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BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

APRIL 12, 2012



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 153

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Collision leaves one dead

Alon refinery contractor's vehicle struck by locomotive

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

A woman was killed Wednesday afternoon when the truck she was driving was hit by a Union Pacific train at the Alon USA owned Big Spring Refinery.

According to Alon USA public relations spokesman Blake Lewis, the woman was a contractor working at the local facility and not a refinery employee.

Emergency personnel with the refinery's emergency response team, the Howard County Sheriff's Office and Big Spring Fire Department all responded to the accident, which happened on refinery property at approximately 11:30 a.m.

The identity of the woman



The railroad outside the Alon USA Big Spring Refinery was shut down Wednesday afternoon following an accident that claimed the life of a female contractor working at the facility. According to officials, a westbound train struck a vacuum truck at one of the facility's railroad crossings.

HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Time to see if you can Master the Mountain

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

Area residents will have a chance to show the mountain — Scenic Mountain, that is — who is boss this weekend.

The 14th annual Master the Mountain 5K/10K Fun Run and Walk is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. Saturday in Big Spring State Park. Registration is \$25 and will take place from 7:30 a.m. until 8:30 p.m.

"This year, one of the big things is we are bringing back the 10K run," Ron Alton, state park manager, said.

The 10K run had been put



on the back burner the past few years, but with the support of volunteers and other

planning details, it will resume for 2012.

"We are more prepared this year and we have a little more to offer our runners with the 10K," Alton said.

A key feature is the unique scenery surrounding the race. Scenic Mountain is the only venue in the area that provides the terrain and elevation switch that takes place in the state park.

"These races are a great way to attract people from out of town and to get people in the community involved with

See **RUN**, Page 3

Oil, gas background vital, candidate says

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
Managing Editor

Becky Berger believes her education in the oil and gas industry makes her the most qualified candidate for Texas Railroad Commissioner in the May 29 Republican Primary election.



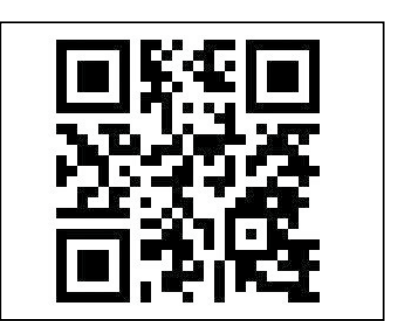
Berger

Berger is making a sweep through South and West Texas, and made a brief stop Wednesday in Big Spring after visiting San Angelo and Midland on Tuesday. Thursday, she was bound for Kerrville and San Antonio.

"We desperately need someone with a technical background in the oil and gas industry," said Berger, who has a bachelor of science degree in geology and minors in engineering and economics. She said she's worked as a roustabout, field chemist, mudlogger and wellsite geologist.

"I'm the only candidate with a background in this, and with a major in geology, too. Texas needs someone who can go toe-to-toe with the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and the (environmentalists) and ensure our economic viability," she added.

See **BERGER**, Page 3



Hangar 25 to hold cooking contest

By **AMANDA MORENO**
Staff Writer

Hangar 25 Air Museum is stepping into the cooking world.

Home Cooking with Hangar 25, a cooking competition based on recipes from the Hangar cookbook, will take place April 28.

"This is a great way to promote our cookbook and par-

ticipate in the community," Genevieve Stockburger, museum administrator, said.

This will be the first time hosting a cook-off for the museum, but Stockburger said she feels it is something fun, entertaining and beneficial to the community and the museum.

"Staying involved in the community is important to

us," she said. "This is a way we can do it while having fun and it is beneficial at the same time."

Those interested in cooking can register in the museum or online. Registration is \$7 and must be done by April 20. The competition will take place from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Winners will be announced between 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m.

"For those cooking we ask that they be at the Hangar earlier, but more information will be received when they register," Stockburger said.

There will also be time for those wanting to sample the dishes and see just what the cookbook has to offer. For \$3 those attending can sample

See **CONTEST**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Edna Faye Smith



Edna Faye Smith, 97, of Big Spring died Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at her residence. Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 14, 2012, at First Baptist Church with the Rev. Mark Lindsey, pastor, officiating.

She was born Oct. 23, 1914, in Lampasas, Texas, to Lemuel and Hanorah Rutledge. She married Jack Y. Smith on Oct. 14, 1932, in Walters, Okla. He preceded her in

death Dec. 1, 1986.

She was a member of First Baptist Church of Big Spring.

Survivors include one son, Steve Smith of Big Spring; one daughter, Jacqueline McKnight and husband Louis of Amarillo; three grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Ruth Ruthfsmire.

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

Oscar Solis Sr.



Oscar Solis Sr. 50, of Big Spring died Saturday, April 7, 2012, in Pampa. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Joe Torres officiating. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born May 23, 1961, in Big Spring. He lived most of his life in Big Spring. He married Sally Rodriguez on April 6, 1993, in Big Spring. He was a welder and a Baptist.

He is survived by his wife, Sally Solis of Big Spring; five sons, Oscar Solis Jr. and his wife Alejandra, and Ruben Solis, all of San Angelo, Justin Oscar Solis, Brian Joe Solis and Brandon Solis, all of Big Spring; parents, Juan and Angelita Solis of Denton; brothers and sisters, Ismael Solis and his wife Sandy of Coahoma, Ricky Solis and George Solis and his wife Ronetta, all of Big Spring, Josephine Santana of Fort Worth, Norma Rodriguez and her husband David of Denton, and Amanda Solis of San Angelo; and six grandchildren.

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

Clyde Gafford



Clyde Gafford, 95, of Bastrop, formerly of Big Spring died Friday, April 6, 2012, in a Bastrop nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 14, 2012, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Mark Lindsey, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

She was born May 22, 1916, in Westbrook, Texas, and married Monroe Gafford on May 18, 1933, in Colorado City, Texas. He preceded her in death May 23, 2005.

Mrs. Gafford was a longtime resident of Big Spring, moving to Midland in 1992 and then moving to Austin in 1997. She was currently a member of the First Baptist Church in Bastrop and was a former member of First Baptist Church in Big Spring.

Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth and Jeanie Gafford of Bastrop; one daughter and son-in-law, Gwen and Roy Carley of Houston; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

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

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Isabel 'Chavelo' Lomas

Isabel "Chavelo" Lomas, 55, of Big Spring died Friday, April 6, 2012, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. No services are planned at this time.

He was born Aug. 10, 1956, to Catalina Gonzales Lomas and Luciano Lomas in Big Spring, Texas. He has been a lifetime resident of Big Spring. He worked in the construction business for many years before becoming disabled. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by one brother, Jose Maria Lomas of Big Spring; and two sisters, Janie Charles and husband Jessie of Houston and Esperanza Ocampo and husband Lee Gomez of Houston.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Luciano Lomas.

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. Wednesday and 7 a.m. today:

• JORDAN ALLEN MCLEOD, 21, of 618 Tulane, was arrested Wednesday on charges of evading arrest or detention with a previous conviction and purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.

• JOHNNY ISAIAS GONZALES JR., 22, of 810 E. 14th St., was arrested Wednesday on charges of evading arrest or detention and purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.

• DANICA MARIE DIAZ, 19, of 600 Johnson St., was arrested Wednesday on charges of evading arrest or detention and consumption of alcohol by a minor.

• JASON LEE DIAZ, 32, of 1111 Ridgeroad, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of public intoxication.

• ANTHONY ALPHONSO LEWIS, 40, of 809 E. 15th St., was arrested Wednesday on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.

• JOHNNY RICHARD REYES, 24, of 107 N.E. Ninth St., was arrested Wednesday on a warrant for theft—more than \$50 and less than \$500.

• ASSAULT was reported:

In the 3600 block of W. Highway 80.

In the 300 block of Main Street.

In the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

In the 800 block of Willia

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 69 inmates at the time of this report.

• JORDAN ALLEN MCLEOD, 21, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention with a previous conviction and purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.

• JOHNNY ISAIAS GONZALES JR., 22, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention and purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.

• DANICA MARIE DIAZ, 19, was booked into the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of evading arrest or detention and consumption of alcohol by a minor.

• FELICIA DAWN MILLER, 20, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of consumption of alcohol by a minor.

• BRIAN MICHAEL GARZA, 29, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

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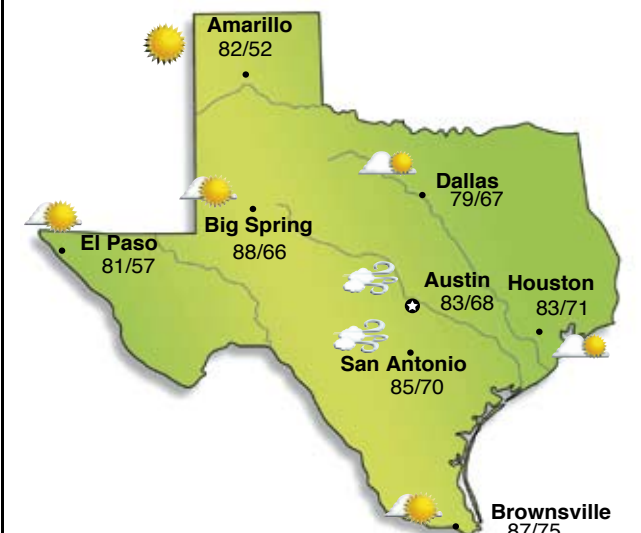
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 4/13	Sat 4/14	Sun 4/15	Mon 4/16	Tue 4/17
88/66 A few passing clouds, otherwise generally sunny. Warm. High 88F.	90/57 Windy with clouds giving way to sun.	82/54 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	77/49 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	80/53 Sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 50s.
Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:18 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:16 AM Sunset: 8:16 PM	Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 8:17 PM	Sunrise: 7:14 AM Sunset: 8:17 PM

American Profile
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Stories for and about hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	81	66	windy	Kingsville	89	73	windy
Amarillo	82	52	sunny	Livingston	83	65	pt sunny
Austin	83	68	windy	Longview	82	65	pt sunny
Beaumont	82	69	pt sunny	Lubbock	86	59	sunny
Brownsville	87	75	mst sunny	Lufkin	85	65	mst sunny
Brownwood	83	67	pt sunny	Midland	89	68	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	85	75	mst sunny	Raymondville	90	73	mst sunny
Corsicana	78	65	pt sunny	Rosenberg	83	70	pt sunny
Dallas	79	67	pt sunny	San Antonio	85	70	windy
Del Rio	87	69	pt sunny	San Marcos	83	67	windy
El Paso	81	57	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	81	67	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	90	61	sunny	Sweetwater	83	66	pt sunny
Gainesville	75	64	pt sunny	Tyler	83	65	pt sunny
Greenville	78	64	pt sunny	Weatherford	77	64	pt sunny
Houston	83	71	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	79	64	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	73	48	sunny	Minneapolis	53	50	rain
Boston	62	42	pt sunny	New York	66	48	sunny
Chicago	60	52	rain	Phoenix	73	50	windy
Dallas	79	67	pt sunny	San Francisco	52	47	rain
Denver	63	39	cloudy	Seattle	59	43	mst sunny
Houston	83	71	pt sunny	St. Louis	73	61	t-storm
Los Angeles	57	47	rain	Washington, DC	67	48	sunny
Miami	81	68	rain				

Moon Phases



UV Index

Fri 4/13	Sat 4/14	Sun 4/15	Mon 4/16	Tue 4/17
9	9	10	10	10
Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High	Very High

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

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• MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Tulane. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported in the 200 block of Refinery Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

• TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of FM 846 and County Road 2209. One person was transported to SMMC.

