they were not in a position to be parents when he was born, but they’re ready now.

He won’t listen and keeps insisting that everyone just likes the new baby better.

The four of us have discussed this, and we cannot come up with a solution.

My husband suggested that maybe Anna and Kyle should stop coming around as often, but it seems that would make Ethan feel even more unloved and abandoned. What do you suggest? — *Worried Mother*

Dear Wor: If Ethan is 10, he is not a “little kid,” and the situation he finds himself in is a little like sibling rivalry squared.



MARGO HOWARD

Because you say his birth parents visit every few months, the contact is not terribly frequent.

One thing that might be useful is that when the new baby comes, Anna and Kyle bring him or her over and make Ethan feel that this is his baby, too.

In a best-case scenario, he will feel a brotherly regard for the baby.

If you feel he is obsessing, perhaps introduce a child specialist into the situation.

I have never been sure about keeping birth parents in the picture, but you absolutely did the right thing telling Ethan he was adopted. — *Margo, hopefully*

Let Sleeping Dogs Lie — but Where?

Dear Margo: My wife sleeps with her two beloved dogs — sometimes on the bottom bunk in one of our two sons’ rooms, sometimes on the couch.

She says she would sleep with me if I let the dogs join us in our bed, but I find them bothersome.

Am I wrong in not accepting this compro-

mise? — *Getting Used To Sleeping Alone*

Dear Get: It depends on how important it is to you to sleep with your wife.

If you are allergic (which doesn’t seem likely) or simply don’t like the idea of livestock in the bed, you are not wrong.

However, I know so many couples who do allow the dog(s) to sleep with them, I am wondering what your reasoning is.

I also don’t know your definition of “bothersome.” Do the dogs try to play at 3 a.m. or lick your face at dawn? (I also don’t know how large these hounds are.)

Your wife seems to have taken quite a strong stand on the issue, but it’s not clear to me what her point is.

Is she saying she prefers the dogs to you? Is she trying to get you to love the dogs as much as she does?

I suggest giving it a try, to show good faith, and if they do actually interfere with your sleep, perhaps your wife will return your good faith effort. — *Margo, drowsily*

Dear Margo is written by Margo Howard, Ann Landers’ daughter. All letters must be sent via e-mail to dearmargo@creators.com. Due to a high volume of e-mail, not all letters will be answered.
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Wednesday, March 30, 2011

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Hawks' season ends with loss to McLennan



HERALD Photo/Tony Claxton

Joe Bright fights to get a layup off against a McLennan defender during the Howard College Hawks' 62-58 loss in the second round of the Region V Tournament Saturday.

BY ADAM COLEMAN

Sports Editor

LUBBOCK — Even with all the adversity the Howard College Hawks had been through this season, they didn't expect it to end so soon.

Saturday's 62-58 loss to McLennan in the second round of the NJCAA Region V Tournament ended the Hawks' title defense and sent them into the offseason earlier than they wanted.

"I'm just proud of them," Howard head coach Mark Adams said. "There's a lot of courage on this team, determination. We were short-handed all year and I know that our fans and this school is also extremely proud."

The game came down to the last few possessions.

With the Hawks down 61-58 with under a minute left, Carlos Emory had a chance to tie it with a 3-pointer, but he was called for a travel. After McLennan's Taylor Smith missed both of his free throws on the next possession, Emory had a shot at the tie with another 3-pointer, but it was off the mark.

Smith missed two more free throws, giving Howard's Joe Bright a shot at the tie, but his 3-pointer missed, too. McLennan got one last free throw to seal the win.

Adams said Emory is usually the key player in these types of situations, but things just didn't go in Howard's favor, which happens sometimes.

"He's been the guy who's taken those shots for us," he said. "We wanted the ball in his hands and wanted him to either win it for us or not. We just came up short."

Before those last few possessions, both teams went back and forth and neither was able to establish a comfortable lead.

The Hawks were up by one at the half, but McLennan held the lead for most of the second half until Shavon Coleman helped Howard get back on top.

He had two steals that led to scores. Then Emory's steal led to Tramel White's layup as he was fouled, sending him to the line for a 3-point play. White missed that free throw, but Howard had a 58-57 lead with 1:05 left.

"Both teams made runs," Coleman said. "We always come through at the end of games. Coach called that one timeout and told us we have to give everything we got. At the end of the game, I got a key steal, then we got another steal and got the lead."

