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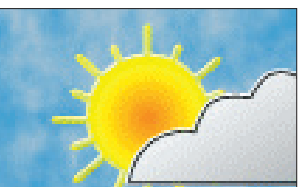
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# H BIG SPRING HERALD

**TUESDAY**  
MAY 24, 2011



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VOLUME 149, NUMBER 27 COPYRIGHT 2011

## HC officials laud renovation outcome

**By STEVE REAGAN**  
Staff Writer

Who says \$21 million doesn't buy anything anymore?

As contractors reach the final phases of Howard College's \$21 million campus renovation, officials are taking pride in the fact they were able

to deliver on every project they envisioned.

In fact, they've done even more than originally planned.

A "perfect situation" of ideal economic factors — and just a little bit of luck — during the past few years combined to help workers complete even more

**"For the most part, we were the beneficiaries of a great bidding climate that existed when the bonds were sold."**

— Terry Hansen, executive vice president



projects than college officials promised when the construction bond was approved by voters in 2008.

The multi-year renovation project is expected to be completed in time for the college's 65th anniversary celebration Sept. 30, College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said.

the past bonds in this area came up short (of money), but you just did this at an opportune time. Prices were very favorable, so you were able to do more than you originally planned. Now, prices are starting to go back up, and

"Timing is everything," architectural consultant Phil Furqueron told college trustees Monday. "A few of

See **HOWARD**, Page 3

## County OKs murder case 'insurance'

**By THOMAS JENKINS**  
Staff Writer

Howard County commissioners approved a contract with Lubbock County Monday morning that would serve as a type of "insurance policy."

The annual contract — which costs the county approximately \$14,000 — secures Howard County a regional public defender necessary to try a capital murder case.

According to County Judge Mark Barr, the county has participated in the program during the past three years, and while \$14,000 certainly isn't loose change, it's a pit-

tance compared to what a capital murder case could cost the county.

"It's basically an insurance policy for counties," Barr said. "For an attorney to try a capital case, they have to have special certification, and there aren't many attorneys in this area with that training. On average, a capital case can cost anywhere from \$300,000 to \$1 million, so I feel like this contract is well worth it."

Barr said a county the size of Howard will see, on average, one capital murder case

See **COUNTY**, Page 3



Work has been completed by the Howard County Historical Commission to designate Mt. Olive Cemetery as a Historic Texas Cemetery. Pictured from left are Bruce Broughton, Big Spring Parks & Cemeteries senior maintenance; Rebecca Pritchett, P&C administrative secretary; Loyce Phillips; Charlene Ragan, chair; and Sue Ann Damron and Janie Harrison, members of Howard County Historical Commission.

## Mt. Olive is designated as Texas Historical Cemetery

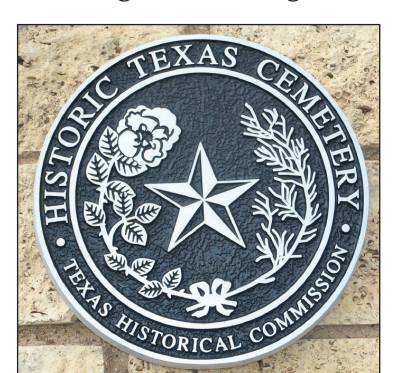
**By NANCY KOGER**  
Special to the Herald

Howard County drivers passing by Mt. Olive Cemetery on Texas Highway 350 may not have noticed the latest addition to the stone entrance gate, but the metal medallion mounted on the left side is the third step in the historic preservation of the cemetery.

When Rebecca Pritchett, administrative secretary to the city Parks & Cemetery Department, asked Bruce Broughton, senior maintenance for the department, to affix that medallion to the gate earlier this year, she was helping Howard County Historical Commission to complete the process of making Mt. Olive Cemetery a Historic Texas Cemetery.

In 1990, the HCHC, headed by Polly Mays, applied for and received an official Texas historical marker for

what was originally the Masonic Cemetery and became known as Mt. Olive. The metal marker stands in front of the right entrance gate.



styles and genealogy.

With the help of Gerron Hite, then cemetery preservation coordinator of THC, in 2008 the Howard County Commission began the process of applying for the historic designation for Mt. Olive, which fit the requirements of being at least 50 years old and "deemed worthy of recognition for the historical associations." The Permian Basin Area Foundation funded a grant for the West Texas Cemetery Preservation Initiative that paid for the application and recording fees and photographic processing.

In April 2009, Charlene Ragan, HCHC chair, presented the certificate naming Mt. Olive a Historic Texas Cemetery to Pritchett. With that certification, the Howard County Historical Commission

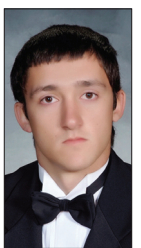
See **HCHC**, Page 3

## Ramirez, Weibe named top students at Grady

**By AMANDA MORENO**  
Staff Writer

Grady Independent School District has announced its 2011 valedictorian and salutatorian.

John Ramirez, son of Willie and Agatha Ramirez, has been named class valedictorian. He has received a Golden "G" for English and math, was voted most likely to succeed and has



Ramirez



Weibe

been on the all A honor roll. He also was a state qualifier for tennis and was involved in football, tennis, track and basketball. He participated in University Interscholastic League activities and donated to canned food drives, cystic fibrosis drives and helped with VA hospital singing and food

See **GRADY**, Page 3

**INDEX**


|            |      |
|------------|------|
| Comics     | 11   |
| Classified | 8-10 |
| Features   | 6    |
| Obituaries | 2    |
| Opinion    | 4    |
| Sports     | 7,12 |



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## Obituaries

## Ila Ozella (Tolan) Rivers

ROTAN — Ila Ozella (Tolan) Rivers, 95, died Friday, May 20, 2011, at Kent County Nursing Home in Jayton. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, 2011, at Belvieu Cemetery under the direction of Weathersbee-Ray Funeral Home.

Born June 16, 1915, in Roanoke (Denton County), Ozella was a daughter of John Clarence and Cora (Whitwell) Tolan.

Ozella moved to Rotan while in high school, where she graduated. She married Bascum W. Rivers in 1933 in New Mexico. She worked for Rotan ISD in the cafeteria and Colorado City ISD. Ozella loved her grandchildren and liked to crochet, cook and fish. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Rotan.

Ozella is preceded in death by her parents, husband, one son, Wayne Rivers; two grandchildren, Kyle Rivers and Leigh Ann Rivers; one daughter-in-law, Fran Rivers; one sister, Lois; and one brother, Jay Tolan.

Ozella is survived by her son, Clarence James Rivers of Rotan; four grandchildren, Toya Rivers, Robin Churchwell, Renee Brown and Eric Rivers; five great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Billie and Nelson Giles and Dorothy Young; and two sisters-in-law, Dorothy Tolan and Marie Phillips.

*Paid obituary*

## Loren Dean Scobee

Loren Dean Scobee, 53, of Big Spring died Monday, May 23, 2011, at his residence. Private family services will be held at a later date.

He was born Feb. 18, 1958, in Pueblo, Colo., and married Leona Jan LeMay on Feb. 18, 1994, in Las Vegas, Nev.

Loren moved with his parents to Las Vegas, Nev., where he grew up. He joined the U.S. Air Force and was stationed at Tacoma, Wash. After his discharge from the military, Loren continued working as a civilian contractor.

He was a member of the Chapel of Faith.

Survivors include his wife, Leona Jan Scobee of Big Spring; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Terry and Patty Scobee and Doug and Patty Scobee, all of Las Vegas, Nev., and Dennis and Dale Scobee of Tonopah, Nev.; and an uncle, Dean Polf of New Mexico.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ernest and Barbara Polf Scobee.

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

## Doralee M. Newell

Doralee M. Newell, 76, of Garden City died Tuesday, May 24, 2011, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

## 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.

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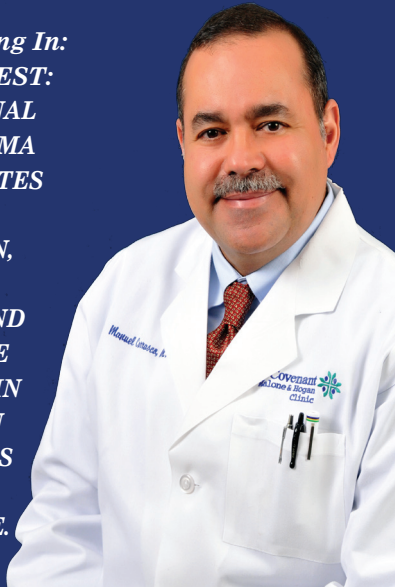
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## Victor H. Martinez Sr.



Victor H. Martinez Sr., 87, of Big Spring died Sunday, May 22, 2011, at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Vigil services will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 24, 2011, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Msgr. Bernard L. Gully officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Feb. 22, 1924, in Bastrop to Vesenta and Fidel Martinez. He married Paula T. Martinez in 1943 and she preceded him in death April 6, 2002. He farmed and ranched most of his life in Howard and Borden Counties. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Parish.

He is survived by six daughters, Rosa Flores and husband Jesse, Mary Rodriguez, Lolly Martinez and husband Gilbert, all of Big Spring, Isabel Haro and husband Bobby of Flower Mound, Gloria Rodriguez and husband Johnny and Janie Bentancur and husband Braulio, all of Big Spring; three sons, Victor Martinez Jr. and wife Mary of Big Spring, Mike Martinez and wife Carmen of Forney and Jesse Martinez and wife Janie of Big Spring; two brothers, Tony Martinez Sr. and Maria of Stanton and Lupe Martinez and wife Simona of Coahoma; 39 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife; two sons, Ruben Martinez and David Martinez; two brothers and four sisters.

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

## Police blotter

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

• CHRISTINA LEANN GARZA, 27, of 1902 Mittel, was arrested Monday on charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• RICHARD HERNANDEZ MARTINEZ, 46, of 805 E. 15th St., was arrested Monday on charges of assault – family violence and criminal mischief.

• JIMMY ENRIQUE ALATORRE, 20, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 66, was arrested Monday on a charge of injury to a child – serious bodily injury.

• THEFT was reported in the 1300 block of E. 11th Place.

## Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 72 inmates at the time of this report.

• JAMIE RHNEA WEAVER, 35, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on indictments for tampering with/fabricating physical evidence with intent to impair (two counts) and tampering with government records to defraud or harm (two counts).

• SAMANTHA MARIE PAYNE, 27, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance.

• SHARON ANNETTE JAMES, 52, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the Mitchell County Sheriff's Office on a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance.

• CARLA LANDERAS, 46, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the Mitchell County Sheriff's Office on a motion to revoke probation for forgery.

• JESSICA NICOLE SILVA, 28, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the Mitchell County Sheriff's Office on a motion to revoke probation for forgery.