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TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATED



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Police and emergency medical personnel responded to the scene of a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Fourth and Scurry streets shortly after 10 a.m. today. No injury information was available at press time.

WRECK

Continued from Page 1

killed in the accident has not yet been released by law enforcement officials.

According to Raquel Espinoza, director of corporate relations and media for Union Pacific Railroads, the train struck the contractor's truck in the crossing area.

"The train was westbound when it hit the vacuum truck," Espinoza said. "The crossing is equipped with lights and crossing gates, all of which were working properly at the time of the accident. The train was manned by a crew and they did everything they could to prevent the accident, but there was simply nothing they could do at that point."

Espinoza said all warning and safety equipment on the train appears to have been working properly at the time of the crash, however, Union Pacific Railroads is currently conducting an investigation.

"It's a very unfortunate turn of events," Espinoza said. "Our hearts go out to the family and friends of the driver of the truck. We'll be offering counseling for the crew of the train to help them deal with the traumatic effects of this event, as well."

According to unconfirmed reports from witnesses, the train struck the vacuum truck on the driver's side. The woman was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center, where she was pronounced dead.

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

RUN

Continued from Page 1

the state park," Alton said. "Continuing community involvement is important, whether it be in the state park or

not. "The event is a lot of fun and gives people the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors while being healthy."

If the weather continues as it has been, the run should be an enjoy-

able one, according to Alton.

Registration can be done online at timing-specialist.com or in person the day of the race.

For more information, contact Alton at 263-4931.

Also, for those wanting to find out information about health services provided in the area, the 30th annual Health Fair will be taking place in conjunction with Master the Mountain.

Information, free

screenings, safety car seat checks and more will be provided at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum from 8 a.m. until noon Saturday. Admission to the health fair is free.

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

BERGER

Continued from Page 1

She also wants the state legislature to pass legislation stating that a railroad commissioner cannot step down in mid-term and run for another office.

"Too many people have seen this as a jumping off place or a stepping stone," she explained. "It's truly a real job. It's

a very important job." Berger said that currently, commission members include an accountant who took office in January and an attorney who took office since that time.

"A third novice on the commission could be detrimental to the Texas energy business," she said. "I'm not a lawyer and not a legislator and I don't want to be either one."

Some people are con-

fused by the term Railroad Commission and what the body does, Berger said. It was created in 1891 to regulate private railroads in Texas. However, the commission has not regulated railroads in decades. The board's jurisdiction now encompasses oil and gas production, gas utilities, liquified petroleum gas, surface mining and reclamation and alternative fuels research. The state's oil and gas industry is its primary focus today, however.

"Texas needs an advocate who understands and can explain to Washington, the media — and anyone else who needs to know — how

many jobs this industry provides and how many more it could provide if regulated properly," Berger said.

It is especially important now, with an oil boom going on. "The saying goes in Gonzales County, 'You can't swing a dead cat without hitting an oil rig right now,'" she said. "And it is pretty much that way all over Texas."

Berger is a former county party treasurer, a Texas Federation of Republican Women district director and a State Republican Executive Committeewoman for Senate District 18. Hailing from Schulenberg, she is a wife and

mother of three grown children.

Other GOP candidates for the office are Beryl Burgess, Warren Chisum, Joe Cotton, Christi Craddock and Roland Sledge.

Bill McClellan can be reached at 432-264-7331, ext. 230 or by email at editor@bigspringherald.com

CONTEST

Continued from Page 1

each of the entries between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. For children under the age of 12 who want to sample, the cost is \$1.

Prizes will be awarded for the first through third place winners. Each of the dishes submitted must come from the "Home Cooking with Hangar 25" cookbook. An added bonus, the winners will be chosen by those in attendance.

"This is a family oriented event and we encourage everyone to come out to the Hangar that day," Stockburger said.

For more information or to register, call the Hangar at 264-1999 or visit the website at www.hangar25airmuseum.com.

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

sudoku

ANSWERS

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

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD



By Eddy Pitchford

Christmas and Easter can be so confusing! People pay attention to Jesus Christ but much of the attention is distorted and often appears to be a marketing ploy. Some people exchange the religious connotation for the secular celebration of Santa and the Easter bunny.

The Christian lives every day with joy that the Lord has come! The Christian praises God every day that Jesus died and rose from the dead! The Christian understands that the price paid by Jesus is deserving of exceedingly more recognition than flying reindeer or jelly beans!

While some recognize Jesus as the reason for Christmas and Easter, Christians realize that *Jesus is the reason for every day!*

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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.

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer	

OUR VIEWS

Just Relay is the way to go

For 24-hours (at least) those involved in Relay For Life Howard/Glasscock County are planning on turning the community purple. Relay For Life will be from 8 p.m. Friday, April 20 until 8 a.m. Saturday, April 21.

Hundreds of people, if not thousands, will once again gather at Blankenship Field. Support will be shown as the community unites and makes a stand against cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, Relay For Life is the biggest fundraiser of the year. It is the one time of year all walks of life join together to fight in hopes of creating more birthdays and eliminate the thought of cancer.

This year, the theme for the 24-hour event is Just Relay. Teams will be set up on the field offering different athletic games, including basketball and more. Throughout the night there are event planned to keep the blood flowing, the energy high and the spirit alive.

Survivors will band together as they take the first lap around the track and start the night off with a flood of hope.

Each person involved has a different reason they relay. Each person in the community has or will be touched in some shape, form or fashion by cancer during their lifetime. It is a battle many have been fighting for years, but a fight that is refused to be lost.

The goal of Relay is to join together and bring awareness, education and support for those dealing with or know someone dealing with cancer.

As devastating as hearing the word 'Cancer' can be, Relay For Life is a night of hope, faith and a great display of courage.

All survivors, family, friends and caregivers are invited to join together at Blankenship Field and fight for the cause.

Join together and Just Relay!

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.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to newsdesk@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May Your heavenly love flourish, Lord, in our life.

Amen

Chairman of con man committee

Call me a cynic, but it's been my experience that when politicians say they're going to lower your taxes, it's not your taxes they're talking about.

Take, for example, House

Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan's new (actually recycled) tax plan. The Wisconsin Republican proposes cutting federal income taxes, bringing down top rates from their current 35 percent to 25 percent. The lowest brackets would drop to 10 percent from 15.

He's also suggesting lowering corporate taxes in various ways and has rejected raising the paltry capital gains tax. He's not just for cutting, of course. He also wants to boost military spending.

When asked how he's going to make up for the hole in the budget his plan would open, he becomes vague.

"You can't go out there with a detailed formula until there's a consensus that we need to broaden the base and reduce rates," he told The New York Times. "We need hearings in the light of day, with no back-room dealings. If we can't afford to retain certain tax breaks, then let's have a debate about it."

Right. A consensus in Congress. That shouldn't be too hard to get.

He would make up for the tril-

lions in lost revenue by trimming some frivolous government programs, like Medicare and education for example, and get the rest by closing "loop-holes."

Who is this guy, Candide?

It's hard to take Ryan's proposal seriously. In the first place, virtually the entire Republican membership of the House has taken a blood oath never to raise taxes. They've actually signed a document promising not to. And you can't close loopholes without, by definition, raising taxes.

In the second place, Washington is home to a huge, well-paid army of lobbyists whose job it is to get subsidies, favorable regulations, and tax breaks for their clients. They're good at their job.

Whenever their clients' interests are in danger, they swarm to the Capitol armed with arguments, valid and specious, and ready cash. They don't always get their way, but they've got a terrific batting average.

In the third place, Congress is always going to have trouble creating a fair tax structure, partly because lawmakers can't agree on what "fair" is.

Is it a progressive system in which the well-off pay more than the not-so-well-off because they've benefitted from the system more? You can make that case, as the Bible does in the Apocrypha: "If thou hast abundance, give alms according; if thou have but little, be not afraid to give according to that little."

But you can also make a case, as flat-tax advocates do, that real fairness demands that everybody pays an equal share of his



DONALD KAUL

How much risk can you stomach?

Is your life risky enough these days? I don't mean sky-diving or bungee-jumping risky. I mean ordinary risky.

I mean risky like trying to make and save a dollar. These days, you have to have the guts of a burglar and a cast-iron stomach to do that.

Making that dollar is not so easy. Even if you have a job, you are probably worried about losing that job.

Your company may "downsize." It may shift jobs "offshore." There may be a "reduction in force" to make the company stock look better to Wall Street and make investors — though not you — happy.

But let's say you hang onto your job. You may have noticed that your life is still risky. And that's because your wages are stagnant.

The median income in America is now \$52,000 a year, which is about where it was in 1997. Fifteen years pass, and the median income stays about the same? What is up with that?

Palms not sweaty yet? Try this: If you are an average American, most of your wealth is tied up in your house. But, to quote the Sunday New York Times, your home equity (the current market value of your home minus what you owe on the mortgage) "has been devastated by the housing bust."

"Since house prices peaked in 2006," the Times said, "the loss of home equity per homeowner comes to \$122,000. Most of the loss — \$85,000 — is due to falling home prices."