McLennan responded and despite the missed free throws down the stretch, still held on for the win.

Free throws hindered the Hawks in the second half, too. They were 6 of 15 in the second half after going a perfect 11 for 11 in the first.

Although disappointed, Adams and the Hawks had no reservations about Saturday's game. They wanted to get as far as they could, but considering the suspensions, injuries and depth issues the defending national champions have had to deal with, getting this far was a success.

"It was great season for us," Emory said. "I love each and every one of these guys just like brothers. We've been through so much adversity throughout the season. I'm happy that we came together and even got this far."

MCLENNAN 62, HOWARD COLLEGE 58

Howard 32 26 - 58

McLennan 31 31 - 62

Howard — Jerry Dixon 8,

See **HOWARD**, Page 2B

NFL talks continue

The Associated Press

Five more days.

Negotiators for the NFL and the players' union begin five days and nights — at least — of talks toward reaching a new collective bargaining agreement on Monday. Failure by the time Friday ends could mean the first pro football work stoppage since 1987.

Enough progress was made in 11 days of meetings overseen by federal mediator George Cohen that two extensions to the current CBA were granted: first for 24 hours, then for seven days. That doesn't mean the owners and players association are on the verge of any major breakthroughs.

But, unlike in the previous months when there was little movement — except in opposite directions — the two reprieves last week were encouraging.

"I think what the mediators bring to the process is a structure and a discipline that wasn't always there," said Jeff Pash, NFL

See **NFL**, Page 2B



HERALD Photo/Adam Coleman

Pictured on the bottom row from left to right is Blake Brorman and Mike Menefield; on top from left to right is Big Spring High School golf head coach Chris Joslin and boys' track head coach Mitchell Woodard. BSHS athletics had a lot to celebrate today as Brorman signed on to play golf at Midland College and Menefield signed with Texas Tech University to run track.

Sports in brief

Big Spring Girls Softball Association

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

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

3670.

Coahoma girls softball sign-ups

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

The fee is \$60, no fundraiser. Shirts and shorts will be provided. There will be a tournament hosted for every age group. Call Bil-

ly Newton at (325) 207-2640 or (432) 394-4294 or Amy Overton at (432) 816-1968 for more information.

Chicano Golf Association

The association is hosting its individual tournament at 10 a.m. March 13 at Comanche Trail Golf Course. The deadline to register is 9:30 a.m. that day. There is also a members meeting at 6 p.m. today at Holy Trinity Church Hall.

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Help Wanted



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Requirements:
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We offer:

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Apply in Person at 605 North Benton, Big Spring, TX or call **1-432-267-6348** for additional information. EEO Employer

ACCOLADE HOME Care is currently seeking Registered Nurses in the Big Spring, Texas area. Accolade Home Care considers it an honor to care for our patients & to serve our employees. We offer competitive salaries, generous PTO benefits, excellent health and life options and a supportive work environment. Accolade Home Care is offering a sign on bonus for a short time for these positions. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact deAmbra Barrows at (432)264-1164 or deambra.barrows@FMS-Regional.com

BIG DOG Movers is looking for Pole Truck Road Winch, Tandem, Forklift Operators and Swampers. Great Pay with benefits. Must live in Howard County. Apply in person at 309 East IH-20, Big Spring.

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

COASTAL TRANSPORT We are now hiring drivers to deliver petroleum products in and around surrounding areas of the Permian Basin.

Qualifications:

*Class A CDL drivers w/hazmat and tanker endorsements
*23 years of age or older
*1 year verifiable tractor/trailer experience
*Clean driving record
*Sign on bonus
*Home Everyday
Please contact our office M-F 8am/5pm for more information 1-888-527-7221.

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!

Help Wanted



DO YOU have a great personality, friendly smile, and good computer skills? Would you like to earn a competitive salary, have benefits and love your job? No experience necessary but must love people. The following two positions are available:

Assisting doctors with patient exams, X-rays, and therapy consisting of massage, ultrasound, stretching and many others.

Insurance biller with an eye for details. Must have good communication and computer skills. Bookkeeping or insurance background a plus. Some patient care will be necessary on occasion.