• KANA GARCIA, 20, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the Mitchell County Sheriff's Office on a charge of manufacturing a controlled substance.

• ALAN CATON POWELL, 37, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of bondsman off bond for driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.

• JIMMY ENRIQUE ALATORRE, 20, was trans-

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## Today's Weather

## Local 5-Day Forecast

| Wed<br>5/25  | Thu<br>5/26  | Fri<br>5/27   | Sat<br>5/28   | Sun<br>5/29   |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| 96/59<br>Sunny skies. High 96F. Winds WNW at 20 to 30 mph. | 93/69<br>Sunshine. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s. | 104/67<br>Sunny. Highs 102 to 106F and lows in the upper 60s. | 102/72<br>Sunny. Highs 100 to 104F and lows in the low 70s. | 102/71<br>Partly cloudy and windy. Highs 100 to 104F and lows in the low 70s. |
| Sunrise:<br>6:43 AM<br>Sunset:<br>8:43 PM                  | Sunrise:<br>6:42 AM<br>Sunset:<br>8:44 PM                          | Sunrise:<br>6:42 AM<br>Sunset:<br>8:45 PM                     | Sunrise:<br>6:42 AM<br>Sunset:<br>8:45 PM                   | Sunrise:<br>6:41 AM<br>Sunset:<br>8:46 PM                                     |

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ferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of injury to a child/elderly/disabled with intent to cause serious bodily injury/mental.

• CHRISTINA PAUL GARZA, 27, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• RICHARD H. MARTINEZ, 46, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of assault – family violence and criminal mischief.

• RICKEY ALLEN ROBERTSON, 48, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on charges of theft – more than \$1,500, less than \$20,000 (two counts).

## Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2700 block of Larry. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 300 block of E. 13th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of S. Lancaster. Service refused.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 2100 block of S. Gregg Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAUMA was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1600 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.

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## State briefs

### At least 200 AA flights canceled over Texas storms

DALLAS (AP) — More than 200 American Airlines flights have been canceled after storms rolled through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and hail damaged some planes.

American spokeswoman Andrea Huguely says spring storms expected Tuesday in North Texas, the Chicago and New York areas could mean additional cancellations systemwide.

At DFW, 72 flights were canceled Tuesday, a day after thunderstorms led to cancellation of 130 flights at the carrier's main hub. Huguely told The Associated Press that 25 planes were inspected for possible hail damage. She says two planes found with minor damage have been repaired.

Dozens of travelers ended up spending Monday night at DFW Airport, the world's eighth largest in terms of passengers.

### Gigantic beetle joins zoo collection

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — You'd have to go a long way to find a bigger bug than the one that has just taken up residence at the San Antonio Zoo.

It's an elephant beetle — one of just two such specimens in an American zoo. The San Antonio Express-News reports it's about as long as a dollar bill and as thick as a hoagie, weighs several ounces and can fly.

It draws its name from a long horn that sticks from its body next to its head, and it feeds on rotting fruit and oozing tree sap that it frees by scraping bark with the horn.

Horticulture curator Martin Feather said the zoo hopes to become part of a captive breeding program for the elephant beetle.

### Governor signs sonogram requirement for abortion

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry will be holding a formal signing ceremony for a law that requires doctors to conduct a sonogram before performing an abortion.

The governor had declared the matter emergency legislation and has already officially signed the bill. The ceremony on Tuesday is intended to congratulate supporters of the measure.

The law goes into force on Sept. 1. It requires doctors to perform a sonogram before giving a woman an abortion. It also requires the doctor to make the image of the fetus and the fetal heart beat available to the woman. It also requires the doctor to describe the presence of internal organs or limbs. An exemption is only allowed in emergencies, in cases of rape or incest and when the fetus has fatal abnormalities.

### House passes bill giving landowners groundwater

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas House formalized a landowner's full ownership of any groundwater below their land.

The measure approved late Monday is a major victory for property rights proponents. Following a procedural vote, the bill will go back to the Senate

for review.

Texas is one of the few states left that gives the landowner control over groundwater.

While the state will still be allowed to impose some rules, the landowner's water rights will be protected by law. Landowners with groundwater may pump and sell their water, and it often represents the majority of a piece of property's value.

Opponents complain that groundwater should be regulated like rivers, which are considered state property. The present rule allows landowners to pump water without any regard for landowners who live downstream.

### Texas Senate approves new rules for breeders

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Senate on Monday night approved a measure that would impose new regulations, fees and licensing requirements on commercial dog and cat breeders.

The bill regulating so-called "puppy mills" will be sent back to the House to approve amendments the Senate added.

The legislation defines commercial breeders as those who sell or exchange 20 or more animals yearly and have 11 or more females capable of breeding.

Breeders would have to be licensed and undergo yearly inspection, as well as provide basic grooming, a yearly veterinary exam and clean caging to animals. The Senate bill exempts breeders who raise greyhounds and herding or hunting dogs from regulation.

## HOWARD

Continued from Page 1

you're finishing. So, you've been a little lucky, too."

"We have been very pleased with what we've been able to accomplish," Sparks added. "It was just a perfect situation for us, the way prices came in lower than anticipated, and how interest rates were so low."

Every major building on the Big Spring cam-

pus received a facelift — including some that weren't on the drawing board back when plans were unveiled in 2008, such as the fitness center and practical arts building.

"We didn't envision doing anything to the fitness center and it's been completely overhauled," said Terry Hansen, executive vice-president at the college. "And the practical arts building was always an 'if' project — if we had the money, we'd work

on it — and it's being overhauled as well.

"For the most part, we were the beneficiaries of a great bidding climate that existed when the bonds were sold," Hansen added. "We were putting out bids in a very competitive environment, so we were able to do much more than we originally anticipated."

Hansen told trustees that many end-stage projects are nearing completion, including renovation of the practical arts building, acces-

sibility work on the administration building entrance and construction of a parking lot next to the Malone building.

Aside from that work, only one major project remains — seal-coating of every campus street and parking lot, including lots at Memorial Stadium and Foundation Field. During their Monday meeting, trustees approved a bid for \$226,000 for that project.

Hansen said about \$300,000 of the bond money has not been

earmarked for the remaining projects. That money is being held in temporary abeyance to pay for any last-minute construction costs. If it is not used by the time contractors pack up and leave in September, any remaining balance will likely be used for classroom furniture and other related purchases, Sparks said.

"There's still a list of items we'd like to take care of," Sparks said. "But first, we're going to wait and see if any

unexpected things crop up."

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

## COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

every 10 years, and with recent developments in the disappearance of a 13-year-old Colorado City girl, the stage could be set for one in the near future.

"The contract is based on the size of the county and the average number of capital cases," Barr said. "Where our 'premium' is \$14,000, a place like Glasscock County — where they have never had a capital case — might only pay \$1,000 a year.

"Right now, with Howard County currently tied into the disappearance of Hailey Dunn, there is that chance we could be faced with a capital murder trial in the immediate future. There's really no way to predict how things will turn out, so it's better to be prepared."

Dunn was reported missing by her mother to Colorado City Police Dec. 28 of last year after failing to arrive at a nearby friend's house where she was reportedly staying the night. While massive searches in Colorado City — as well as outlying areas, including Howard County — have yet to turn

up clues to her whereabouts, former Big Spring resident Shawn Adkins was named the lone suspect in the case.

Also during Monday's meeting, commissioners held a budget workshop, meeting with several department heads to gauge what sort of fiscal needs will face the county in the year ahead.

"Right now we're just trying to get an idea what they want and need for the coming year," Barr said. "Once we have all that information, we'll actually delve into the budget itself."

Barr said he expects mineral values to produce approxi-

mately the same revenues as last year, keeping the court on a rather familiar course.

"Looking at the valuations, I think we're going to have about as much to work with this year as we did last year," he said. "There's still a lot of work to be done on the budget, however. We'll know more once we're deeper into the process."

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

## GRADY

Continued from Page 1

drives. After graduation, Ramirez plans on attending the University of Texas of the Permian Basin and majoring in petroleum engineering.

He received a Davenport scholarship to help him in this journey.

Johan Weibe, son of Enrique and Katharina Wiebe, was named salutatorian. He was all district in football and basketball, took third place at state tennis this year and was state runner up in

basketball.

He received a Golden "G" in science and was voted friendliest by his class. He also participated in caroling for veterans, canned food drives and trash pick up at trade days. He was also involved in UIL activities.

Weibe plans on

continuing his education at University of Texas Permian Basin to pursue a major in mechanical engineering. He received a Yater scholarship which will assist him in his pursuit.

Grady's graduation ceremony is Saturday at 6 p.m.

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

## HCHC

Continued from Page 1

sion was able to purchase the medallion for the cemetery entrance.

The medallion, or seal, includes the designation name encircling the Texas state seal with star. At the bottom of the circle is the THC

as the agency awarding the designation.

In the center of the seal, a rose and cypress branch surround the star. The five-point "Lone Star" has been associated with Texas since independence was declared from Mexico in 1836.

The rose was traditionally used by ancient Romans as the symbol

for victory, pride and triumphant love. In Renaissance art, wreaths of roses are worn by angels, saints or human souls who have entered heavenly bliss.

The cypress, found in many cemeteries today, has long been associated with death. Some reasons for this association are its dark foliage and the fact that, once

cut, the cypress never grows up again from its roots.

Now that the Mt. Olive Cemetery project is complete, the Howard County HC plans to obtain the Texas Historic Cemetery designation for the Coahoma Cemetery and some of the smaller cemeteries in the county in the future.

**MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL**  
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Victor H. Martinez, Sr., 87, of Big Spring, died Sunday. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Jean Bassett, 75, of Big Spring, died Monday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

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# EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

|  |                                 |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
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| <b>Amanda Moreno</b><br>Staff Writer     |                                 | <b>Thomas Jenkins</b><br>Staff Writer |

## OUR VIEWS

# Summer is almost here...

Summer is right around the corner and the events in Big Spring are picking up.

Memorial Day is Monday, marking a three day holiday for most. The Salvation Army will be celebrating Tuesday with a Memorial Day Cook Out from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and the public is invited to attend.

The aquatic center Splash-In is scheduled for June 4, which will mark the beginning of summer pool fun.

In case you are looking for something for the kids to do, Hangar 25 will be having their summer program the week of June 7 through June 10. For more information call 264-1999.

Don't forget about the fly-in and chance to eat with the prairie dogs at the the Sixth Annual Prairie Dog Breakfast and Fly In at Mc-Mahon Wrinkle Airport June 11. A fun fly will take place at John Wesley Field from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo is almost here, as well. For three nights, June 16 — June 18 cowboys and cowgirls will come from all around to compete for the top spots.

Ending rodeo weekend will be the Howard/Glasscock Settlers Reunion at the Heritage Museum pavilion.