"And the average home equity per homeowner, adjusted to today's dollars, has fallen to a level not seen since 1968."

Total loss to all homeowners since 2006: \$7.4 trillion. (Pretty soon, we're going to be talking about real money.)

But let's say you are among the lucky. I don't mean the real lucky who were born rich or became Wall Street brokers

and bankers. I mean the lucky who have some equity in their homes, have a little savings and just want to make a few bucks for retirement.

Good luck with that. If you want a safe investment, one guaranteed by the federal government, you can put your money in a federally insured savings account and make next to nothing in interest.

In fact, even if you put your money in a low-risk money market account that is not insured by the federal government, you will make next to nothing. (Vanguard's Prime Money Market account, which is very popular, currently has a year-to-date return, adjusted for fees, of 0.01 percent.)

Don't spend it all in one place.

There are thousands of other investments, of course: mutual funds, bonds, stocks, gold, silver, platinum, currencies, commodities, art, antiques, baseball cards and columnist autographs.

(I made that last one up, but I am sure we could make a deal.)

All those investments involve risk. All investments that pay decent returns are risky. The higher the return, the higher the risk.

So how much risk do you have the stomach for? Maybe very little. But if you are in your 60s, you can get collect Social Security, either partial or full.

How much is this windfall? "On average," Robert J. Samuelson wrote in The Washington Post Monday, "retired workers and spouses receive \$1,839 a month" from Social Security.

That is not peanuts, but it ain't caviar, either. Your golden years may be more like your brass years.

So the question for million of Americans right now is: What, if anything, is the next president going to do for me?

The two candidates — President Obama and the almost-certain GOP nominee Mitt Romney — offered differing views recently about what they were willing to promise and how much risk you can expect as part of your daily life.

Speaking Tuesday at the American Society of News Edi-

or her income to support society.

If the federal government tried to institute a true flat tax, however, it would have a revolution on its hands.

Such a tax would not merely require a uniform tax rate for rich and poor; it would eliminate all deductions and subsidies, without exception.

For example, consider what would happen if the government were to eliminate the deduction of home mortgage interest. Homeowners would be outraged and the entire real estate industry would be howling as home sales plummeted.

If deductions for business meals were no longer deductible — on the theory that if you want to do business you can use your office and eat on your own nickel — the National Restaurant Association's lobbyists and leaders would surround the Capitol, armed with pitchforks.

And if lawmakers were to take away deductions for charitable contributions, the nation's do-gooders would rise up as one to smite every member of Congress.

Local and state governments would be up in arms if Washington tried to take away the federal deduction for the taxes they levy.

And on and on and on.

It's hard to tell whether Ryan is a dreamer or a con man at this point. If we wanted a dreamer, Ralph Nader would be president.

OtherWords columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. otherwords.org

tors, Obama said: "We've sought to ensure that every citizen can count on some basic measure of security. ... No matter how responsibly we live our lives, any one of us, at any moment, might face hard times, might face bad luck, might face a crippling illness or a layoff."

The president promised a social safety net that would protect all Americans. He did not mention the word "risk" a single time.

The next day, speaking before the same group, Romney offered a different vision. Near the very beginning of his speech, he said, "The promise of America has always been that if you worked hard, and took some risks, that there was the opportunity to build a better life for your family and for the next generation."

Some risk, Romney said, was essential. We cannot live a life of government safety nets. "Instead of growing the federal government," he said, "I will shrink it."

By Thursday, the day after Romney spoke, the White House decided to fine-tune things a little. And Obama said in a Rose Garden speech: "One of the great things about America is that we are a nation of doers — not just talkers, but doers. We think big. We take risks."

Aha! The president finally used the "r-word."

"Ours is a legacy of Edisons and Graham Bells, Fords and Boeings, of Googles and of Twitters," Obama said. "This is a country that's always been on the cutting edge. And the reason is that America has always had the most daring entrepreneurs in the world."

So be daring — if you can afford to risk everything and lose everything.

For the rest of us, there is the prayer I first heard in Las Vegas: "Please, God, let me break even. I need the money."

To find out more about Roger Simon, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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Casual Cooking: Making pork parmesan

Welcoming readers to my world where I enjoy simple, sometimes quick, but always delicious meals:

This week's recipe is inspired by my branching out in the use of my little home fryer. I have always used my fryer just to pop in some frozen or homemade fries, because I don't fry a lot of things.

I decided to try it with cube steaks and make chicken fried steak and they were perfect every time. I was so excited! After trying the chicken fried steaks, I got on this kick and started frying everything with Canola oil,



KRIS SOLIZ

so in my mind it wasn't so unhealthy.

I've been craving chips and salsa lately and wanted the chips cooked like at Mexican food restaurants, so I bought a big bag of corn tortillas and have

been going to town with my chip and dip.

You know my love for pork, so I tried making this knock-off version that is usually done with chicken and wanted a different kind of sauce so it didn't taste like

the traditional chicken parmesan. This can be served with garlic bread and a simple steamed vegetable or salad. Enjoy!

Pork Chop Parmesan

- 4 pork chops
- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup of parmesan cheese
- 8 oz. can tomato sauce
- 4 pkg of ramen noodles (season pkg not used)
- shred mozzarella
- dry basil
- 3 garlic cloved chopped
- 2/3 cup heavy cream
- 2 tbs of stick butter
- egg wash - 1 egg scrambled and splash of milk whisk

together
salt and pepper

Set your fryer on 375 degrees. Salt and pepper chops on both sides and dip in egg wash one at a time. In a large freezer or storage bag combine flour and parmesan cheese and mix well.

Place first dipped chop in bag and shake coating well and place in fryer when it is hot and ready.

Meanwhile in a sauce pan melt butter and add chopped garlic on medium heat, saute garlic but don't let it burn. When chop is ready take out and place on a platter and top with a handful of mozzarella cheese, continue till

all chops are ready and cover with foil to keep warm if you are still working on other things.

When garlic is soft and smelling really good add 1/2 tsp of dry basil and let cook for a minute or two. Pour in tomato sauce and heavy cream and let it come to a gentle boil and some liquid reduces and you have a nice creamy sauce. While sauce is simmering cook ramen noodles according to package and discard seasoning package or keep for something else.

When noodles are cooked, drain and plate with a chop on top and spoon on the sauce.



Courtesy photo

These Grady High School students qualified for the University Interscholastic League regional academic meet, to be held April 19 in Abilene. They are, back row, left to right: Charmynee Arnold, poetry interpretation; Brett Glaze, current issues; Jack Kennady, prose interpretation; and Abby Hanson, news writing. From left to right on the front row are: Sarah Matthews, headline writing; Sarah Clay, persuasive speaking; Jackelina Martins, feature writing; Bernadette Adkins, editorial writing; and Christienna Knelsen, literary criticism.

FISD kindergarten registration scheduled to begin Monday

Forsan Elementary at Elbow has scheduled pre-k and kindergarten registration for Monday through Friday in the elementary office, located south of Big Spring at the corner of Nichols Road and FM 818.

The school office will be open for registration between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

In order to be eligible for pre-kindergarten, the student must be 4 years old on or before Sept 1, 2012, and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Must be unable to speak or comprehend English;
- The family fully qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches;
- The family is homeless;
- One or more parents are on active-duty military service ; or
- The children are in foster care

To register for kindergarten, students must be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1.

Parents should bring the child's official birth certificate, Social Security card, shot records, proof of residency (utility bill with name and physical address), parent's driver's license and proof of guardianship.

For more information, contact the district at 432-398-5444.

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News in brief

Special operations draft war plan continues counterinsurgency by other means in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Adm. Bill McRaven, the head of U.S. special operations, is mapping out a potential Afghanistan war plan that would replace thousands of U.S. troops with small special operations teams paired with Afghans to help an inexperienced Afghan force withstand a Taliban onslaught as U.S. troops withdraw.

While the overall campaign would still be led by conventional military, the handfuls of special operators would become the leading force to help Afghans secure the large tracts of territory won in more than a decade of U.S. combat. They would give the Afghans practical advice on how to repel attacks, intelligence to help spot the enemy and communications to help call for U.S. air support if overwhelmed by a superior force.

If approved by the administration, the pared-down structure could become the enduring force that Afghan Defense Minister Abdul Rahim Wardak indicated Tuesday at the Pentagon that his country needs, possibly long after the U.S. drawdown date of 2014.

McRaven's proposal amounts to a slimmed-down counterinsurgency strategy aimed at protecting the Afghan population as well as hunting the Taliban and al-Qaida. It's not the counterterrorist plan advanced by Vice President Joe Biden, which would leave Afghan forces to fend for themselves while keeping U.S. special operators in protected bases from which they could hunt terrorists with minimum risk, according to a senior special operations official reached this week.

Hurdles face Fla. prosecutors in murder case against volunteer in Trayvon Martin shooting

SANFORD, Fla. (AP) — After an extraordinary public campaign to make an arrest in the shooting of an unarmed black teen, a Florida prosecutor came back with a murder charge in the case that

has galvanized the nation for weeks.

But prosecutors face steep hurdles to win a second-degree murder conviction against neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman in the killing of Trayvon Martin, experts say. They will have to prove Zimmerman intentionally went after Martin instead of shooting him in self-defense, refute arguments that a Florida law empowered him to use deadly force and get past a judge's ruling at a pretrial hearing.

Zimmerman, 28, who turned himself in at a county jail Wednesday after prosecutor Angela Corey announced the charge, was to appear before a magistrate Thursday and plead not guilty in the Feb. 26 shooting of the 17-year-old that set off a nationwide debate about racial profiling and the rights to self-defense.

"He is concerned about getting a fair trial and a fair presentation," his attorney, Mark O'Mara said. "He is a client who has a lot of hatred focused on him. I'm hoping the hatred settles down ... he has the right to his own safety and the case being tried before a judge and jury."

Legal experts said Corey chose a tough route with the murder charge, which could send Zimmerman to prison for life if he's convicted, over manslaughter, which usually carries 15-year prison terms and covers reckless or negligent killings.

Syria activists say uprising hotspots calm after UN truce deadline as regime forces hold fire

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian flashpoints of the 13-month uprising against President Bashar Assad were quiet Thursday, activists said, suggesting a U.N.-brokered truce was starting to take hold and the regime was keeping a pledge to halt its assault on opposition strongholds.