Hours are M-F 8:20 to 6 and rotating Saturday's. Wages based on experience and job duties. Health insurance, vacation and sick leave available. Call 432-267-2225 to schedule an interview.

DON'S TIRE & Truck Service Inc.

S. Service Rd I-20 Exit 178 Big Spring, Tx 79720
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Tire Tech:

Must have knowledge of tires, must be 21 or older. All applicants must have a valid Texas Drivers Lic.

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Help Wanted

DUE TO our growth, we have a continuing need in our Big Spring field office for:

Transport, Vacuum, Wench Truck and Kill Truck Drivers, We offer competitive pay; 401(k) with company match; affordable medical, dental, and life insurance; paid time off based on length of service; and paid holidays.

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HOUSEKEEPERS WANTED at Super8. Apply in-person. Looking for detail-oriented person, team player with minimum 6-mos experience in housekeeping. Starting \$7.50 per hour. Interviews starts March 8th.



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Immediate Openings for:

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MIDWAY BAPTIST Church, is seeking a bi-vocational music leader. Please call (432)394-4764 or mail your resume to 6200 S. Service Rd., Big Spring, TX 79720.

Need **CASHIER & STOCKER** for weekends & evening shifts, 3:00-11:00pm. Must be TBAC Certified. Apply at Fast Stop, 1500 E. 4th St.

NEED TRANSPORT/BOBTAIL Driver for fuel deliveries. Excellent Starting Salary and Benefits. Must have CDL & good driving record. Come by 1st & Johnson, Park Fuels/Chevron, Big Spring. (432)263-0033.

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

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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.



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

Help Wanted

THE 118TH Community Supervision & Corrections Dept. is looking for someone to teach a DWI/Drug Offender Education Program. State certified or must be willing to become state certified. Qualified individuals need to have prior experience in educational setting, traffic safety, demonstrate instructional ability, use a variety of teaching strategies, administer and interpret all data collection instruments. Previous experience in working with substance abusers is a plus.

Submit resumes to:

118th CSCD

Attn: Kent Minchew

P.O. Box 1951

Big Spring, TX 79721-1951

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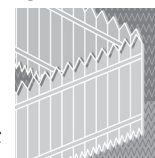
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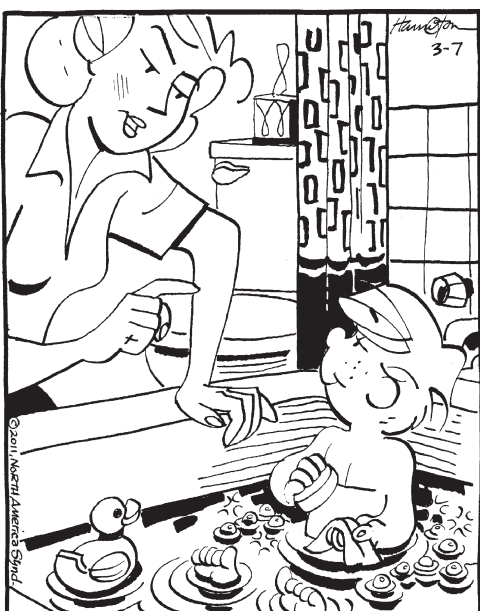
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Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700,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