Of course, if you want to spend some time enjoying the night sky there are events planned for that, as well.

Stargazing at the Big Spring State Park is scheduled to begin at sunset June 25. This is a chance for astronomy lovers to bring their telescopes and take a closer look at the stars.

The Big Spring Film Society has a trip "Back to the Future" planned for July 1. To find out more about the film society visit their website at [www.bigspringfilm.org](http://www.bigspringfilm.org).

Finally, Funastic Fourth in the Heart of the City Park is back and includes even more for the family to enjoy. Mark McKinney will be part of the entertainment as well as the usual food and craft booths.

Celebrate the Fourth of July with Pops in the Park July 3.

For the next two months there are plenty of activities going on for the entire family to enjoy. School may be coming to an end, but the summer fun is barely beginning.

# Obama, Democrats need to answer for the debt ceiling

What kind of surreal world are we inhabiting where the political party that is trying to address our debt problem is on the defensive at the hands of the reckless party that chooses to mock, demagogue and delay?

The national dialogue, at least the one being choreographed by Democrats and their amen chorus in the liberal Beltway media, has been distorted beyond measure. We are asking the wrong questions and getting the wrong answers.

Let's focus on the real problem. We are in a national debt crisis — present tense; this is not something that might occur in the future. Medicare and Social Security trustees just issued the grim report that Medicare's fiscal hole has deepened by an additional \$2 trillion and its projected date of insolvency has been moved up five more years to 2024. Social Security was already \$49 billion in the red last year, and its projected insolvency date has been advanced to 2036.

Meanwhile, S&P lowered America's long-term credit rating from "stable" to "negative," and CNN Money warned that this means there's a one in three chance that S&P will downgrade our AAA credit rating within two years. Also, Pimco, the world's largest bond fund with \$1.2 trillion in assets, has already sold off all of its U.S. government holdings.

So, the media shouldn't be asking the Republicans whether they intend to play brinkmanship with the debt ceiling, suggesting that if they refuse to raise the limit again they'll cause the United States to default on its obligations and plunge into a financial catastrophe.



DAVID LIMBAUGH

Instead, they should be cornering their most favored president and his Democrats and asking them why they are AWOL on our debt crisis. They should demand an answer on why they didn't produce a budget in 2010 despite having control of both houses of Congress, an egregious act of neglect that hasn't occurred in a couple of generations.

Obama and the Democrats should be asked why they continue to perpetuate the myth that Republicans are going to force a default on our national obligations if they don't agree to raise the debt ceiling. Democrats know the government won't default on its obligations because the interest on the debt represents but a small fraction of the budget. It is other expenditures that will have to be delayed — something that's unthinkable to these rapacious spenders.

But since the liberal press is not going to do its job, the Republicans and the alternative media need to do it, with considerable frequency and volume.

Obama and his Democrats need to be placed on the defensive. They are the primary drivers of this spending; they are the obstructers of entitlement reform, and the national debt continues to burn while they fiddle.

We need to dispense a little of their own medicine to them and turn the PR tide against them. Behind their aggressive accusations against Republicans, beneath the veneer of their fear mongering, lurks a sordid absence of engagement on the major issue facing us today.

We need to ask them, "Why do you refuse to join Republicans in serious and concrete spending cuts and entitlement reform (as distinguished from your insincere promises to curtail spending at some indefinite time in the future) prior to raising the debt ceiling? Why do you continue to excoriate Republicans for insisting on such urgent legislation? Do you deny Paul Ryan's report that bondholders and the

financial markets are far more concerned about the United States not bringing its fiscal house in order than about not raising the debt ceiling? Do you deny that the United States will honor its interest and principal payments irrespective of its having reached its debt ceiling?"

"Do you plan to come to the table anytime soon and present concrete proposals of your own, or do you intend to stonewall through the 2012 election, calculating that you can win re-election simply by slinging arrows at Ryan for attacking the third rail of politics and its cousins?"

"Or are you too busy directing the National Labor Relations Board in its lawless war on Boeing, our largest exporter, in favor of your union bosses; directing Eric Holder's unconscionable decision to prosecute CIA interrogators whose work product made possible the bin Laden raid; directing Kathleen Sebelius as to which of your political friends will receive Obamacare favoritism waivers; directing your EPA's overt war against offshore drilling; directing your administration's refusal to protect America's borders; and devising ways to mistreat our ally Israel?" Oh, that's right. You never interfere with the prerogative of your "independent" agencies. My bad.

Obama and the Democrats have no excuse under the sun for their wanton failure to address our debt crisis. It's time they answered for it.

*David Limbaugh is a writer, author and attorney. His new book, "Crimes Against Liberty," was No. 1 on the New York Times best-seller list for nonfiction for its first two weeks. To find out more about David Limbaugh, please visit his website at [www.DavidLimbaugh.com](http://www.DavidLimbaugh.com). To 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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# Housing is a healthy bust

Just as busts follow booms, booms are supposed to follow busts. But there has been no boom, not even a boomlet, to light a candle in the gloom of the housing collapse. Many economists thought that a recovery from the real-estate meltdown that started in 2007 would be well on its way by 2011.

The unhappiness is understandable. But some extension of this pain would not be a terrible thing in the long run.

The latest news shows new home construction down almost 11 percent in April from March, and housing starts were off by 24 percent from a year earlier. The causes are weak demand in a tough economy and hard-to-get home loans, but also a heavy dose of negative reinforcement.

Negative reinforcement is a principle of behavioral psychology whereby repeated punishment reduces the likelihood that a human or rat will continue doing something. If whenever the rat hits a lever, he gets a shock, he stops pressing after a while.

A parade of shocks on the housing front is delivering Americans much negative reinforcement. And they need it.

An American mystique about home ownership has kept us ignoring history and going back for more and bigger houses. In the recent real estate bubble, consumers who couldn't afford

it desired far grander digs than a simple nest with room for the chicks. They wanted media rooms, wine cellars and hotel-sized kitchens opening onto three-car garages.

And they had the federal government cheering them on. Washington has long let homeowners deduct mortgage interest from their taxable income, thus encouraging bigger home loans. It has kept interest rates super low, providing incentive to borrow larger sums. And in the boom, because homebuyers could borrow more, they could pay more for houses, thus launching real estate prices into outer space.

Only constant negative reinforcement will change a society that never seems to learn that home ownership is not the low-risk path to wealth and happiness.

In the 1920s, Americans gorged on Florida real estate, some of it underwater. The Depression came, and — ka-boom! — property values fell like a rock in the Everglades.

Shabby lending practices and deregulation during most of the 1980s set off another real-estate stampede. That run-up in house prices went south late in the decade as lenders, chiefly savings and loans institutions, went bust in another financial scandal.

Then as now, scams and the collusion of government had created a market of glass, leaving taxpayers to pick up the shards. Then as now, a busted housing sector hurt the larger economy.

Only it's worse now. The temptation for govern-

ment to extend yet more support for housing is great but must be resisted. Granted, Washington can't abruptly stop the federal loan-guarantee programs that currently back nine out of 10 mortgages. They are nearly all that's left holding up the sickly market.

However, the Feds are eyeing the beginning of the end for subsidies that help feed real-estate frenzies and, besides, make no macro-economic sense. One fix already on the way is a cut in the size of home loans that the federal government will guarantee — now as high as \$729,750 in the most expensive communities — to \$625,500.

Another worthy proposal is to reduce the size of mortgage debt on which interest may be deducted from taxes. The current maximum is \$1 million. Eventually, no mortgage interest should be deductible. (Ignore the screams, and arguments, from the real estate interests.) There is no mortgage-interest deduction in Canada, and rates of homeownership there are comparable to ours, and the economy a lot healthier.

In the meantime, let the pounding bad news on housing change American attitudes toward homebuying — and start moving the government out of the business of egging on the worst behavior.

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

## 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

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- 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

When we trust in You and walk with You,  
Lord, we love everything You are.

Amen

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### What's the Difference?

There are five things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

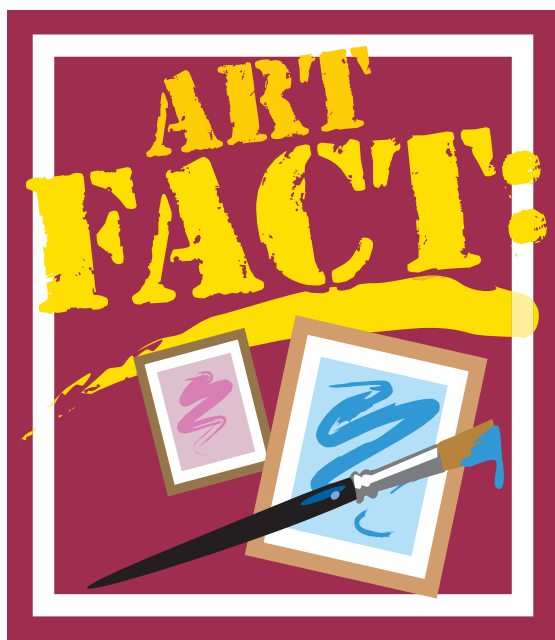


### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- 1762: SWEDEN AND PRUSSIA SIGN THE TREATY OF HAMBURG.
- 1906: THE WRIGHT BROTHERS ARE GRANTED A PATENT FOR THEIR "FLYING-MACHINE."
- 1992: JOHNNY CARSON HOSTS "THE TONIGHT SHOW" FOR THE FINAL TIME, ENDING A 30-YEAR RUN.



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ANSWER: PHOTOGRAPHY

Answers: 1. Extra sand 2. Missing "United States" 3. Airline brochure darker color 4. Missing "I" in 10.0 mega pixels 5. Missing boarding pass



develop

treat film with chemicals to make a visible image

### How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Camera

**SPANISH:** Cámara

**ITALIAN:** Macchina

**FRENCH:** Caméra

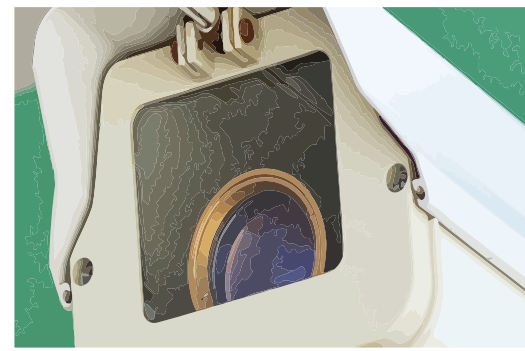
**GERMAN:** Kamera

### Did You Know?

FILM HAS BECOME VIRTUALLY EXTINCT THANKS TO THE POPULARITY OF DIGITAL CAMERAS.



### GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SECURITY CAMERA

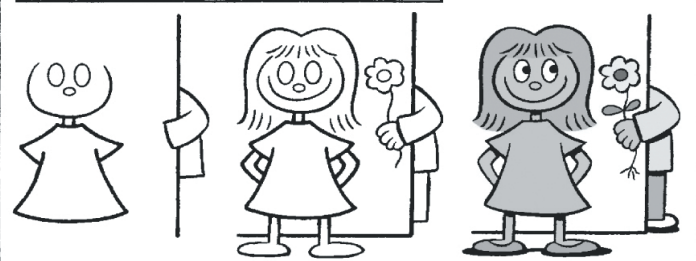
### SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

### BY BOB WEBER JR.

A citizen says that Count Weirdly burned her flowers with a laser 15 minutes ago. Weirdly claims he's innocent and insists he just returned from walking his creature. Slylock Fox suspects Weirdly splashed water on himself and the creature to support his alibi. What detail did the count neglect that caused Slylock to suspect Weirdly is guilty?



### HOW TO DRAW a shy admirer



### YOUR DRAWING

Today's artist is Carina Chou, age 11



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Approximately how many stars can be seen from the surface of the Earth with the naked eye?

- a) 30,000
- b) 20,000
- c) 15,000
- d) 8,000

ANSWER -- (d)

### Find six differences between these panels.



www.kidcartoonists.com



Answer -- Bucket handle, pants, boy's hair, dog collar, chicken and duck.

The fourth Find the six differences is here. Send \$4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to Six Differences No. 4, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

## News in brief

### Suspect in double homicide arrested

#### Herald Staff Report

ODESSA — A suspect in the deaths of an Odessa couple has been arrested in Lubbock and returned to Ector County.

Twenty-seven-year-old James Doyle Burwell was initially arrested around 11 a.m. Monday and charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Police had tracked Burwell to Lubbock by using a GPS in a Lincoln Navigator stolen earlier that morning in Odessa.

The Navigator belonged to 76-year-old Dick Glover and his 74-year-old wife Peggy, who were found dead in their home at 2738 Fair Oaks Circle about 8:45 a.m. Monday by construction workers.

According to an affidavit, Burwell had a credit card in the Glover's name in his possession when arrested.

### Shooting death suspect sought

#### Herald Staff Report

ODESSA — Police are looking for a suspect in the shooting death of 17-year-old Martin Blea Jr.

Blea was killed at the Pussycat Lounge in Odessa in the early morning hours Saturday.

Police have identified 23-year-old Steven Caesar Uresti as a suspect in the case.

According to an affidavit, witnesses said several people became involved in a fight. Uresti allegedly pulled a handgun from his pants and began firing into the crowd.

Witnesses said Blea was struck once in the face. He was transported to Medical Center Hospital, where he died.

Anyone with information about the shooting is asked to contact the Ector County Sheriff's Office at 432-335-3050 or Crime stoppers at 432-333-TIPS.

# Graduation is a beginning, and not an ending

On May 27, we will watch our graduates heave a sigh of relief as they march down to receive their diplomas that seal the years of their high school education. I have a son and a grandson graduating this year and I trust that they and all our students will understand that graduation is not the end but a beginning of a new chapter in life; that is why the ceremony is called Commencement exercises.

A closer analysis of the word would tell us that graduation simply means the elevation of learning from one level to another; for learning is a never-ending process and education does not end with the graduation ceremony. Graduation only marks the closing of one state of life and the opening of another wherever it takes place in the educational process; elementary pupils move up to high school; high school students graduate to college, and from college, to post graduate studies or for what we will call real life.

This real life experience is very different from the education and training we get from most schooling and no matter where we have studied it remains a fact that we all learn from life and from our daily interactions. These are lessons we cannot find from the vast collections of books, even in the world's largest libraries; lessons that only our lives can teach us.

It is in life that we gain deeper understanding of fear, resilience, kindness, anger, courage, or even what love really is. We discover that life is

filled with learning opportunities and we learn our lessons from the most challenging moments in our lives but through this we gain wisdom.

We learn when to let go and when to move on ahead; we learn the importance of family and friends. We discover the teachings of life and the realities that help us mold our being.

So, may I say to our graduates, kudos for your accomplishment and welcome to the real world. Your schooling has equipped you with a place to start, a beginning, and life has a lot more to offer; explore and never stagnate, continue learning as you move into this chapter of your life.

The journey may not go as smoothly as you would like for it to; harsh winds and huge waves may get in your way but with the information you have and the will to move on, the compass of life will surely make your journey worthwhile.

So, make a plan, set a course and follow it through and remember the words of Yogi Berra, "If you don't have a destination in mind you will end up somewhere else!"

*Darrell Ryan is director of federal programs for Big Spring Independent School District.*

### PARENT'S CORNER

BY  
DARRELL  
RYAN



# The vesper sparrow nests on the ground

## BIRD POOP

By BEBE  
McCASLAND



Placed in my hands, the bird was an over-eager nestling on the verge of becoming a fledgling. Perhaps it had followed a sibling toward independence. Even a glance would identify the youngster as a sparrow. Determining which one entailed searching through numerous books and asking questions.

Its rescuer had found the youngster while

walking in the open fields beyond her neighborhood. Since her dog preferred its daily walks among the enticing scents of nature, the woman had barely missed stepping on the bird hidden in clumps of dried grasses.

Fortunately, on another stroll, she had noticed what she thought might have been the nestling's parents. After frightening her and arousing her dog with their sudden departures to safety, the adults had two pronounced markings when in flight.

Most noticeable were their tails. The outer part on either side appeared white against

dark, notched feathers. With wings extended in a glide to another part of the field, she had seen rusty-colored patches on the shoulder part of their wings.

From below, as they circled the field, she remembered their breasts as creamy and accented with brown. "Oh, and they had white throats. Almost like a little bib."

Overall, the parents had appeared to be grayish-brown and streaked. When the woman and her dog had distanced themselves from the area, she saw the adults return and disappear into spent thistles and dried stalks left from the previous year.

Later in the day the phone rang while the sparrow was being fed. The caller's voice was quite familiar. Still concerned about the bird she had brought, the woman asked, "How's it doing?" As our conversation continued, she related that some mornings before everyone starts going to work, and evenings when the sun is starting to set, she had heard one or more birds singing.

"The song is so different from what we've always heard," she added. Thinking maybe the nestling's parents might be involved, I told her when I could finally identify the would-be fledgling, then maybe I'd have the answer.

Soon, all of her helpful observations were being given to Midge Erskine at Eos Wildlife Sanctuary in Midland. After complementing



Courtesy photo

Often called "grass finch" or "ground bird," the vesper sparrow frequents dry, open country. Winters are spent in the lower, warmer parts of the United States, Mexico, and Baja California.

the woman for so many helpful clues, Midge supplied the answer. Having given me one of her bird books in the late 70s, she asked me to turn to page 312.

If the nestling was the offspring of the adults that had been seen, then it was a vesper sparrow. The parents could be identified in spite of all the other brown sparrows by the white outer feathers of their notched tails.

Hearing the word "vesper" caused even more research. Curious about such an adjective to describe a bird, I learned that naturalist John Burroughs had likened its song to a bell used to summon persons to late afternoon or evening prayers, or vespers.

The open field where the nestling was found must have been attrac-

tive to the specie that builds its nests on the ground. Dried grasses and stalks would have been shaped into a slight depression noticed only by the most observant passer-by.

Puzzling, however, was the nesting of this specie in West Texas in May. Normally migration would have carried it to the northern part of the United States or southern Canada. While insects, such as beetles, grasshoppers, and moths were abundant, certain weed seeds and waste grains for their diets were not close to the area.

Delivered to the sanctuary, the sparrow would remain until it became a juvenile. Time and development would lend toward its identification and success.

Having shared with

the rescuer the identification and information I had gathered, she was quiet for a moment. "Maybe I shouldn't have picked it up," she said after being told that vesper sparrows live much of their lives on the ground.

The pros and cons of her decision were numerous. Arguments could be extensive. Somehow, for some reason, a new species had been made known to the both of us.

As we closed our conversation, I admitted my envy of her being able to hear in the stillness of a waning day the evensong of the avian population.

*Bebe McCasland is author of "The Scoop From Bird Poop." She is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.*

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# Coahoma High honors athletes

By Robert Griffin

Sports Editor

The Coahoma High School held its annual athletic banquet this week, with recognition to go around. Athletes were recognized in their individual sports in front of all their friends and families.

In football, Tanner Ruiz was named Offensive MVP, while Jason Martinez and Pete Acosta shared the Defensive MVP honors. Dakota Griffith got the nod as the special teams MVP. Skyler Coates and Casey Roberts shared the Fighting Heart award and Josh Castilaw won Outstanding Lineman.

In Cross Country, Kaley Owens was named Outstanding Female Runner. The Outstanding Male Runner recognition went to Hunter Lowery. Dusty Salmon and Kaleb McAdams shared the Leadership award and the Hoorah Award was given to both Laurel Nix and Hayden Adamson.

In Girls Basketball, the M.V.P. award went to JoAnna Gonzales, while the Defensive M.V.P. was given to Haley Pace. Jennifer Castilaw was named the Offensive MVP and Devon Maddox was called Most Improved. The Fighting Heart award was shared by Minnie

Goodblanket and Lynzi Ferrell.