However, in a sign of a continued clampdown, activists said troops and tanks were seen patrolling restive areas Thursday in violation of the truce plan by U.N.-Arab league envoy Kofi Annan, who demanded that Syrian forces return to their barracks.

And expectations for a durable cease-fire remained low since the government has broken promises in the past and says it reserves the right to respond to attacks — potentially an easy pretext for evading compliance.

Under Annan's internationally backed initiative, a Thursday morning cease-fire is to be followed by the deployment of international observers and talks between the regime and the opposition on a political transition.

However, the Syrian opposition and its supporters in the West remain skeptical about the regime's intentions, since a cease-fire could encourage large numbers of protesters to flood the streets, as they did at the start of the revolt against the four-decade rule of the Assad clan. The government met those demonstrations with a harsh crackdown, and bloodshed since then has claimed more than 9,000 lives.

Praising the Great Leader from orbit: How serious is North Korea's race to space?

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — According to North Korea's official version of things, commemorated on postage stamps and re-enacted in mass performances, the country's first venture into space was 14 years ago, when the "Bright Shining Star 1" satellite roared into orbit and began broadcasting marching music praising Kim Il Sung.

Bright Shining Star 2, also rigged to sing the praises of the nation's founder, followed in 2009,

North Korea says. Now, Bright Shining Star 3 is on the launchpad, ready for a two-year mission that officials say will gather weather data, predict crop yields — and once again broadcast music praising Kim. A five-day launch window began Thursday.

The only glitch: So far, North Korea's bright stars have been invisible to foreign eyes. Its claims of success don't hold much water.

"It's very safe to say that the 1998 and 2009 events did not result in a satellite," says Jonathan McDowell of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. "U.S. tracking would have easily seen it if it stayed in orbit for a few hours or more. Russia would also have tracked the satellite and it is likely but not certain that amateurs would have picked it up."

The launches are a propaganda tool for North Korea, generally staged to mark national milestones. This time, it's the 100th anniversary of Kim's birthday, which falls on Sunday, and the elevation of his grandson, Kim Jong Un, to power after the death of his son, Kim Jong Il, in December.

Sony to slash 10,000 jobs

TOKYO (AP) — Faced with mounting losses, Sony Corp. said Thursday it will slash 10,000 jobs, or about 6 percent of its global workforce, and turn around its money-losing TV business over the next two years.

New CEO and President Kazuo Hirai outlined his business strategy at a press conference where he pledged to revive the electronics and entertainment company. Sony earlier this week more than doubled its annual net loss projection for the fiscal year through this past March to 520 billion yen, or \$6.4 billion. That would be its fourth straight year of red ink and worst loss ever.

"As CEO, I take this very seriously. But at the same time, it strengthened my resolve to transform Sony," Hirai told hundreds of journalists. "Employees too want to restore Sony to its former glory and go beyond."

Sony, whose businesses run from digital cameras and personal computers to PlayStation game consoles and movies such as "The Smurfs," has been battered by competitors including Apple Inc. and Samsung Electronics Co. For years, it has been struggling to regain the swagger and innovative flair that made it a dominant force in the 1980s and early 1990s.

"Sony will change. I've fully dedicated myself to changing Sony," said Hirai, 51, who took over the helm from Welsh-born Howard Stringer this month.

Jury selection set to begin in trial of former Sen. John Edwards over campaign finance issues

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — After years of investigation, denials and delays, jury selection was set to begin Thursday for the criminal trial of former presidential candidate John Edwards.

Edwards was expected inside a Greensboro, N.C., courtroom to face six criminal counts related to nearly \$1 million in secret payments made by two campaign donors to help hide the married Democrat's pregnant mistress as he sought the White House in 2008.

The money flowed to Andrew Young, a former campaign aide who initially claimed the baby was his. Young is expected to be a key witness for the prosecution. The mistress, Rielle Hunter, may testify as part of Edwards' defense.

Following years of adamant public denials, Edwards acknowledged paternity of Hunter's daughter in 2010.

The trial is expected to last about six weeks.

Conn. approves death penalty repeal

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — After years of failed attempts to repeal the death penalty, Connecticut lawmakers in both the House and the Senate have passed legislation that abolishes the punishment for all future cases.

As expected, members of the House voted 86-62 in favor of the bill after a floor debate that lasted nearly 10 hours on Wednesday.

The legislation, which would make Connecticut the 17th state to abolish the death penalty, awaits a signature from Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, who has said he would sign the bill into law.

"Going forward, we will have a system that allows us to put these people away for life, in living conditions none of us would want to experience," the Democratic governor said in a statement following the vote.

The bill would abolish the death penalty and replace it with a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of release.

sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A Wise Choice of Plays

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 9 5
♥ K 7
♦ A Q J 10 5 2
♣ A K 4

EAST

♠ A Q 4
♥ J 8 6 2
♦ K 6 3
♣ 10 8 3

SOUTH

♠ K 8 3
♥ A Q 5 4
♦ 9 7
♣ J 7 6 2

The bidding:

North East South West

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

3♦ Pass 3NT

Opening lead — six of spades.

"Third-hand high" is an ancient adage that dates back to the days of whist, the grandfather of contract bridge. In effect, it says that if a defender leads a low card and the next hand also plays low, the other defender nearly always plays his highest card in the suit to stop declarer from winning the trick too cheaply.

As with all rules, however, there are exceptions. These deviations are usually based on common sense, and the defenders should constantly be

on the lookout for them.

This deal illustrates such an exception. Defending against three notrump, East won his partner's spade lead with the ace and returned the queen. Declarer ducked the queen and took the third spade with the king.

When East regained the lead a trick later with the diamond king, he was unable to return a spade. He tried leading a heart, but South won with dummy's king and finished with an overtrick.

Had East not been so quick to play "high" on the opening lead, South almost surely would have gone down one. Observe the effect that the play of the queen at trick one would have had on South. Afraid that a spade return through his king would defeat him immediately if West held the ace, he would very likely have taken the queen with the king. When the diamond finesse next lost to the king, East's return of the ace and another spade would then have sunk the contract.

From East's viewpoint, the play of the queen initially could never lose because if West had the king, the queen would win the trick. But if South had the king, which was much more likely on the bidding, only X-ray vision would enable him to find the winning play.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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222887

Another successful year for Big Spring High School Golf



The Big Spring Boys Golf Team: (From left) Devin Roberson, Tyler Bryan, Coach Chris Joslin, Tate Kennedy, Jason Guevara and Ryan Pollard.



The Big Spring Girls Golf Team: (From left) Coach Chris Joslin, Brianna Cobos, Mariah McIntosh, Kelsie Guinn, Gabby Fair and Assistant Coach Kristen Joslin.

By BRIAN MCCORMACK

Sports Editor

ABILENE — The Big Spring Boys and Girls golf teams completed in the last leg of District 5-3A competition Tuesday with another impressive outing for both squads.

The boys will move on to regionals as a team after placing first on the season in district as a squad for the second straight year shooting a combined 917. Devin Roberson finished in first place in individual standings, Tyler Bryan finished third and Tate Kennedy placed sixth. Roberson, Bryan and Kennedy were all medalists and will be competing at regionals on an individual and team level.

The girls team — consisting of three freshmen and sophomore, Kelsie Guinn — placed fourth overall, with Guinn finishing second in the individual standings. Though the girls won't be making a regionals appearance this season as a team, the next couple of years looks to be promising. Medalist Guinn will be competing at regionals as an individual.

BSHS Golf Coach Chris Joslin is proud of the efforts all his athletes have put forward this season.

“On the girls side, we knocked 90 shots off since the first round of the year,” Joslin said. “I am very proud of all of them. If Kelsie (Guinn) keeps playing like she has the last three weeks, she has a real good shot at making state.”

As for the boys, Joslin feels his squad is stronger than ever, and also has a shot at a state championship.

“We are going to regionals playing our best golf right now,” Joslin added.

First place winner Devin Roberson could also do some big things in the post season, according to Joslin.

“(Roberson) is a great athlete. He puts in a tremendous amount of time in everything he has done.”

The regional championships will be held for the boys at the San Angelo Country Club in San Angelo April 16-17, with the girls playing at Bentwood Country Club on April 18-19, also in San Angelo.

Girls Results: (Team): Round No. 1: 401; Round No. 2: 402; Round No. 3: 402; Total: 1205. Girls (Individual): Kelsie Guinn: Round No. 1: 84, Round No. 2: 83; Round No. 3: 84; Total: 251; Mariah McIntosh: Round No. 1: 103, Round No. 2: 97; Round No. 3: 101; Total: 301; Brianna Cobos: Round No. 1: 104; Round No. 2: 107; Round No. 3: 108; Total: 319; Gabby Fair: Round No. 1: 110; Round No. 2: 115; Round No. 3: 109; Total: 334.

Boys Results: (Team): Round No. 1: 317; Round No. 2: 305; Round No. 3: 295; Total: 917. Boys (Individual): Devin Roberson: Round No. 1: 81; Round No. 2: 71; Round No. 3: 70; Total: 222; Tyler Bryan: Round No. 1: 79; Round No. 2: 75; Round No. 3: 73; Total: 227; Tate Kennedy: Round No. 1: 77; Round No. 2: 81; Round No. 3: 75; Total: 233; Ryan Pollard: Round No. 1: 87; Round No. 2: 78; Round No. 3: 77; Total: 242; Jason Guevara: Round No. 1: 80; Round No. 2: 83; Round No. 3: 80; Total: 243.

District Team Results: Boys: Big Spring: 917; Wylie: 945; Snyder: 946; Sweetwater: 958; Wylie No. 2: 995; Snyder No. 2: 1090; Big Spring No. 2: 1097. Girls: Snyder: 1038; Sweetwater: 1106; Wylie: 1129; Big Spring: 1205; Brownwood: 1244.

Contact Sports Editor Brian McCormack at 263-7331 ext. 237 or by e-mail at sports@bigspringherald.com

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Rodeo
• Abilene Wylie at Big Spring, 7 p.m., Steer Park.
• Howard College at El Paso Community College, (DH), noon (MST).

Track
• Boys and Girls District 5-3A at Abilene Wylie.

FRIDAY

Baseball
• Abilene Wylie at Big Spring, 7 p.m., Steer Park.
• Howard College at El Paso Community College, (DH), noon (MST).