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5 :PM :30	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld Seinfeld	McGee Sala	World Business	Lyrics! Lyrics!	American Chopper	Money Train, Jennifer Lopez	(:18) DEA	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	Basketball	SportsCenter
6 :PM :30	Jeopardy! Wheel	Llena de Amor (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News Ent	Caso Cerrado	News	King King	Van Impe Howard	PBS News-Hour	'70s 70s Show	American Chopper		(:26) UFC Fight Night: Diaz vs. Guillard.	Bones		Wizards of Waverly Place	College Basketball	College Basketball
7 :PM :30	The Bachelor	Eva Luna (SS)	House	How I Met Mad Love	Aurora (SS)	The Event	Fam. Guy Upd	Antiques Roadshow		90210	American Chopper	Movie: Scar-face, Steven Bauer		Bones	Movie: Out of Time, Sanaa Lathan			
8 :PM :30		Triunfo del Amor	The Chicago Code	Two Men Mike	Herederos-Monte		Fam. Guy Fam. Guy	Cities of Light: Rise and Fall		Gossip Girl	American Chopper		Movie: The Punisher, Will Patton	Bones		Fish Wizards	College Basketball	College Basketball
9 :PM :30	(:01) Castle	Don Francisco (SS)	Simpsons How I Met	Hawaii Five-0	La Reina del Sur	Harry's Law	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy		Conan	Browns Browns	Sons Sons			The Closer	Game	Wizards		
10 :PM :30	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met Raymond	News Letterman	Noticias Decisiones (SS)	News Jay Leno		House Uri Harel	Charlie Rose	King King	American Chopper			Hawthorne	The Mo'Nique	Sonny Sonny	Final Baseball	SportsCenter
11 :PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Verdad Oculta	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night		Lopez Tonight	Dr. Denis Charles Upd	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	South Pk South Pk	American Chopper	Movie: Scar-face, Steven Bauer	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Hannah Hannah	NASCAR Now	NFL Live NBA
12 :AM :30	Extra	Tontas Cielo	Paid		Decisiones (SS)	Pagado	News	Conan	Dr. Denis Upd		Cops Focus 4	Sons Sons		(:27) Jail DEA	CSI: NY	Movie: Back in the Day, Pam Grier	Wizards Suite Life	2010 Poker
1 :AM :30	Paid	Mujer... Cero	King-Hill	(:37) Up to the Mountains	Pagado	Poker After Dark		Lopez Tonight			Heritage Munroe	Overhauled		(:09) DEA	Leverage			

DENNIS THE MENACE

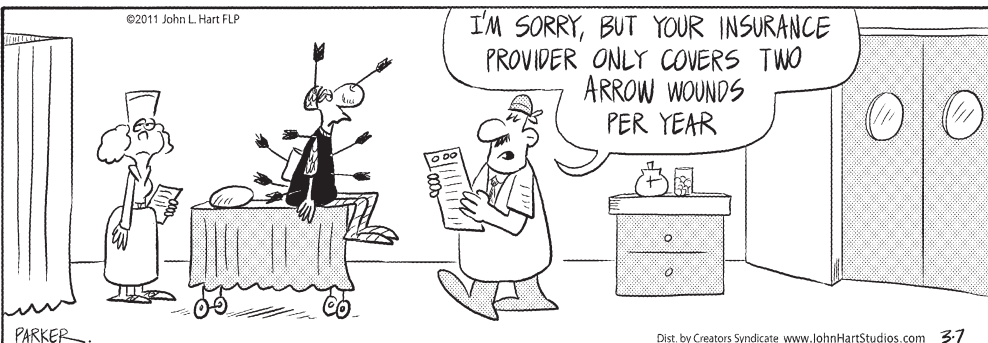


"YES, DENNIS, I GET IT. YOU'RE A JACUZZI. NOW KNOCK IT OFF!"