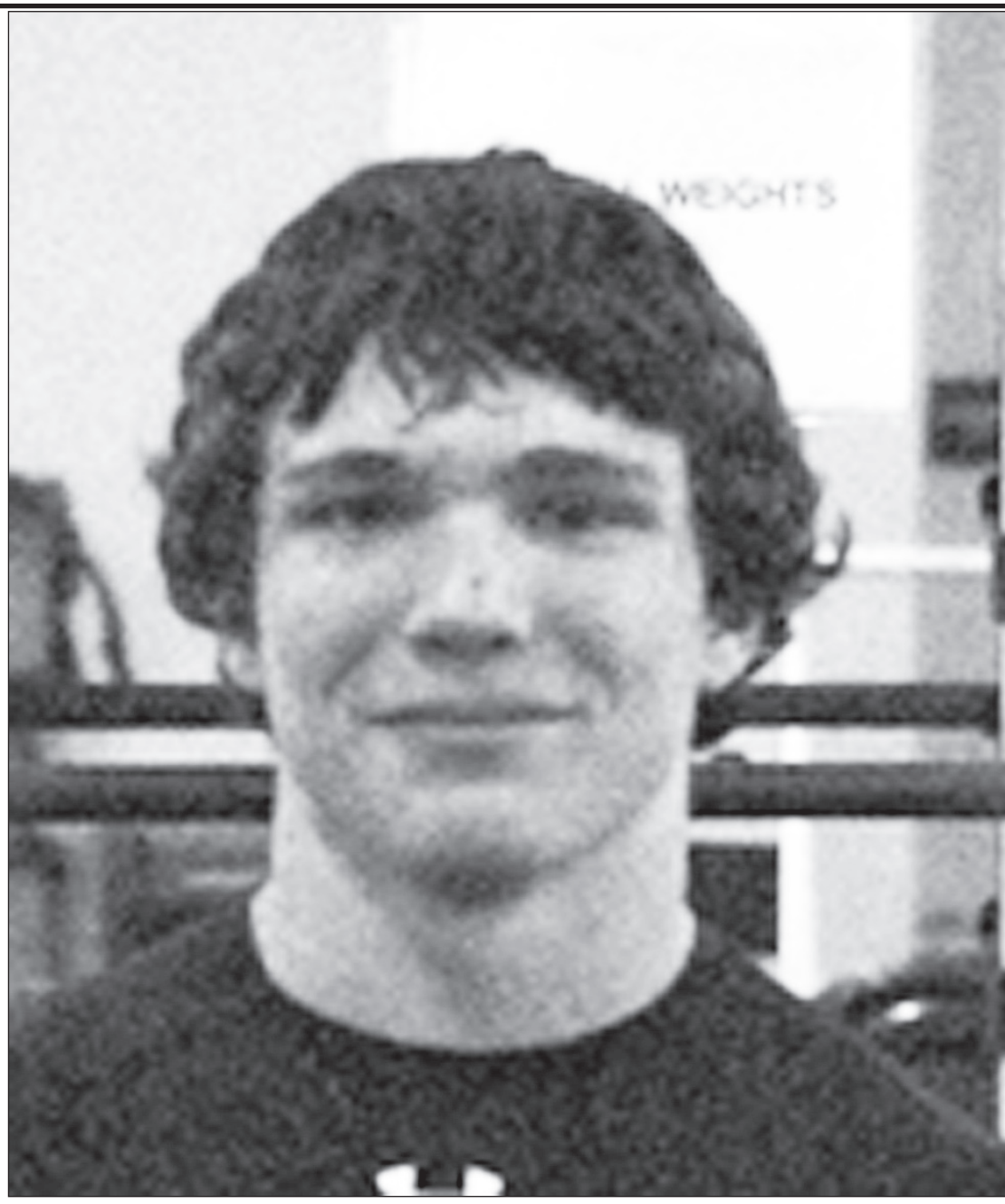
Hunter Williams and Tanner Ruiz shared the MVP honors in boys basketball, while Reagan Reid was tapped Most Improved Player. The Fighting Heart went to Jacob Echavarria. Hunter Williams was named the Defensive MVP. Outstanding Newcomer was recognized as Aaron Acevedo. Josh Gonzalez was named the Sixth Man.

In Girls Track, Kaley Owens was the MVP, as Kaci Marquez and Sarah Melendez were named Newcomers of the Year. The Boys MVP was Justin Coker.

In Powerlifting, Megan Hurst was named MVP for the Girls, with the Most Improved award going to Brittany Villareal. Justin Coker and Peyton Rodriguez shared the boys MVP title and Dustin Fontana was named Most Improved.

In golf, Adrian Grant and Reagan Reid were named co-MVP's. Aaron Gonzales and Jason Martinez were named the MVP's in boys tennis, while Itzel Gomez received the Fighting Heart for the girls. Outstanding Female Athlete was Joanna Gonzales.

Outstanding Male Athlete was Tanner Ruiz. Brandi Smith, Joanna Gonzales, Hunter Williams and Brayden Iden each received Booster scholarships.



Justin Coker

# Mavs win in OT

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A decade's worth of playoff experience has taught Dirk Nowitzki plenty about hardship. Jason Kidd knows it well, too.

Now, it's starting to look as if the tide has turned for the Dallas Mavericks.

Nowitzki scored 40 points, Kidd hit the go-ahead 3-pointer with 40 seconds left in overtime and the Mavericks rallied from a 15-point deficit in the final 5 minutes of regulation to stun the Oklahoma City Thunder 112-105 on Monday night and take a 3-1 lead in the Western Conference finals.

"It's just a bunch of veterans with a lot of unique stories. A lot of guys have been through a lot in this league and have been around forever," Nowitzki said. "A bunch of guys have been to the finals. ... Ultimately, we have one goal and we came together and fought through some stuff."

Already with an improbable sweep over the two-time defending champion Los Angeles Lakers under their belts, the Mavericks came back from a 99-84 deficit with 5 minutes left in regulation to move within one win of the NBA finals.

They handed the Thunder their first consecutive losses of the postseason and first back-to-back home losses in six months to earn a chance to clinch the series on their home court in Game 5 Wednesday night in Dallas.

"We worked really hard these two games to win, and none of that guarantees anything for Game 5. We know that,"

said coach Rick Carlisle.

The Mavs have won at least 50 games in 11 straight seasons with no titles and only one trip to the NBA finals to show for it.

"All of us involved with this team have been through a lot of these wars," Carlisle added. "We understand our position that we're in. We respect it. We're very humble about it. We've got to get ourselves revved up and ready for Wednesday, because that's an opportunity."

Dallas didn't lead until Nowitzki hit two free throws 16 seconds into overtime, and the Mavericks never let the Thunder — who were one win shy of tying an NBA record with eight OT wins in the regular season — go ahead after that.

Kevin Durant, the league's scoring champion the past two seasons, missed a 3-point attempt on Oklahoma City's opening possession of overtime, then didn't get another shot until he missed from long range off the front of the rim in the final 10 seconds with the Thunder down by five.

Durant finished with 29 points and 15 rebounds, and Serge Ibaka had 18 points and 10 boards for Oklahoma City. Russell Westbrook added 19 points, eight rebounds and eight assists.

Only two teams in NBA history have come back from 3-1 deficits without the benefit of home-court. See **MAVS**, Page 12

# Welcome back Josh

## Hamilton homers in Ranger win

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Josh Hamilton took off running, and kept up that pace even after his first swing in six weeks for the Texas Rangers sent the ball over the wall for his first homer this season.

"It was good to get it out of the way, good to get that nervousness over," Hamilton said.

The Rangers have been waiting for their AL MVP and Nelson Cruz to get back in the lineup, and both delivered big blasts in a 4-0 victory over the Chicago White Sox on Monday night.

Cruz and Hamilton homered to back up Alexi Ogando's five-hitter for his first career shutout.

"An exciting moment for us to be back," Cruz said.

Their long-awaited comeback in many ways overshadowed another dominating pitching performance for the Rangers, who had their second consecutive shutout and third in eight games.

Hamilton pulled an 0-1 pitch off John Danks (0-7) over the right-field wall in the first to put Texas ahead to stay. Hamilton, who hit .333 without a homer in 11 games before breaking a bone in his upper right arm April 12, was quickly around the bases and back in the dugout.

"First one of the year, yeah!" he said. "I was already running hard because I didn't know if it was getting out or not, so I just continued it all the way around the bases. But it was good."

Cruz hit a two-run shot to left in the sixth to make it 3-0.

"That's something we needed," Ogando said through a translator. "You see as soon as they are at the plate they can make a big difference."

Ogando (5-0), who was added to the rotation at the end of spring training after Tommy Hunter's injury, struck out six and walked

three while throwing 72 of his 105 pitches for strikes.

Danks also threw a complete game, his first this season and third of his career.

"I made a lousy pitch to pretty darn good hitter in the first, and I made a good pitch to Cruz that he hit out of the ballpark," Danks said. "It changes their lineup, no disrespect to their other hitters."

A setup reliever last season, Ogando was expected to pitch out of the bullpen again even though he was stretched in spring training.

Now Ogando has pitched at least six innings in nine consecutive starts to open the season, matching Kevin Millwood (2009) as the only Rangers pitchers in opening-day rotations to accomplish that over the past 10 seasons. And already has a shutout.

"You're never thinking about that, you can't predict the future," he said. "But if you work hard and do your job, anything can happen. ... I'm learning more every inning. I know that I'm getting more and getting more experience. I feel more confident every time I get out there."

Danks, drafted ninth overall by Texas in 2003 and traded to Chicago three years later, struck out three and walked two while 71 of 105 pitches for strikes. The left-hander again got no run support, with the White Sox scoring only four runs for him in his five road starts this season.

"He threw the ball well, but made a couple mistakes, missed his location a couple of times. He's giving up a lot of 0-2 hits on mistakes. It's almost like he's throwing too many strikes," catcher A.J. Pierzynski said. "It's frustrating for him, for me, for everybody because we know the ability John has and we want to get that out of him."

For only the fourth time in Rangers Ballpark, which opened in 1994, both starting pitchers threw complete games.

It was the fifth shutout for the Rangers this season. Chicago was held without a run for the sixth time after being scoreless only five times last season.

The game was played in 2 hours, 5 minutes — the shortest game at Rangers Ballpark since a 2-hour game on May 29, 2006, when Texas beat Seattle 2-0.

Hamilton and Cruz wrapped up rehab assignments Sunday at Triple-A Round Rock, and were activated before Monday's game.

The return for Hamilton came one day short of six weeks since he got hurt trying to score with a head-first slide at Detroit. Cruz had been out since leaving a game early May 3 at Seattle because of a strained left quadriceps.

Hamilton, who was the designated hitter batting third, got a standing ovation when he was introduced in the first. He responded with his first homer, and later had a double while going 2 for 4.

Cruz got a similar response when he led off in the second, when he grounded out. He also struck out before his two-run blast in the sixth snapped an 0-for-16 slide.

After Adrian Beltre drew a two-out walk in the sixth, Cruz homered to left. Beltre added a sacrifice fly in the eighth.

Notes: When Pierzynski reached into the stands to try to catch a foul ball by Beltre in the sixth inning, he found himself face-to-face with former President George W. Bush. The ball didn't hit anyone when it fell into the owner's box where Bush and his wife, Laura, sat with Rangers president Nolan Ryan and his wife, Ruth. ... PGA Tour player Vijay Singh attended the game.

## IN BRIEF

### Grady High School Basketball Camp planned

Grady High School will be hosting a summer basketball camp May 31 through June 3, from 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Grades 3-5 will be boys and girls and grades 6-8 will be girls only. The cost of the camp will be \$50.

Coach Hefner, two-time National Champion Coach with over 800 wins will be conducting the camp.

The camp will stress fundamentals on both offense and defense. Early registration is important so they will know how many coaches will be needed.

Checks are to be made out to Ken Hefner.

For more info, call 432-459-2445.

### Jack and Jill Couples Scramble slated

The Gaines County Golf Course is hosting a Jack and Jill Couples Scramble June 11 and 12.