Softball
• Abilene Wylie at Big Spring, 6:30 p.m.
• Howard College at Clarendon College (DH), 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Track
• Forsan and Coahoma District 3-2A at Denver City, TBA.

To submit a calendar item, please call 263-7331, ext. 237, or e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com

Nathan struggles, Seattle tops Rangers

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — The Texas Rangers aren't worried about Joe Nathan, even though their new closer has already lost two games.

Seattle rallied for three runs in the ninth inning against Nathan for a 4-3 victory Wednesday night.

“He'll be fine,” said Michael Young, the Rangers longest-tenured player. “We have all the confidence in the world in Joe. We look forward to getting another lead and getting him back out there.”

Nathan (0-2), the long-time Minnesota Twins closer who signed with Texas last winter, needed only 11 pitches to save the Rangers' opener. He got another save in their 1-0 win over Seattle on Tuesday night.

But there was also a loss in the second game of the season against the Chicago White Sox, when he allowed a leadoff homer in the ninth of a tie game.

On Wednesday night, John Jaso's RBI single capped the three-run rally and his big debut with the Mariners.

The Mariners had gone 23 consecutive innings without scoring in the series before No. 9 hitter Jaso, as the DH in his first game, led off the eighth with a triple into the right-field corner off Alexi Ogando and scored on Dustin Ackley's single.

“I was happy to finally get in there,” Jaso said, a catcher who made 67 starts for Tampa Bay last season. “I thought it was a good debut for me in a Mariners' uniform.”

Jesus Montero, the DH his first five starts, got his first action behind the plate while regular catcher Miguel Olivo got a night off.

Justin Smoak led off the ninth with a single against Nathan (0-2) before Kyle Seager's double. Montero then had a sacrifice fly and Michael Saunders an RBI double before Jaso blooped a curveball

into short center.

“The only thing that I could see is they hit a lot of sliders, not terrible sliders. I think they're looking for that pitch and waiting for it,” Nathan said. “A lot of those pitches were sliders down that they served into right and found outfield turf. Credit to them putting good swings on.”

Rookie left-hander Lucas Luetge (1-0) had two strikeouts in 1 1-3 innings for his first major league victory. Brandon League worked the ninth for third save in three chances.

Before the Rangers bullpen faltered, Ian Kinsler and Elvis Andrus hit back-to-back homers and Colby Lewis worked 6 2-3 scoreless innings.

Lewis said it was just one of those nights for the closer.

“He's 30-something saves away from 300 saves,” Lewis said. “It's nothing he can't bounce back from, nothing we can't bounce back from.”

Nathan actually has 263 career saves, yet only 16 since 2009 because of Tommy John surgery on his right elbow in 2010. He lost his job at one point last season with the Twins before finishing strong and getting 14 saves.

While the losses are disappointing, Nathan said he feels great physically.

Texas led 1-0 with two outs in the seventh before Kinsler hit a solo homer to left. Elvis Andrus immediately followed with an even longer shot for his first of the season.

Kinsler, who earlier in the day had finalized a new \$75 million, five-year deal that kicks in next season, also doubled. But with pinch-runner Brandon Snyder at second base with one out in the ninth, Kinsler struck out before Andrus had an inning-ending liner to first.

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www.bigspringherald.com

Auction

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Restaurant Equipment and Supplies, riding mower, signs, glassware, implement wheels, primitives, collectibles, furniture, tools, box lots & carts, & lots more.

Saturday April 14th 6:00pm

www.crossroadsauctionco.com
I-20 East at Exit 184
(432)264-9900
David LeFever- #13251

Announcements

TALL, SLIM, attractive, white male, non-smoker, non-drinker, divorced, no children- Looking for a female 35-52. Wants a Honest, lasting relationship. Call (325)665-0192 after 7pm.

Business Opportunity

ATTN: LOCAL people needed to work from home online. \$500-\$2000/month, part-time/full-time. Internet required. Training provided. Call now! 888.292.7010

Garage Sales

ESTATE/GARAGE SALE: 4038 Vicky Street, Friday-Saturday & Sunday 7:00am-? Furniture, collectibles, home deco., knick-knacks, clothing, baby things, queen size bed and lots more.

GARAGE SALE: 1302 East 18th Street, Saturday 9:00-? Christmas deco., kitchenware and lots of misc. items.

GARAGE SALE: 1804 Laurie, Saturday 7am-12pm. *No Early Birds!!! Furniture, children's furniture, spring/summer girls & boys clothes (size 3 toddler to size 7), clothing for all in excellent condition.

LIVING ESTATE/GARAGE Sale: 2805 Lawrence, Friday & Saturday 9am-3pm. Living room furniture, computer desk, books, dishes, clothing, kitchen items, shoes, purses, knick-knacks and more.

MOVING SALE: 105 Jefferson Street, Saturday 7:30am-? Furniture, tools, toys, kid stuff, kitchen items, exercise equipment and lots more.

MOVING SALE: 1207 East 18th Street, Friday Only 9-6. Sofa bed, recliner, small kitchen appliances, lamps, TV's, knick-knacks vases, deco. items, outdoor tools and lots more.

MULTI FAMILY Sale: 1011 East 11th Place (The Cage), Friday and Saturday 8a-3p. Children thru adult clothing, baby items, western deco., beadspreads, entertainment center and lots more.

Help Wanted

\$\$\$Immediate Opening \$\$\$ Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home

Our employees are our greatest asset, providing flexible schedules and an attractive benefits packet.

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kmrubio@sears-methodist.com

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\$13.00-\$32.50+/hr., Federal hire/full benefits No Experience, Call Today

1-800-593-2664 Ext. 148.

Help Wanted

AIRLINES ARE HIRING - Train for high paying Aviation Career, FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - Job Placement assistance. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-803-8630.

ARE YOU looking for a career? Then check out the positions available at Travel Centers of America. We have a great benefit package for full time help. Positions are currently available in Subway, Popeye's and the Country Fare Restaurant. Stop by today and pickup and application at 704 W I-20.

ASSEMBLY WORKER

Stable company seeks highly motivated person looking for steady employment. Inside work, 40 hrs/wk, non-smokers ONLY, must pass drug test & criminal background check. Call Delta for appt. 267-1000.

BIG SPRING Oil Company needs experienced driller & crew for drilling rig. Work close to home for competitive pay & benefits (recently increased wages). Must be able to pass drug test. Call 432-557-4594 to apply.

BLAST MASTERS has positions available for:

* Crew Tech
Must have valid Texas Drivers License, will train, Come by 1711 Snyder Hwy., Pick up application. No phone calls please.

BUFFALO COUNTRY taking application for Sales Clerk (all shifts). Experience required. Must apply in person 4911 South Hwy. 87 ask for Salitta. No Phone Calls.

COCKTAIL WAITRESSES. Outgoing & Enthusiastic? No experience necessary. Must be 18 or older. Call 432-213-0946 for application, San Franciscan Bar & Grill.

COMET CLEANERS Full-time Mon-Fri. Needs a Presser, Male or Female. Apply in person at 1500 East Marcy.

CRISPY'S CAFE now hiring cook and deep fry cook. Experience preferred. Come by 1904 S. Birdwell Ln.. No phone calls please.

DAY CAMP Worker Needed at The Boys & Girls Club. Must have outgoing personality, patience, & love children. Apply at The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club, 811 West 5th.

DAY'S INN needs Front Desk person. Apply at Front Office @ 2701 South Gregg Street.

DENTAL OFFICE Patient Coordinator needed. Are you interested in a challenging, fast-paced work environment? We are willing to train. Call (432)267-4102.

Director of Transportation: Sands CISD has a position open for a Transportation Director. CDL with passenger endorsement and mechanical experience is required. Resumes can be faxed to (432)353-4650 or emailed to wablount@esc17.net before April 20. For more information call (432)353-4888.

DRIVERS NEEDED

Professional Transportation, Inc. is seeking local drivers for 7-passenger mini-vans in the Big Spring, TX area. Drug screen, driving record, and criminal background check required. 1-800-471-2440
www.professionaltransportationinc.com
EOE

Help Wanted

FARM ASSISTANT

Kalsec Southwest is currently accepting applications for a Farm Assistant in Denver City, Texas. This position reports directly to our Farm Manager. Full knowledge of farming, running farm equipment, mechanical skills, and supervisory skills required. We offer a great benefit package- Medical, Dental, Vision, 401K, and Company paid Life Insurance. Salary based on experience. All interested applicants must apply on-line at www.kalsec.com

FARM HAND Wanted! Experience only apply. \$550.00 Weekly plus Bonus. Call after 7:00p.m. (432)684-5418.

FURR'S BUFFET

<https://furrjobs.clickandhire.net>

Cooks & Dishwashers needed
On-line application process only
We can Offer Competitive Pay, Discounted Meals Great Culture and Career Growth

GENERAL MAINTENANCE:

Must have a desire to work in a team environment and the ability to follow directions. Must have at least 1 yr maintenance experience. Abilities to include: painting experience; general plumbing, general sheetrock repair and texture and HVAC skills. Must have own tools, ability to take afterhours and weekend calls; valid TX drivers license and liability insurance. Apply in person at Bent Tree Apartments, 1 Courtney Place.

HIGGINBOTHAM BARTLETT

is now hiring for full time inside sales. Must be able to pass drug screen and criminal background check. Must be great customer service skills. CDL license a plus. Pick up application at 1900 E. FM 700. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

HIRING EXPERIENCED CDL drivers.

1-2 yrs experience required, with clean driving record. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 South Service Road., Coahoma, TX.

HOWARD COUNTY will be hiring a COUNTY ROAD ENGINEER or COUNTY ROAD ADMINISTRATOR for their unit road system.

The ENGINEER must have supervisory skills and must be a licensed professional engineer experienced in road and bridge construction and maintenance and meet the qualifications required by the Texas Department of Transportation for its district engineers.

The ROAD ENGINEER must have supervisory skills and have had experience in road & bridge building or maintenance or other types of construction work qualifying the person to perform the duties of the position but need not have had any particular amount of professional training or experience in engineering work.

Applications may be picked up and returned to the County Judge, Howard County Courthouse, 300 Main, Room 207, Big Spring, TX. 79720 Phone 432-264-2218. The deadline for applications is May 4, 2012. E.O.E.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for part-time Laundry attendant. Work 14 days- 7 days off. Good people skills a must. Apply 1208 Gregg Street.