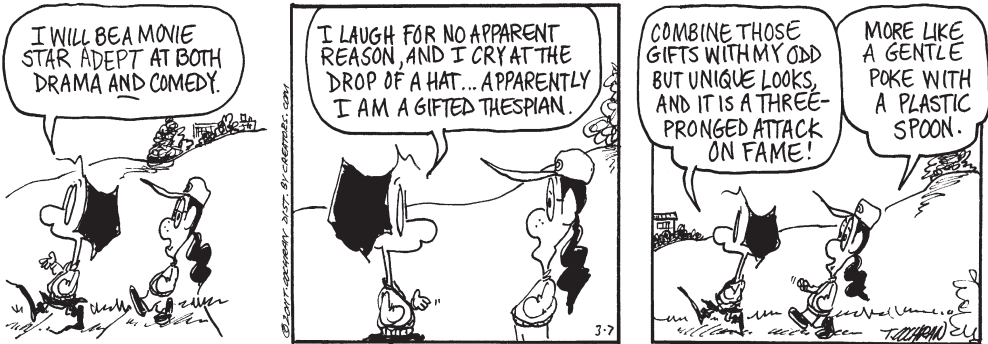
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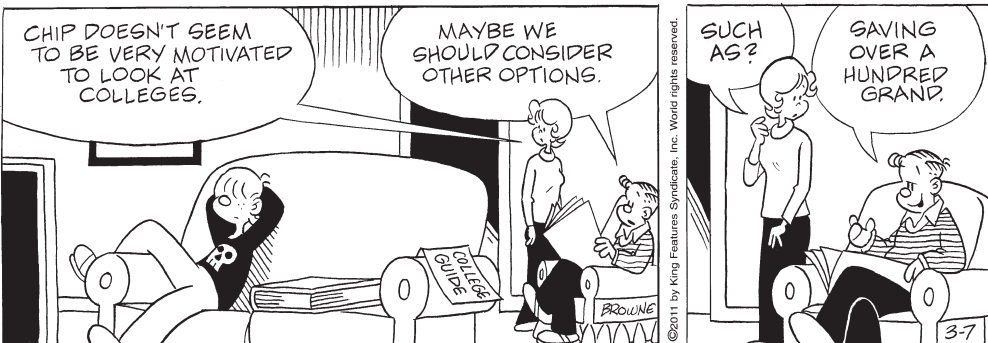
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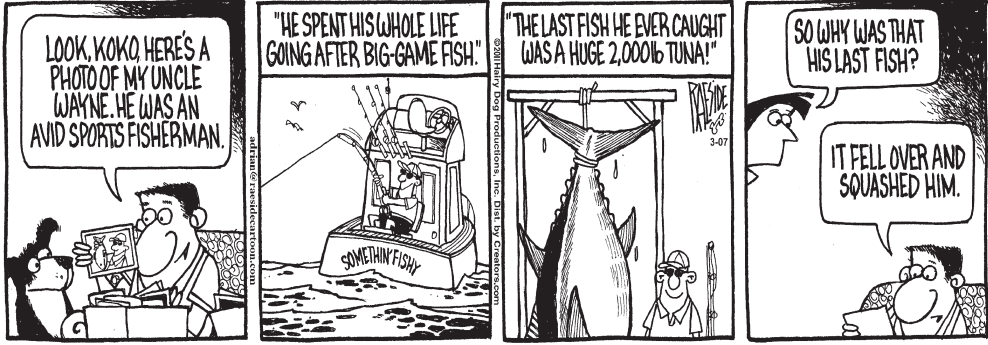
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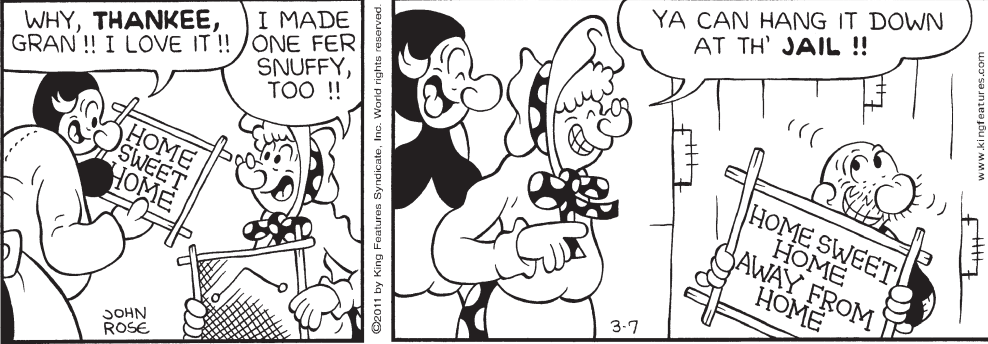
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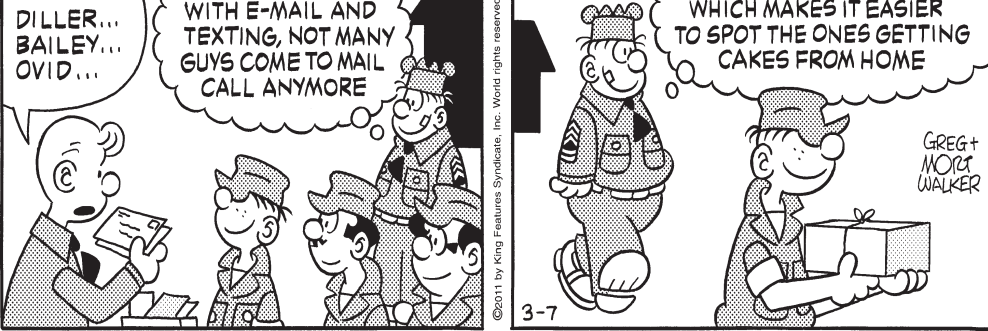
THE OTHER COAST