The cost is \$150 plus cart fee per team. Lunch will be provided on both days. For more information or to register, call 432-758-3808

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

**PARKVIEW NURSING** and Rehab is now accepting applications for a Certified Activity Director. If you would like to work in a great family working environment and you are motivated, caring, organized, able to multi-task, know basic computer knowledge and love the elderly then may apply in person at 3200 Parkway or on-line at [www.parkviewnursing.net](http://www.parkviewnursing.net)

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**PART-TIME SEC/RECEPTIONIST** needed. Require mature person with office skills, including knowledge of excel, word, fax, & telephone skills, filing, making copies, greeting clients and working with other agencies in a pleasant and professional manner. Applicant must be neat, clean, and adhere to an appropriate dress code, reliable transportation a must, non-smoking, bilingual preferred, apply at Northside Community Center, 110 NE 8th St.. Previous applicants need not apply.

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Apply at Workforce Center (in the Post Office), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

**TEXAS BOOK** company is currently seeking candidates for the position of Entry Level Account Clerk at the Howard College-Big Spring Bookstore. Minimum Qualifications: 1 yr. exp. or College accounting classes, proficient in Excel and Word, excellent team building, communication, cashier experience and organizational skills with attention to details. Qualified candidates must apply on line at [www.texasbook.com](http://www.texasbook.com). <<http://www.texasbook.com>>. Click on "Join Our Winning Team".

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Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.  
**CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)**  
Dist/Div: Abilene  
Contract 0668-01-016 for UPGRADE TRAFFIC SIGNALS in HOWARD County will be opened on June 08, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.  
NPO: 36480

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division  
200 E. Riverside Dr.  
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Phone: 512-416-2540  
Dist/Div Office(s)

Abilene District  
District Engineer  
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Abilene, Texas 79604-0150  
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Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.  
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A compliment is a gift, not a purchase. When someone compliments you, graciously accept the kind words without worrying about how and when you can repay them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You don't have to be overly concerned with being good to do the right thing. Free yourself from negative thoughts and energy for the simple reason that it's too much work to carry them around with you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll make a friend by doing something other than the usual. Your originality is adorable. You're a lot of fun, and then you make yourself scarce — irresistible.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You are not a blank slate for someone else to write on. Contribute to a conversation. Talk about what you know. Otherwise, you're likely to be bossed around by the more overbearing people in your midst.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your domestic environment reflects where you are in life right now — a good reason to tidy and organize it, making it beautiful and welcoming whether or not you are expecting company.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're not motivated by easy targets. If anyone and everyone can join the club, it's not special. The harder you have to work for it the more you want it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have a gift for healing, as well as teaching. You feel compelled to be of service to others, and your attention will help them achieve a state of optimum health and well-being.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You want what you want. Go toward it without feeling selfish or guilty. Don't worry — it won't be too easy for you to attain this goal, and you'll be helping others along the way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your sign's symbol is a centaur — half-horse, half-human. Now is a good time to channel the horse side. You'll need to be fast and strong and wear blinders to keep yourself focused on the track.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You suspect that someone likes you for your feisty ambition, though you don't have to go out of your way to display this now. Really, it's forgiveness and compassion that are your most alluring qualities.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be in a position to choose your company, so avoid the one who likes to get you all riled up. This person can cause you to spin in circles like a dog chasing its own tail.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are responsible and orderly to a point, and then it's time to hit the release valve and blow off some steam. This can be accomplished through wild dancing, shouting at the game on television or escaping into a good movie.

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HOLIDAY MATHIS

Tips from Heloise: Does tip include alcohol?

Dear Heloise: I read the Restaurant tipping hint in the Houston Chronicle. The reader suggests doubling the tax as an easy way to figure out the tip.

Warning: This will work only if you don't order alcoholic beverages.

There is no tax on alcohol (Heloise here: This is not the case everywhere and in every situation), and since it's customary to tip on the entire bill, doubling the tax definitely will shortchange your server.

I hope you'll set the record straight. Wait staff members usually work for less than minimum wage and depend on tips. They deserve to be tipped on the entire bill. — G.A. in Houston

Of course wait staff should be tipped accordingly! As mentioned in the original column, sales tax varies across the country.

Some restaurants tax beer and wine, and some tax liquor, which may be absorbed by the establishment (you will not see it on the bill). — Heloise

QUIET ZONE

Dear Heloise: My wife is hearing-impaired and had to have the volume turned high on the TV, which is very annoying.

And, I'm sure like a lot of couples, we often disagreed on what programs to watch.

Well, I went out and bought an additional TV for the family room. While there, I found the savior, remote headphones.

Now my wife puts on her headphones and turns the volume as loud as she wants (the TV is muted so I can't hear).

I turn my TV on to the ballgame, and everyone's happy. We get to watch TV together. We haven't argued in 15 years. — Scott V., via email

HEAVY PINS

Dear Heloise: Dressing for church one

Sunday morning, I found that the pin I intended to wear in the collar of my blouse was too heavy.

I put the blouse on and, with the collar in the correct position, put the pin through the collar and the blouse, and it worked perfectly. Hope someone else will be able to use this suggestion. Thanks for the years of helpful hints. — Becky Seymour, Clinton, La.

SEED STARTER

Dear Heloise: Instead of buying expensive seed starter packs, buy disposable pans with plastic lids at a dollar store, fill old cardboard egg containers with potting soil, place inside pan and plant the seeds.

Put a plastic cover over loosely until the seeds sprout, and you have a very inexpensive seed starter kit. — Tim from Colorado

HOSPITAL

HELPERS

Dear Heloise: For people in the hospital, I always take a gift of lip balm, hand lotion, a deck of cards, dice, notebook, pen, crossword, word search and a coloring book and crayons.

Many people are confused by the last two items but if you are lying in bed with nothing to do, be creative!

My aunt loved it because it gave her something to do when her grandkids visited. — A Reader, Sanford, Mich.

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 - The Logic of Defense. By Steve Becker. Includes a bridge hand diagram and bidding sequence.

sudoku. Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. Includes a 9x9 grid.

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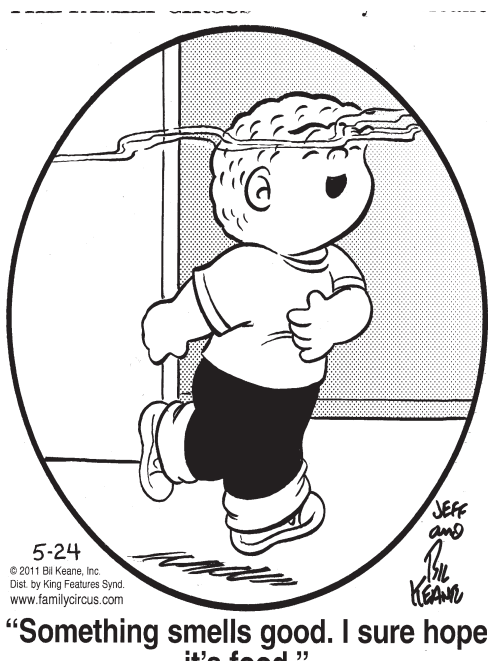
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|-------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 5:PM  | News ABC               | Alma Notic.           | Lopez              | News               | Noticias              | News                | Seinfeld             | Scrivner            | News                      | 70s Show            | Cash Cab               | Returns, Michelle Pfeiffer        | Ways Die Auction       | Law & Order                                  | 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live     | Deck Wizards             |                      | SportsCenter        |
| 6:PM  | Jeopardy!              | Cuando Me Wheel       | Two Men            | News               | Caso Cer-rado         | News                | King                 | McDonald            | Business                  | 70s Cash Cab        | Cash Cab               |                                   | Auction                | Law & Order                                  |                                   | Deck                     | Pardon NASCAR        |                     |
| 7:PM  | Dancing With the Stars | Teresa (SS)           | American Idol      | NCIS               | Mi Corazon Insiste    | The Biggest Loser   | Office               | Alewine             | Craft in America          | One Tree Hill       | Deadliest Catch        | Movie: Rocky II, Burgess Meredith | Repo Auction           | Pregame                                      | Movie: Not Easily Broken          | Tinker Bell and the Lost | 30 for 30            | Year/Quarterback    |
| 8:PM  | Dancing With the Stars | Triunfo del Amor (SS) | Glee               | NCIS: Los Angeles  | Herederos-Monte       |                     | Office               | Cortes              | Frontline                 | Hellcats            | Deadliest Catch        |                                   | Repo Auction           | NBA Basketball: Chicago Bulls at Miami Heat. |                                   |                          |                      | Year/Quarterback    |
| 9:PM  |                        |                       | Simpsons           | NCIS               | La Reina del Sur      | The Voice           | Office               | Upd                 | Independent Lens          | Payne Browns        | Dual Survival          |                                   | Repo Auction           |  | Fa. Affair Deck                   | Football College Tennis  | Baseball Tonight     |                     |
| 10:PM | News                   | Impacto               | How I Met          | News               | Noticias              | News                | Conan                | Brad New            | Charlie Rose              | Roseanne            | Deadliest Catch        | Movie: Rocky III, Talia Shire     | Repo Auction           | Inside the NBA                               | The Mo'Nique                      | Good                     |                      | SportsCenter        |
| 11:PM | Jimmy Kimmel Live      | Para Volver a Amar    | Law & Order: SVU   | Late               | Mi Corazon Insiste    | Late Night          | Lopez Tonight        | Ministerio-Vida     | World T. Smiley (Off Air) | South Pk            | Deadliest Catch        |                                   | Ways Die               | CSI: NY                                      | Wendy Williams                    | Baseball Tonight         | NBA                  |                     |
| 12:AM | Extra                  | Destilando Amor       | Paid               | Insider            | Pagado                | News                | Conan                | Upd                 |                           | Cops                | Dual Survival          | Movie: 48 HRS., Annette O'Toole   | MAN                    | CSI: NY                                      | Movie: Back in the Day, Pam Grier | Wizards                  | NFL Live             | SportsCenter        |
| 1AM   | Paid                   | Mujer Cero            | King/Hill          | (:37) Up to        | Pelicula: El          | Poker After Dark    | Lopez Tonight        | Alewine             |                           | TBA                 |                        |                                   | Amazing Video          | Memphis Beat                                 | Suite Life                        | 30 for 30                |                      | SportsCenter        |