Interim Homecare & Hospice:

Our growing Hospice agency is seeking positions in the Big Spring area. Community Liaison/ Marketer. Experienced preferred. Fax your resume to (432)618-0307 or come by the office to fill out an application at 1031 Andrews Hwy., Ste 200, Midland, TX. EOE.

PORTER HENDERSON Implement Co. now taking applications for Parts & Service Personnel and CDL Truck Driver. Valid DL Please. Full-time and Part-time. Apply in person only- 3011 North Hwy. 87.

Help Wanted

Join our professional cleaning team! \$12/Hrs. & advancement opportunities. We provide paid training, all necessary supplies & uniform. Must have own transportation & speak English. All cleaners are drug tested & background checked. Bonded and insured. Call **J. Williams Management** at 432-699-2090 M-F 8-4.

KITCHEN HELP & CARHOP.

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

LOOKING FOR a Change?

CNA/Personal Assistant needed for PRN work with Caring Hearts Home Health. Duties include but not limited to: bathing, cooking, light housekeeping, laundry, running errands and sitter service. To join our team for an exciting career come by 1900 Scurry to fill out an application and talk with our Personnel Manager.

LOOKING FOR experience

CDL vacuum truck drivers \$17.00 an hour or more depending on experience. Call 432-270-5951.

NEED Backhoe Operator with

CDL. \$500. CASH SIGN-ON BONUS. Must pass drug test. Call 432-394-4161.

NEED A Pusher & Roustabout.

Must have experience, pass a drug test and have a valid drivers license. Apply at 2000 North Birdwell Lane.

NEIGHBORS CONVENIENCE

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

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY

Big Spring Area Routes Midland Reporter-Telegram The Midland Reporter-Telegram has delivery positions available in the Big Spring Area for both Home Delivery and Retail Outlet distribution.

Good organization for customer tracking, a reliable vehicle and a dependable commitment to early morning deliveries ranging from 2:00am-6:00 am. If interested please call Linda McCumber 432-967-4150

NOW HIRING for the summer

session and 2012-2013 School year. Christian Pre-School teachers and child care givers. Part-time and full-time positions available. Prefer at least 1-year experience in a licensed childcare facility, but will train the right person. New Hope Christian School 118 Cedar Rd. Also part-time position available in church nursery. Approximately 6-10 hours per week.

NURSERY WORKER needed

at FBC Coahoma; Sundays and Wednesdays. Please inquire at 201 South Avenue or call 432-394-4348. between Noon and 3:00 PM.

PART-TIME MAINT Tech

needed for property in Big Spring. Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. 20 hrs/week plus Vacation. Fax resume to (432)264-1761.

PIZZA INN

NOW HIRING COOKS. MUST BE AVAILABLE DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

PIZZA INN

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

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

Help Wanted

PIZZA INN

NOW HIRING WAIT STAFF. MUST HAVE SUPER STAR PERSONALITY AND GREAT WORK ETHICS. MUST BE AVAILABLE TO WORK DAYS, NIGHTS, AND WEEKENDS. APPLY IN PERSON AT 1702 GREGG.

THE SALVATION Army Boys

& Girls Club is seeking Program Coordinator Monday-Friday. Child development experience necessary. Apply at 811 West 5th.

SCHOOL SECRETARY

needed for private Christian preschool. Computer experience a must! Apply at 118 Cedar Rd..

SECURITY OFFICERS

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

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

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

Experience Requirements:

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

Apply at Workforce Center (1001 Birdwell Ln., Howard College- Charles Warren Bld. 106), KEYWORD: PARAGON. EOE.

SHOP/FIELD MECHANICS

Basin Engine and Pump Shop and Field Mechanic needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. Tools, Uniforms provided. Benefits package. Pay DOE.

Please submit resume by fax to

(432)570-1115 or email to shawn@basinengine.com

Office (432)570-1114

Applications may be filled out at

1914 South County Rd. 1083 Midland, TX.

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WRITER NEEDED

\$10.00 PER HOUR PLUS COMMISSION AS WELL AS A \$200.00 BONUS AFTER SIX MONTHS EMPLOYMENT.

DUTIES INCLUDE PARTS AND SERVICE WRITING. CANDIDATES ARE TO BE RELIABLE, DEPENDABLE, AN EAGER TO WORK IN A FAST PACE ENVIRONMENT. MUST BE ABLE TO WORK ALL SHIFTS. PREFER SOME KNOWLEDGE IN COMPUTERS & CUSTOMER SERVICE. WE WILL TRAIN. WE OFFER MANY BENEFITS SUCH AS, 401K, MEDICAL, DENTAL, VISION, LIFE INSURANCE & MUCH MORE.

TO APPLY GO TO THE WEBSITE

MYTAPETRO.COM AND REGISTER

THEN FOLLOW THE LINKS

MAKE SURE TO SELECT SHOP DEPT.

VALID LICENSE & DIPLOMA/GED A MUST. MUST PASS DRUG SCREENING AND A BACKGROUND CHECK AS WELL.

TEACHING POSITION-

\$14/hr. Mon.-Fri.. Apply at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan.

TOP NOTCH Landscaping is

Hiring for all positions. Experience preferred. Call (432)213-0031 Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

WANTED EXPERIENCE Farm

Hand. Call 432-213-4332.

Help Wanted

TRUCK DRIVER

Helena Chemical Company, a national agricultural-chemical company, has an immediate opening for an experienced truck driver. This position will make deliveries, load and unload product, utilize a forklift, and perform general warehouse duties. The position requires high school diploma or equivalent, CDL with HAZMAT endorsement. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. For consideration, please apply in person:

Helena Chemical Company
100 S. St. Peter,
Stanton, Texas
Pre-employment
drug screen required.
EOE M/F/V/H

WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY

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

Instructional

MEDICAL CAREERS begin here - Train ONLINE for Allied Health and Medical Management. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV certified. Call 877-692-9599
www.CenturaOnline.com

Items for Sale

FOR SALE Mesquite Fire wood. \$160.00 for half cord. 50 pound sacks-\$20.00. Call Terry Jenkins at 432-270-3122.

Lost and Found

*****\$100 REWARD*****
Boston Terrier, 6 years old, male, white face/black body. Last seen by Baylor and Fenn area. DOG IS DEAF!! (432)213-0142, 349-1407 or 466-3559.

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FREE KITTEN about 8 weeks old, litter box trained, house cat. Call (432)270-8330 or 517-4951.

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1 & 2 BDRM APTS. furnished or unfurnished, All bills paid. also 2 thru 6 bdrm Homes, 24Hr. maintenance, Central Heat/Air, Pool, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, Washer/dryer connections. Call (432)263-3461- Rosa.

FOR RENT

1 BDRM Apt. at 800-1/2 Nolan, 1 Bdrm at 1406 East 6th. Stove and Fridge. Utilities paid. Each is \$700 plus \$500 deposit. Call (432)816-1746.

NOW LEASING 1, 2 & 3 Bdrm

Apts. Built in microwave, full-size Washer & Dryer included, private patio/balcony w/storage area, playground area, fitness center, and community center. Open Monday-Friday 9am-6pm. Call Knollwood Heights (432)264-1735.

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SALE or **LEASE**- Very nice Commercial Property, 6000 sq feet building, 3 offices and 4 overhead doors. Good Location. Call (432)213-2400.

Real Estate for Sale

2601 APACHE Drive- 3 bdrm, 2 bath, approx. 2084 sq. ft. with extra lot, workshop in back. \$115,000.. No Owner Financing. Call (432)466-1441.

3/2 PLUS Bonus Room. 2403 Carleton. Under Remodel. Owner will Finance. \$15,000.00 Down. WILL NOT RENT. Call (432)264-9907 or 517-0062.

BACK-ON-MARKET. Deal fell through. Small house needs work on 2 1/4 acres on Hwy. 350. Owner financing may be available \$15,000.00. Call 432-770-2889.

BY OWNER/ No Owner Finance. 1202 Buena Vista. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, shop, 1 acre of land. Coahoma ISD. Call 432-413-7400.

HOUSE FOR Sale by Owner: 512 Washington Blvd.. 2 Stry-4 bdrm, 2 bath, family living area w/dining area & separate den w/fireplace. Impeccable. \$150,000.00 (firm). Call Ann Carter at (325)220-0344.

Legals

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Sealed proposals addressed to Virginia L. Taylor, Manager of Administrative Service of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, will be received at the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 400 East 24th Street, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring, Texas 79721, until Thursday, April 19, 2012 at 3:00 PM for the furnishing of the following items:

Request for Proposals for Depository Banking Services
At this time and place, the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

Specifications are on file and may be examined without charge in the office of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, 400 East 24th Street, P.O. Box 869, Big Spring, Texas 79721, telephone (432)267-6341. Specifications may also be procured from the District at the above address without charge.

In case of ambiguity in stating proposal prices, the Colorado River Municipal Water District reserves the right to adopt the most advantageous bid thereof, to reject any or all bids, and to waive formalities. COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
John W. Grant,
General Manager
#7317 March 29, 2012 and April 5 and 12, 2012

It's the last day of the current Mars retrograde in Virgo. If you've been struggling with practical matters, including budgetary restraints, logistical issues and challenges with the administration and scheduling of your life, things are about to get better. Tomorrow may bring Friday the 13th, but it also brings a direct course for the warrior planet.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When you are afraid, your hair stands on end. In primitive times when humans were downright furry, this made a difference, as the human would appear bigger to predators. Today, you'll find other ways to appear big.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You can't control the weather, but you can control how you react to it. You're in a flexible mood now and will instantly adapt to whatever comes your way. Someone new takes notice, impressed by your easy confidence.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be drawn to a mystery. Is this dangerous? Maybe, and that's definitely part of the allure. Your curiosity may get the best of you, and you'll love the daring mood this puts you in.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Noises won't hurt you, but they certainly can break your concentration and distract you from your desired focus. You'll have to make an extra effort to find a quiet place on this bustling, cacophonous day.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be in one of your generous moods — times three. You'll give and keep giving until you fall asleep tonight. The good you send into the world will boomerang back to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be disillusioned with someone. You projected your own desires onto the relationship, and human nature can be so unfair. The good news is that the person you were looking

for really is out there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're ready to step into the position you've had your eye on for some time. You'll be filling big shoes, but that doesn't scare you. It's as though you were always meant for this.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When a project stalls, it gives you time to do the thing you wanted to be doing in the first place: taking care of your personal life. Your people need the brand of attention only you can give.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have nothing to hide, and yet a certain someone keeps telling you secrets for your ears only. If it's becoming burdensome to carry the weight of this load, request an end to your tenure as confidante.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Obviously, you're not going to be motivated to accomplish anything in an arena that bores you to tears. Begin the quest for a more

interesting environment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're an important member of your community, even when all you're doing is spreading good will with the decency of your cheerful smile. Friendly faces will be everywhere you go today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). That so-called "friend" who burned you long ago will do the same again if you allow it to happen — and if you do, you'll have no one to blame but yourself. So protect yourself and stay aware.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 12). Developments in your personal life allow you to experience more love than ever. It starts with a gift you give to someone this month. You'll make valuable connections with people from a different background in May. You're ready for adventure in June. Loved ones depend on you, and you make them proud. Cancer and Sagittarius people adore you. Your

lucky numbers are: 7, 31, 48, 18 and 20.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: It has been rumored that Founding Father and third U.S. President Thomas Jefferson had an astrologer. Though no conclusive evidence has surfaced, Jefferson did mention some astronomical discoveries of his day in correspondence, suggesting he was interested in cosmic events. Jefferson was a bold Aries born under an expansive, forward thinking Sagittarius moon.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My wife and I were both married before. Last year, she confessed that she'd had a 35-year affair with a married doctor. At the time, she was in her early 20s and he was in his early 40s. After 35 years, she decided he was too old for her and ended things.