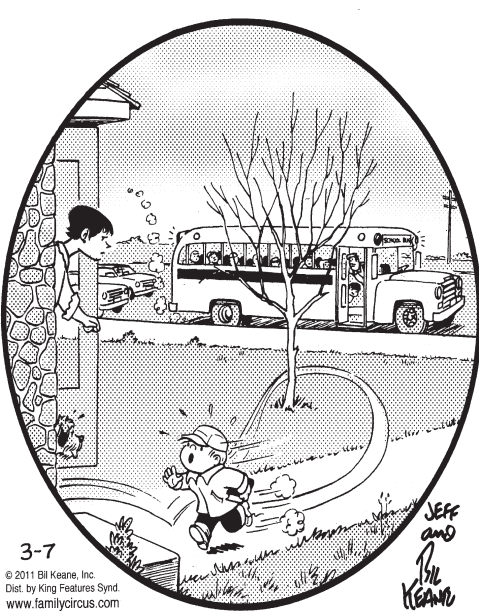
SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY

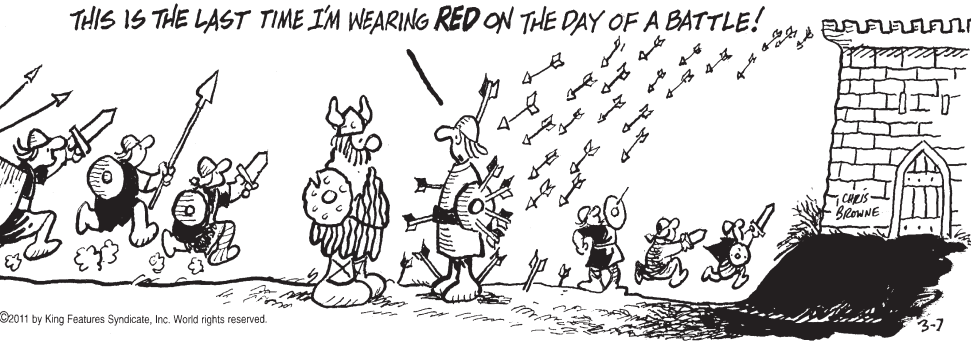


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This Date In History

Today is Monday, March 7, the 66th day of 2011. There are 299 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 7, 1911, President William Howard Taft ordered 20,000 troops to patrol the U.S.-Mexico border in response to the Mexican Revolution.

On this date:

In 1793, during the French Revolutionary Wars, France declared war on Spain.

In 1850, in a three-hour speech to the U.S. Senate, Daniel Webster of Massachusetts endorsed the Compromise of 1850 as a means of preserving the Union.

In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell received a patent for his telephone.

In 1926, the first successful trans-Atlantic radio-telephone conversations took place between New York and London.

In 1936, Adolf Hitler ordered his troops to march into the

Rhineland, thereby breaking the Treaty of Versailles (veh-rSY) and the Locarno Pact.

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. forces crossed the Rhine River at Remagen, Germany, using the damaged but still usable Ludendorff Bridge.

In 1960, Jack Paar returned as host of NBC's "Tonight Show," nearly a month after walking off in a censorship dispute with the network.

In 1965, a march by civil rights demonstrators was broken up in Selma, Ala., by state troopers and a sheriff's posse.

In 1975, the U.S. Senate revised its filibuster rule, allowing 60 senators to limit debate in most cases, instead of the previously required two-thirds of senators present.

In 1981, anti-government guerrillas in Colombia executed kidnapped American Bible translator Chester Bitterman, whom they'd accused of being a CIA agent.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Alan Sues is 85. Photographer Lord Snowdon is 81. TV personality Willard Scott is 77. Auto racer Janet Guthrie is 73. Actor Daniel J. Travanti is 71. Former Walt Disney Co. chief executive officer Michael Eisner is

69. Rock musician Chris White (The Zombies) is 68. Actor John Heard is 65. Rock singer Peter Wolf is 65. Rock musician Matthew Fisher (Procol Harum) is 65. Pro Football Hall-of-Famer Franco Harris is 61. Pro and College Football Hall-of-Famer Lynn Swann is 59. Rhythm-and-blues singer-musician Ernie Isley (The Isley Brothers) is 59. Actor Bryan Cranston is 55. Actress Donna Murphy is 52. Actor Nick Searcy is 52. Golfer Tom Lehman is 52. International Tennis Hall-of-Famer Ivan Lendl is 51. Actress Mary Beth Evans is 50. Actor Bill Brochtrup is 48. Opera singer Denyce Graves is 47. Comedian Wanda Sykes is 47.