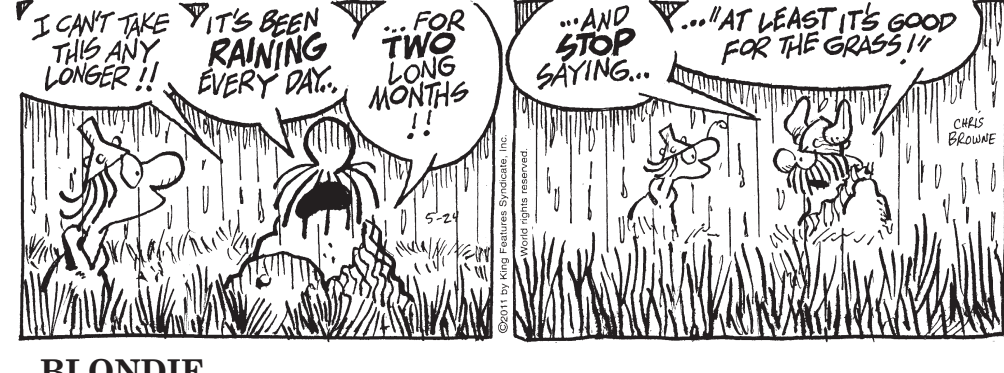
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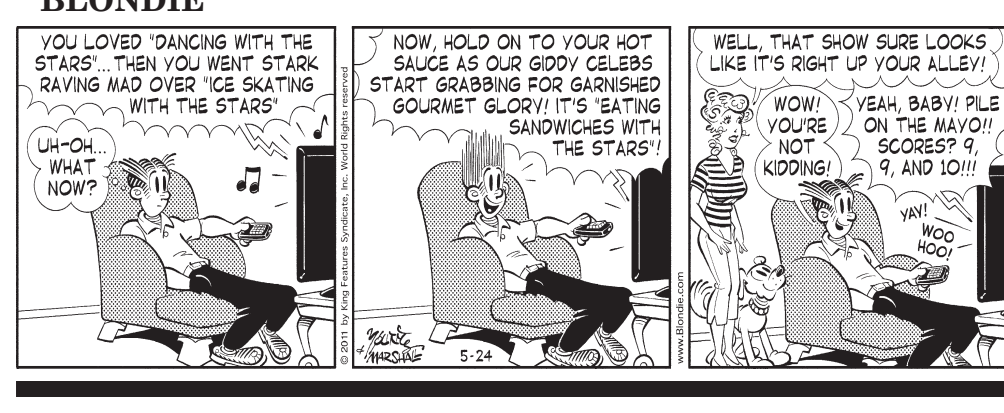
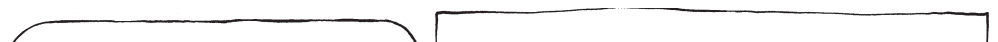
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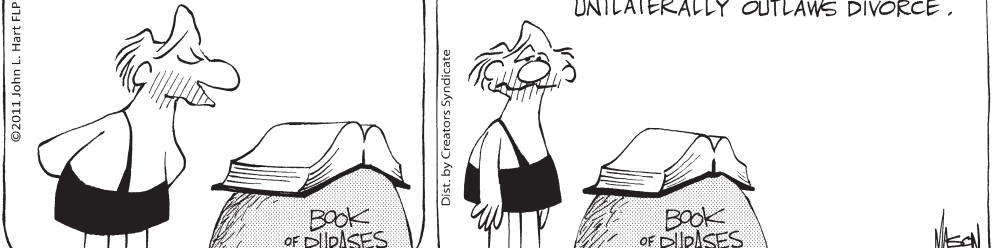
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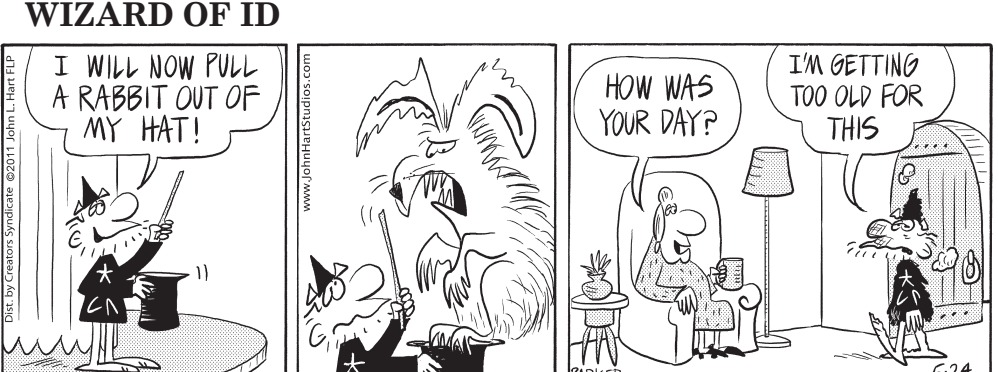
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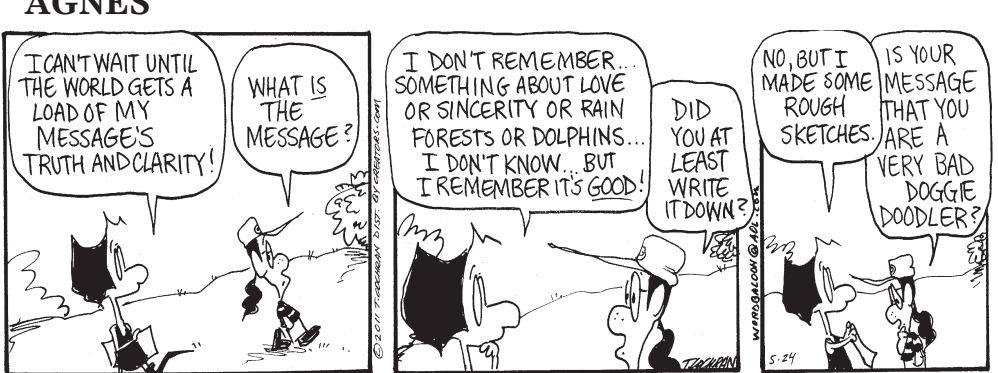
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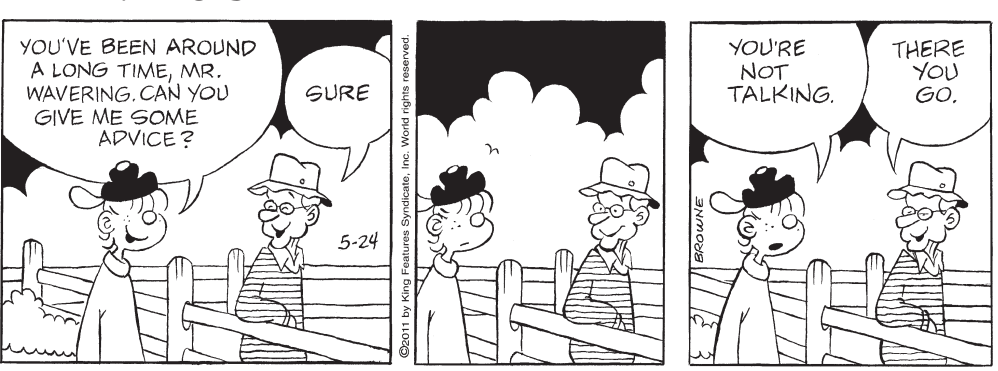
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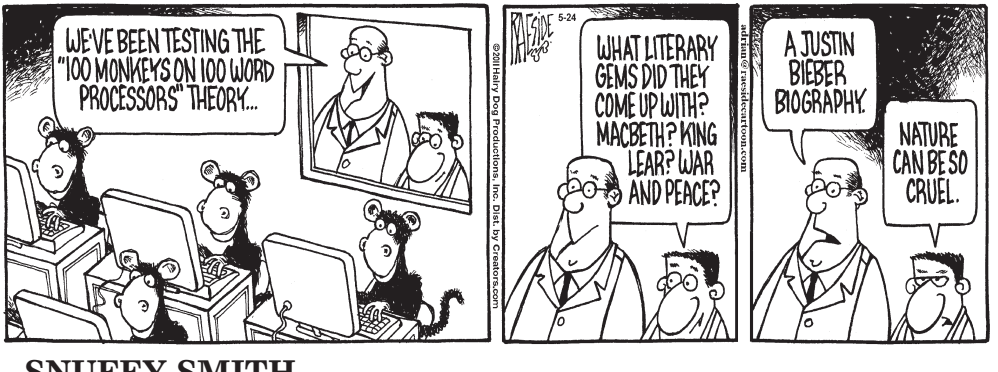
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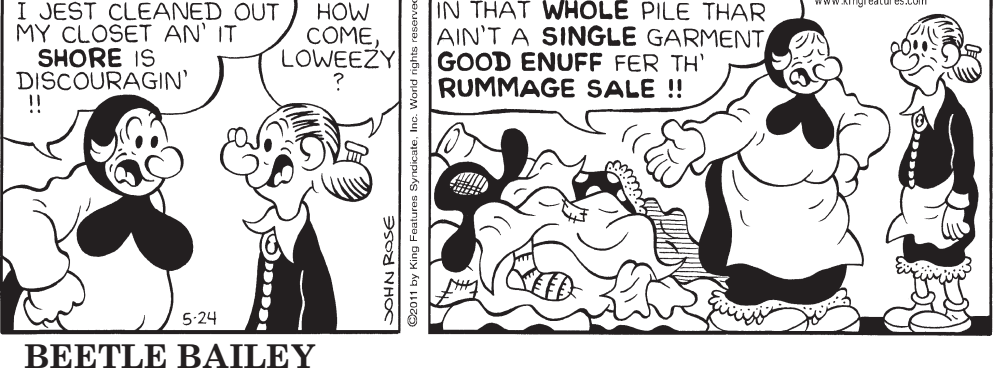
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, May 24, the 144th day of 2011. There are 221 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On May 24, 1844, Samuel F.B. Morse transmitted the message, "What hath God wrought" from Washington to Baltimore as he formally opened America's first telegraph line.

On this date:  
In 1775, John Hancock was elected President of the Continental Congress, succeeding Peyton Randolph.  
In 1819, Queen Victoria was born in London.  
In 1883, the Brooklyn Bridge, linking Brooklyn and Manhattan, was dedicated by President Chester Alan Arthur and New York Gov. Grover Cleveland, and opened to traffic.  
In 1935, the first major league baseball game to be played at night took place at Cincinnati's Crosley Field as the Reds beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 2-1.

In 1941, the German battleship Bismarck sank the British dreadnought HMS Hood in the North Atlantic, killing all but three of the 1,418 men on board.

In 1959, former U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles died in Washington, D.C. at age 71.

In 1961, a group of Freedom Riders was arrested after arriving at a bus terminal in Jackson, Miss., charged with breaching the peace for entering white-designated areas. (They ended up serving 60 days in jail.)

In 1962, astronaut Scott Carpenter became the second American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Aurora 7.

In 1976, Britain and France opened trans-Atlantic Concorde supersonic transport service to Washington.

In 1980, Iran rejected a call by the World Court in The Hague to release the American hostages.