She told me the doctor's

name, but when I did some checking, I discovered it was a fake name. I am not upset about her past. But I am terribly unhappy that she is lying to me. She met this doctor in his office, so she knows his name. How can she expect me to believe she didn't know the identity of a guy with whom she had a 35-year

affair? I no longer trust her and don't like the dishonesty. Is there any way to trust her again, or do I move on? — *Lost in El Paso*

Dear Lost: She may be protecting this man's identity because she doesn't want you to confront him. Or you may know him. Or she could be lying about the affair. She obviously didn't expect you to check the veracity of her story. Now you need to discuss it with her. Tell her what you discovered. Ask her why she lied. Quite frankly, it serves no purpose for you to know this man's name, and you should say so (and mean it). She is less likely to hide information when she believes you will not judge her or go looking for old boyfriends. It might help to have this conversation with a counselor who can mediate.

Dear Annie: My in-laws divorced 10 years ago because of my father-in-law's homosexual infidelity. Shortly after the divorce, my mother-in-law attempted suicide.

I don't think she has ever sought therapy for

her emotional pain. To this day, she continues to badmouth her ex-husband in front of her children and grandchildren. She seems to vent mostly to me, probably because I'm related by marriage and she figures I'll be more receptive. Sometimes she'll make up stories about him.

I believe she wants me to hate him. The truth is, I don't. In spite of what happened, he has been a wonderful father and grandfather, and we love him. How can I get her to stop bashing him without seeming to take sides and hurting her feelings? — *Dumped Upon*

Dear Dumped: It is perfectly OK to tell your mother-in-law that you don't want to hear such criticisms and simply ask her to stop. Or get up and leave when she starts in. But you might also say with genuine concern that she seems obsessed with her ex and you are worried about her mental health. Suggest she seek therapy not only to vent to a professional, but to learn how to move forward with her life.

Dear Annie: I'd like to share how my family

handled a situation similar to that of "Old in Indiana," the 90-year-old woman who wondered how to divide her possessions among her daughters and daughters-in-law.

I'm one of three siblings, and the folks had several generational heirlooms that none of us wanted to see sold or given to one of us as a show of favoritism. Our parents put numbers on each item, and then we drew matching numbers from a bowl. We agreed that if one of us wanted an item someone else had drawn, an offer could be made to trade or pay its monetary value. Anyone who didn't want something they were given had to give notice to the other two siblings before putting it up for sale, allowing the others to buy it and keep it in the family.

All of this was written down and agreed to in the presence of a lawyer, and added to the will. There have been no regrets or disputes. — *A Happy Heir in Nebraska*

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

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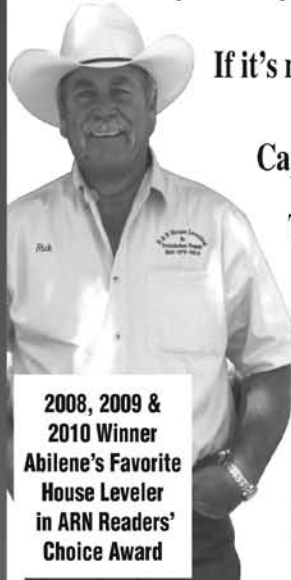
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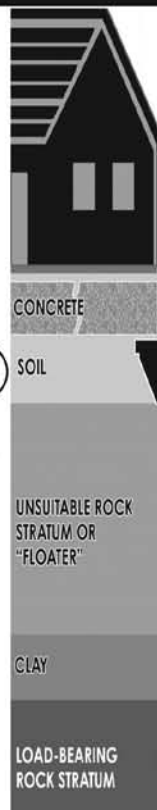
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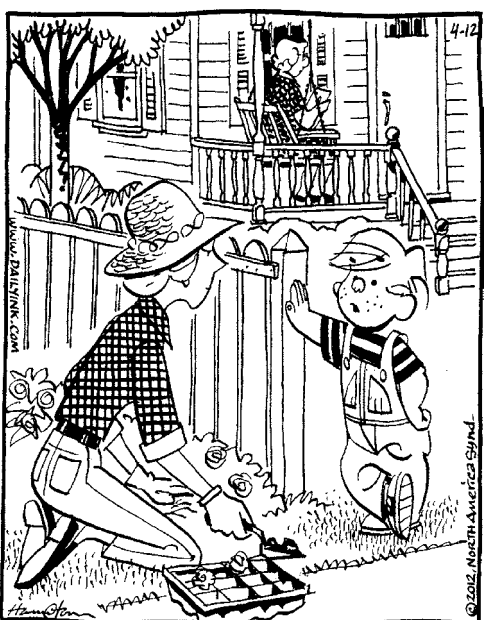
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5:PM :30	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Two Men Two Men	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News News	King King	Israel Andrew	Charlie Rose	King King	Dual Survivor	CSI: Miami	DEA	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	Jeopardy! Wheel	Una Familia con Suerte (SS)	Big Bang Big Bang	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	Millionaire	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Dr. Wil Baruch	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Seinfeld	American Chopper	CSI: Miami	DEA	Bones		Shake It Phineas	Around Pardon	NFL Live
7:PM :30	Missing		American Idol	Big Bang Rules	Una Maid en	30 Rock	Fam. Guy	Upd Mark Blitz	Travel Parks	The Vampire Diaries	American Chopper	Movie: Overboard, Edward Herrmann	Big Easy Big Easy	NBA Basketball: Miami Heat at Chicago Bulls.	Movie: Stomp the Yard, Ne-Yo	Shake It	SportsNation	SportsCenter Special: On the
8:PM :30	Grey's Anatomy	Abismo de Pasión	Touch	Big Bang Broke Girl	Corazón Valiente	Office	Big Bang	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	The Secret Circle	American Chopper					Movie: 16 Wishes	QB Camp	QB Camp
9:PM :30	(:01) Scandal	La Que No	Simpsons How I Met	Person of Interest	Relaciones Peli	Awake	Big Bang		Frontline	Cops	Resurrection Tomb				Movie: Stomp the Yard 2: Homecoming	Jessie	NFL Live	Baseball Tonight
10:PM :30	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	How I Met	News Letterman	Noticias Titulares	News Jay Leno	Conan	Dr. Diana Van Impe	Charlie Rose	'Til Death '70s	American Chopper	Movie: Overboard, Edward Herrmann	MMA Repo	NBA Basketball: Mavericks at Warriors	ANT Farm	ProFILE	SportsCenter	
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Sin Senos	Late Night	Office	Conan	World (Off Air)	'70s	Resurrection Tomb		Repo		Wendy Williams	Fish Wizards	Baseball Tonight	
12:AM :30	Extra Paid	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Upd Dr. Wil	South Pk	ACTIVE	American Chopper	Stooges	GTTV	Inside the NBA	Movie: Stomp the Yard, Ne-Yo	Good	SportsNation	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	Paid	La Jaula Par Ases	American TMZ	Paid	Pagado	(:06) Today	Seinfeld	Light of the Southwest	God	Influence	American Chopper	Stooges	MMA	Franklin & Bash	ANT Farm	SportsCenter Special: On the	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"When did Mr. Wilson become a king? Mrs. Wilson says he's on the throne."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Daddy, when you're at Grandma's, does she let you cut up your own meat?"