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Answer to previous puzzle												
CHEF	SCAT	DUMAS										
AIDA	TALE	ENACT										
MYANTONIA	SUPRA											
SAMMENDES	ISLET											
ANYONESGUESS												
APHID	RENAL											
DUAL	FEMALELEAD											
ANN PARADER	ABE											
MYGOODNESS	A FEW											
SALES	MUSTY											
SPARESTHEROD												
TELLS	MAXIMIZED											
ACEIT	ANASSTORY											
KAFKA	COMES	OLIN										
ENTER	HISS	RACE										

Newsday Crossword

SHIRT STUFF by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ACROSS
1 With no warranty
5 Hoax
9 Swampy ground
14 Impolite
15 Sewing-needle feature
16 Lessen
17 "Let's go!"
18 Kitchen or den
19 Zeal
20 Office-phone feature
23 Rowboat implements
24 Belly muscles, for short
25 In the know
27 Pampers too much
31 Wept
33 Christmas song
34 Con man's accomplice
35 May honoree
38 Secret advantage
41 Rushmore and Everest: Abbr.
42 Licorice flavoring
43 Jukebox selections
44 Worries nervously
45 Feature of a shutout game
46 Japanese three-line verse
48 Unmannerly guy
49 House-front grass
50 Mideast sandwich bread
57 Old saying
59 Car's bike holder
60 Make angry
61 Bread maker |
62 Prefix meaning "against"
63 24-hr. cash sources
64 Back of a ship
65 Onion covering
66 Highest-quality

DOWN
1 Curved entrance
2 Japanese wrestling
3 Admired one
4 Ship off
5 Hedge plants
6 Sounds like an owl
7 Oodles
8 Office note
9 Cal's cry
10 Overseas
11 Control-tower tracking device

12 Mall tenant
13 That woman's
21 Pro slugger's workplace
22 Hammers' targets
26 Prosperous
27 Confidence game
28 Treaty
29 Rocks that are mined
30 Debtor's letters
31 Game with kings and pawns
32 Stand up
34 Fit of temper
35 Restaurant handout
36 Pizzeria appliance
37 Cluttered condition |
39 Outdo, informally
40 Spain's continent: Abbr.
44 Wedding-ring holder
45 Dinner-table accessory
46 Attacked
47 Not sleeping
48 Desert plants
49 Science classrooms
51 Some nest eggs: Abbr.
52 Home aquarium
53 Lobster relative
54 Flying toy with a tail
55 Shade trees
56 Exam
58 Suffix for north or south |
|--|--|--|

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Randolph's jumper with 0.3 left sinks Mavericks

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Grizzlies coach Lionel Hollins already had seen his club score more points in the third quarter than they did in the first half. He'd seen them erase an 18-point deficit against a team that had lost just once in its last 19 games.

So in a timeout with 3.1 seconds left, he asked for one more improbable feat.

He wanted Zach Randolph to make a long jumper from the corner, even though he'd be covered by a 7-footer and probably have a guard chasing him, too.

Randolph made it work, putting extra arch on a 17-foot jumper and dropping it straight through the net with 0.3 seconds left, lifting Memphis to a 104-103 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Sunday night.

"It's definitely higher than I normally shoot it, but I can hit a lot of shots like that," Randolph said. "I felt comfortable when I released the shot."

The Grizzlies won the season series against the Mavericks for the first time in franchise history. They went 2-0 in Dallas, after having lost the previous nine.

The Mavs had won eight straight games and 18 of 19, and seemed likely to keep those streaks alive when they dominated the first half. Then they gave up 41 points in the third quarter and were trailing going into the final period.

Dallas regained control, although never by very much, and Memphis went back ahead with 14.3 seconds left when Shane Battier caught a blocked shot and flicked in a reverse layup. Dirk Nowitzki answered with a jumper from the foul line over Battier that put Dallas ahead with 3.1 seconds left, only to have his potential game-winner trumped by Randolph's.