**Today's Birthdays:** Comedian Tommy Chong is 73. Singer Bob Dylan is 70. Actor Gary Burghoff is 68. Singer Patti LaBelle is 67. Actress Priscilla Presley is 66. Country singer Mike Reid is 64. Actor Jim Broadbent is 62. Actor Alfred Molina is 58. Singer Rosanne Cash is 56. Actress Kristin Scott Thomas is 51. Rock musician Jimmy Ashurst (Buckcherry) is 48. Rock musician Vivian Trimble is 48. Actor John C. Reilly is 46. Actor Eric Close is 44. Rapper-recording executive Heavy D is 44. Rock musician Rich Robinson is 42. Actor Bryan Greenburg is 33. Actor Billy L. Sullivan is 31. Actor-rapper Jerod Mixon (aka Big Tyme) is 30. Rock musician Cody Hanson (Hinder) is 29. Country singer Billy Gilman is 23. Actor Cayden Boyd is 17.

**Thought for Today:** "If we wait for the moment when everything, absolutely everything is ready, we shall never begin." — Ivan Turgenev, Russian author (1818-1883).

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Take it easy
  - 5 Sudden outpouring
  - 10 Fitness center
  - 13 Mediterranean island nation
  - 14 France's capital, humorously
  - 15 Large vase
  - 16 Not illuminated
  - 17 Taking a cruise
  - 18 Obtain
  - 19 Beef cuts
  - 21 Sailor's affirmative
  - 22 Snaky letter
  - 23 Change for a \$5 bill
  - 24 Make a mistake
  - 26 Enemy
  - 27 Discovers, as a clue
  - 31 Rude person
  - 34 Encourage
  - 37 Clinton's V.P.
  - 38 Song
  - 39 Camera closeup attachments
  - 40 Way of walking
  - 41 Commando weapons
  - 42 Devoured
  - 43 24-hr. cash sources
  - 44 Happening first
  - 46 Lincoln nickname
  - 48 \_\_\_ de plume
  - 49 Agile
  - 51 Poisonous snake
  - 54 Mayo container
  - 56 Salad-bar fare
  - 60 \_\_\_ Baba
  - 61 Shaquille of basketball
- DOWN**
- 1 Corporal and captain
  - 2 Historic island
  - 3 Agitate
  - 4 Art on an arm
  - 5 Sudden outpouring
  - 6 Tops of heads
  - 7 \_\_\_ Major (Big Dipper)
  - 8 Smell bad
  - 9 China used to serve peko
  - 10 Make more pleasant
  - 11 Hunter's quarry
  - 12 Poker-hand starter
  - 13 Artistic inspiration
  - 20 Reacts to ragweed
  - 25 Jamaican music
  - 26 California city
  - 27 Spherical roof
  - 28 Catch in a trap
  - 29 Quick haircut
  - 30 Solidifies
  - 31 Air-conditioner units: Abbr.
  - 32 Greek liqueur
  - 33 Donut-shaped burger topper
  - 35 Unwitting victim
  - 36 Bought
  - 45 Create, as raised lettering
  - 47 Avoid by going around
  - 49 Get to work
  - 50 Stacks of firewood
  - 51 "All kidding \_\_\_"
  - 52 Vapor
  - 53 Skillets, for example
  - 54 Tire-changing device
  - 55 Medicinal plant
  - 57 Not fooled by
  - 58 Have on
  - 59 Frequently



Answer to previous puzzle

|           |       |           |
|-----------|-------|-----------|
| OPERA     | STAT  | KALE      |
| PAPER     | CAGE  | EVEN      |
| TRIBE     | OXEN  | RIND      |
| SECOND    | WIND  | ODDS      |
| TOO STEPS |       |           |
| LAW       | TLC   | DOESOK    |
| ISR       | LOOP  | ONION     |
| SHOOT     | S     | THEBREEZE |
| TETRA     | SORE  | GEE       |
| SNEAKS    | PAL   | ESS       |
| LETGO CAB |       |           |
| SLAT      | ROUGH | DRAFT     |
| HOSE      | AUTO  | DALAI     |
| IRIS      | IDEA  | EVADE     |
| PEIST     | TART  | ROSES     |

**MAVS**

Continued from Page 7

advantage in Game 7 — Houston in the 1995 West semifinals and Boston in the 1968 East finals.

“There’s no doubt it was a tough loss,” Oklahoma City coach Scott Brooks said. “If this loss did not hurt, there’s no such thing as a loss that can hurt you.”

Durant said all the Thunder can do now is try to be positive.

“It’s not over yet,” he said. “We know we have a game on Wednesday. We’ve won in there before, so we’ve got to try to do it again.”

Durant had nine of the Thunder’s 26 turnovers, including the one that led to the big shot by Kidd. Kidd stripped him as he went up for a shot with just over a minute left in overtime, then took a pass from Nowitzki, pump-faked to get Westbrook in the air and stepped up to drill a 3-pointer that put Dallas up 108-105 with 40.3 seconds left.

Jason Terry hit two free throws for the last of his 20 points, and Kidd added two more to provide the final margin.

Kidd — who went to the NBA finals twice with New Jersey but is still seeking his first ring at age 38 — scored 17 points to go with seven assists, five rebounds and four steals.

“Everybody asks questions about the age and all that other stuff,” Carlisle said, “but the thing I’d say to anybody is, ‘Never underestimate greatness.’”

The Mavericks also

know better than to underestimate any opponent in any circumstances.

“I think they’re going to come back in Game 5 and going to throw everything at us. Obviously they’re desperate now,” said Nowitzki, who still laments how Dallas won twice on the road to start the 2006 finals then lost four in a row to Miami.

“But they showed they can win on our home court — they stole Game 2 there — so you know they are still confident. We’ve got to take it. Nothing is going to be given to you in this league, especially not in the playoffs.”

The Thunder learned that the hard way.

Durant acted as though he was slapping on a pro wrestling championship belt after his 3-pointer finished Oklahoma City’s second 7-0 run of the fourth quarter to make it 99-84 with 5:06 remaining. He hadn’t won anything yet, though.

James Harden fouled out 32 seconds later, robbing the Thunder of their third-best offensive player. Westbrook had the only basket for the team’s All-Star tandem over the final 10 minutes while Nowitzki took charge.

“It was almost over,” Nowitzki said. “If we mess up one more time or give up one more offensive rebound, that would have been the game. So we couldn’t afford any mistakes down the stretch and ... we were almost perfect.”

The big German scored 12 points during the Mavericks’ 17-2 run and got fouled by Nick Col-

lison before hitting both free throws to tie it at 101 with 6.4 seconds left.

Shawn Marion blocked Durant’s 3-point attempt at least 30 feet from the basket with 2 seconds left, and the Mavericks couldn’t convert a chance at the win when Kidd’s inbound lob with 0.7 seconds to go hit the rim.

Oklahoma City came roaring out of the gates after trailing by as many as 17 points in the first quarter of Game 3. The Thunder hit their first nine shots and took an 18-8 lead after Durant caught a deflected inbound pass and zoomed in for a right-handed jam.

They never quite could shake Dallas, though. The Mavericks were still within five at half-time and trailed 79-77 in the final minute of the third quarter.

“It goes without saying that it was a tough loss to accept,” Brooks said, “but it is a loss and we have to learn from it.”

Notes: Mavs C Tyson Chandler was called for a technical foul in the third quarter. The NBA rescinded Chandler’s first two technicals in this series, so his post-season count is currently at four — three shy of what’s needed for a one-game suspension. Westbrook has five. ... Dallas was the only visiting team to win twice in the regular season at the Oklahoma City Arena, where the Thunder were 30-11. The Mavericks are 4-0 in the building in the regular season and playoffs. ... Brooks, facing repeated questions about his starting lineup, says he’s sticking with it. “We’re a young team,” he said, “and if you give a young team instability, you’re going to get very inconsistent results.”

# Sharapova riding hot streak at the 2011 French Open

## Looking for last Grand Slam title

PARIS (AP) — Coming off the biggest clay-court title of her career, Maria Sharapova rolled into the second round of the French Open by beating Mirjana Lucic of Croatia 6-3, 6-0 Tuesday.

The seventh-seeded Russian won the Italian Open before coming to Roland Garros to seek the only Grand Slam title she has never won.

“If you feel pressure, it’s part of the business. It’s part of the sport,” Sharapova said of the expectations placed on her. “That means there’s something on the line. That means you want it bad. It’s how you handle it.”

“Without pressure, what’s the sport about? It’s how you really handle the situation.”

Also advancing to the second round were Australian Open finalists Andy Murray and Li Na. Later Tuesday, five-time French Open champion Rafael Nadal was to face John Isner, while Kim Clijsters was also scheduled to be in action.

Against Lucic on center court, Sharapova was not troubled. She won nine straight games to finish the match and never faced a break point.

Sharapova, who will face French wild card Caroline Garcia, won the title at Wimbledon in 2004, the U.S. Open in

2006 and the Australian Open in 2008.

The sixth-seeded Li, who became the first Chinese player to reach a Grand Slam final, dominated at times and struggled at times in her 6-3, 6-7 (6), 6-3 win over Barbora Zachlavyova Strycova of the Czech Republic.

Li trailed 3-1 in the first set, but then won 10 of the next 12 games to lead 5-2 in the second before her opponent forced the tiebreaker. She held two match points in the tiebreaker, but then lost four straight points.

“First match is easy or tough. Nothing between,” Li said.

In the third, Li jumped out to a 4-0 lead and held on to win.

But first on Court Philippe Chatrier, an emotional Virginie Razzano played despite the death of her fiancé eight days ago. The Frenchwoman, playing with a black ribbon on her shirt, lost to 24th-seeded Jarmila Gajdosova of Australia 6-3, 6-1.

“I felt a lot of emotion, a lot of pain on court today,” Razzano said. “The pain is permanent within me. It’s very hard. But it felt good to be surrounded by so many people and to be here.”

“I tried to pay tribute to Stephane today. It was almost a ‘mission impossible,’ but I did my best.”

Razzano’s fiancé and coach Stephane Vidal died on May 16 after being diagnosed with a brain tumor nine years ago. He was 32.

The 28-year-old Razzano said last week that she asked Vidal before he died if she should play at Roland Garros and he said, “Yes, you need to play.”

Gajdosova, who recently split from her husband Sam Groth, said she offered condolences and some words of encouragement when they met at the net.

“I just told her that I’m sorry for her loss, and what she did was pretty much incredible,” Gajdosova said. “She stood out to a 4-0 lead and held her head up high and tried her best. I told her I was sorry and I wished her all the best for the future.”

Razzano will also play in the doubles tournament with partner Alize Cornet.

Former French Open champion Ana Ivanovic also lost. The 20th-seeded Serb, who won the title at Roland Garros in 2008, fell to Johanna Larsson of Sweden 7-6 (3), 0-6, 6-2.

Murray made it through to the second round by beating French qualifier Eric Prodon 6-4, 6-1, 6-3.

The fourth-seeded Briton went on a four-match winless run after losing the Australian Open final, but he reached the semifinals at clay-court warmups in Monte Carlo and Rome.

No. 20 Florian Mayer of Germany and No. 21 Alexandr Dolgoplov of Ukraine also advanced.

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ANSWERS

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

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