"It could've gone either way down the stretch, and they made a good play to win it," Nowitzki said. "But it shouldn't have come down to that."

Bulls add to Heat misery, win 87-86

The Associated Press

MIAMI — The perspectives could not have been more different. Luol Deng either got pushed in the back by Mike Miller on what became one of the final two game-deciding moments, or tripped over his own feet stumbling for a rebound.

That point could be argued.

What's inarguable, however, is this: Another final-second opportunity slipped away from the Miami Heat, and the Chicago Bulls — spurned last summer in their bids to land Dwyane Wade, LeBron James and Chris Bosh — swept all three regular-season meetings from the team that signed them.

The Big 3? They're No. 3 in the East at this point, after Derrick Rose scored 27 points, Deng capped an 18-point effort with two free throws on a debated play with 15.9 seconds remaining, and the Bulls beat Miami 87-86 on Sunday to hand the Heat their fourth straight loss.

"The Miami Heat are exactly what everyone wanted, losing games," Wade said.

HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

Tramel White 9, Shavon Coleman 12, Carlos Emory 15, Joe Bright 6, Jermaine Winfield 8

McLennan — Oscar Griffin 7, Ebuka Anyaorah 8, Jeffery Ricard 7, Taylor Smith 4, Steven Werner 2, Derico Dandridge 5, Karlos Gary 2, Jerran Young 10, Chris Harpe 8, Jordan Clark 9

3-point field goals — Howard 3 (Dixon 2, Emory 1), McLennan 5 (Griffin 1, Anyaorah 1, Ricard 1, Chris Harpe 2)

Free throws — Howard 17-26, McLennan 11-20

Total fouls — Howard 23, McLennan 24

Records: Howard (23-7)

NFL

Continued from Page 1B

executive vice president and chief negotiator. "They inject a seriousness of purpose to it. They encourage you. They keep you going."

So they will keep going on such issues as how to split the \$9 billion in revenues America's most popular sport rakes in. And a potential 18-game regular season, a rookie wage scale, health benefits, and pensions.

"It's a positive thing to have a mediator involved and that's just a personal feeling," Saints tackle and player representative Jon Stinchcomb said. "Any time there's a third party with no dog in the hunt, sometimes he can show where you're just being stubborn and where you need to give some ground."

Where might that be?

The owners' request that about \$2 billion of total revenues be deducted before they split

the rest with the players has been a sticking point ever since 2008, when the owners opted out of the current collective bargaining agreement. They already deduct about \$1 billion for operating expenses from the overall take, and it might be — might be — easier reaching accord on that subject than on expanding the regular season to 18 games.

"We have made player safety our biggest concern, and we won't back off on that," said Tennessee Titans guard and player representative Jake Scott.

In seeking the additional \$1 billion off the top, owners say it's essential for league and team operations because of the heavy debt many franchises have for stadium construction loans.

Such numbers often are negotiable. Although the players aren't eager to take any sort of pay-cut, they might be amenable to a substantially reduced giveback that serves the owners well enough.

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Lakers rout NBA-best Spurs

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Kobe Bryant agreed it might have been the Lakers' best game so far.

It technically wasn't the worst for the San Antonio Spurs, though it often looked that way.

The Lakers may not catch the NBA's winningest team for the No. 1 seed in time for the playoffs, but they handed the Spurs a blunt reminder that the Western Conference is still theirs to surrender, beating San Antonio 99-83 in a blowout Sunday.

Bryant, who finished with 26 points, didn't make much of it.

"I don't think it's that big of a message that we sent today," he said.

It was the seventh straight victory

for the Lakers, who are playing as well as any point this season. Coach Phil Jackson concedes that San Antonio's 6½-game lead in the West may be too big to overcome with 18 games left. But the Lakers still made a few marks.

One is emphatically ending San Antonio's franchise-record home winning streak at 22 games. Another is beating the Spurs for the first time in three tries, including last month's stunning loss in Los Angeles when Antonio McDyess tipped in the game-winning at the buzzer.

Bryant, for his part, didn't show any excitement in winning this round.

"Why should I be?" he said.

Instead, Bryant sought to keep the lopsided win in perspective.

Best Loser 2011 Challenge



ATTN:
Best Loser
Participants

**March
Weigh-In Dates:
March 14-March 18**

Serenity Spa
1113 Scurry

For more information contact Rick
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