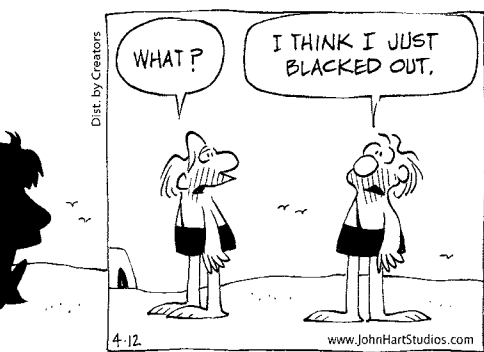
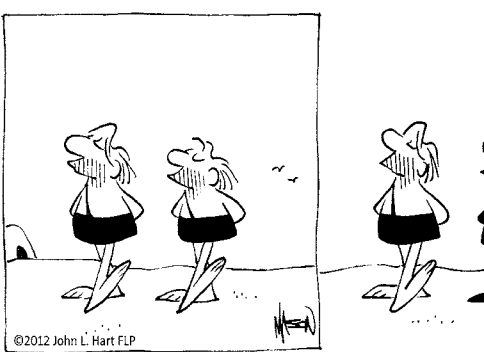
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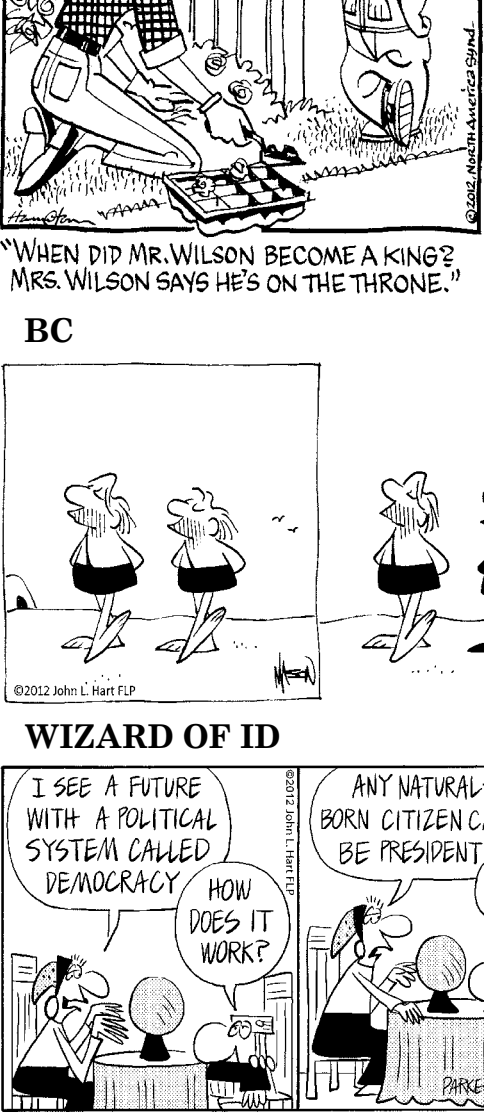
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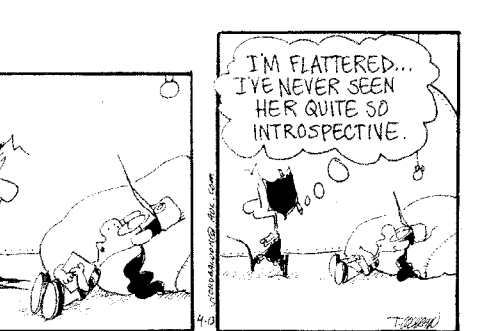
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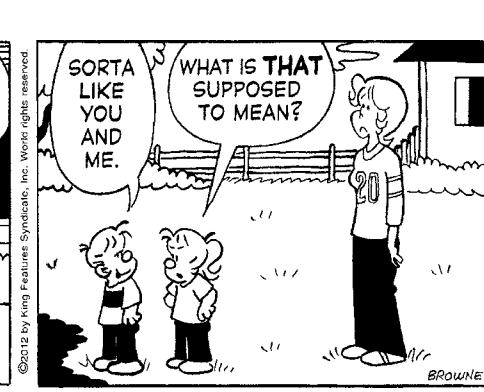
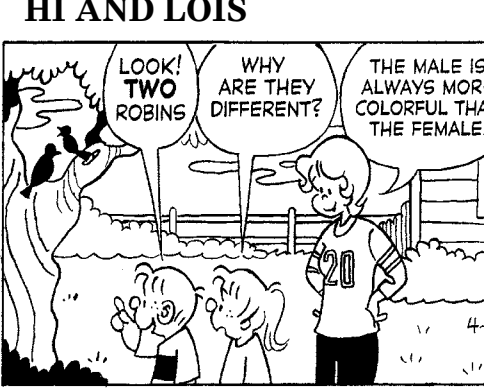
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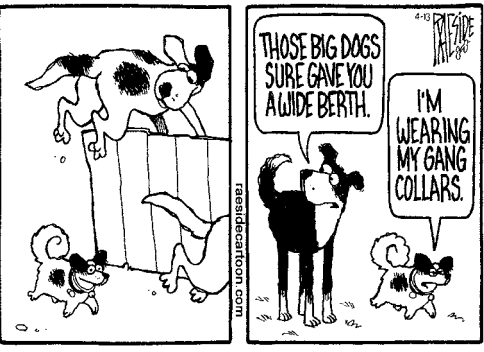
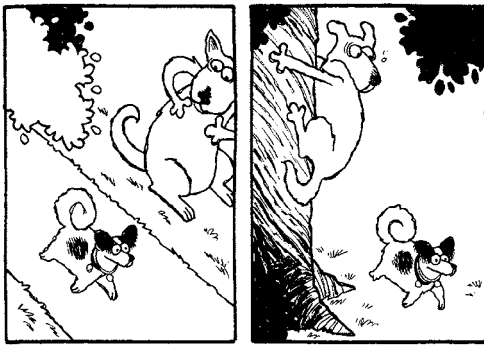
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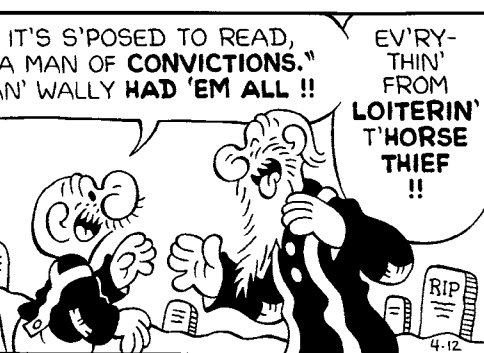
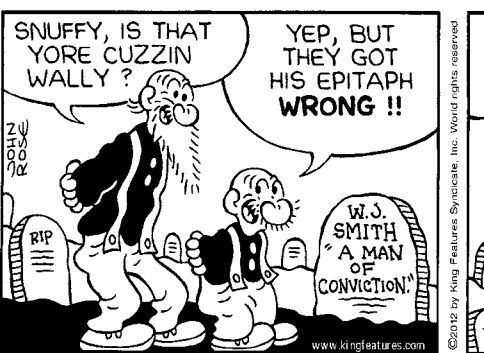
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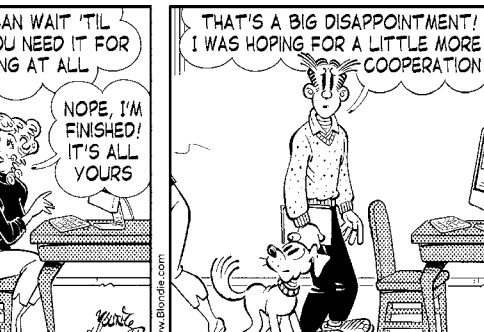
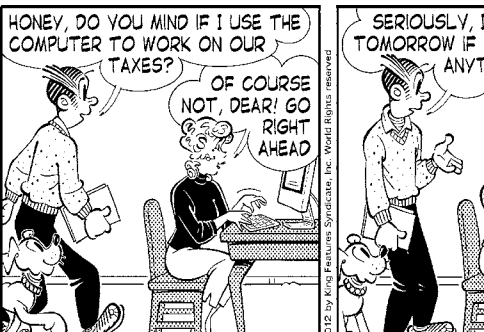
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, April 12, the 103rd day of 2012. There are 263 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 12, 1862, during the Civil War, Union volunteers led by James J. Andrews stole a Confederate locomotive near Marietta, Ga., and headed toward Chattanooga, Tenn., on a mission to sabotage as much of the rail line as they could; the raiders were caught, and eight of them, Andrews included, were executed as spies. (The raid inspired the 1926 Buster Keaton silent comedy "The General.")

On this date:

In 1606, England's King James I decreed the design of the original Union Flag, which combined the flags of England and Scotland.

In 1811, fur traders employed by John Jacob Astor began building Fort Astoria in present-day Oregon.

In 1861, the American Civil War began as Confederate forces opened fire on Fort Sumter in South Carolina. (The Union troops holding the fort surrendered the following day.)

In 1877, the catcher's mask was first used in a baseball game by James Tyng of Harvard in a game against the Lynn Live Oaks.

In 1912, Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross, died in Glen Echo, Md., at age 90.

In 1934, "Tender Is the Night," by F. Scott Fitzgerald, was first published in book form after being serialized in Scribner's Magazine.

In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Warm Springs, Ga., at age 63; he was succeeded by Vice President Harry S. Truman.

In 1955, the Salk vaccine against polio was declared safe and effective.

In 1961, Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to fly in space, orbiting the earth once before making a safe landing.

In 1981, the space shuttle Columbia blasted off from Cape Canaveral on its first test flight.

Former world heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis died in Las Vegas, Nev., at age 66.

In 1985, Sen. Jake Garn, R-Utah, became the first sitting member of Congress to fly in space as the shuttle Discovery lifted off.

In 1992, after five years in the making, Euro Disneyland opened in Marne-La-Vallee, France, amid controversy as French intellectuals bemoaned the invasion of American pop culture.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ned Miller is 87. Actress Jane Withers is 86. Opera singer Montserrat Caballe is 79. Playwright Alan Ayckbourn (AYK-'bohrn) is 73. Jazz musician Herbie Hancock is 72.

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Answer to previous puzzle

LISPS	SPORE	BAT
ADIEU	PARKA	ONE
PEARL	HARBOR	NON
SAMPLER	TREND	
IRKS	WHIT	
SLICES	HEREGOES	
HIVES	LEVIN	PAW
OBOE	BERET	MISO
ERR	DRABS	RACER
DAYTRADE	DECKLE	
TOUT	TIRE	
GROOM	SENTOFF	
RAW	MILKYWAY	BAR
LIKE	ERASE	CRETE
PER	REBUT	TOYED

Newsday Crossword


SHORT DISTANCE by Charles Slack Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Up to the task	1 Socially dominant
5 Expensive coats	2 Element #5
9 Latin dance	3 Eccentric
14 Appear ominously	4 Jane Austen heroine
15 Where most live	5 With 29 Down, cookie maker's nickname
16 Paperless messages	6 Bringing to bear
17 High schooler's highlight	7 Encircle
18 Money-making operation	8 Encased, in a way
19 Steamy spot	9 Predicaments
20 First TV western series	10 Collect in bulk
23 One or more	11 Hawaiian island
24 Big galoot	12 Predicament
25 Palette array	13 Neutrogena rival
26 Calls one's own	21 Camel cousin
27 Plays permission to	22 Rolling bit
31 Unlikely	26 Drive fruits
33 Ration (out)	27 Dog biscuit shapes
34 Unchanged	28 Principal
35 What some genetic traits do	29 See 5 Down
38 Farm features	30 Strong longing
39 Pre-owned	31 Distort
40 Haberdashery department	32 Fishing gear
41 Wonder-full feeling	33 Absolute rule
42 Wonderful things	34 Restrain
43 Get-up-and-go	
44 Place to store corn	
45 Fill the tank, with "up"	
46 Comprehended	
49 Participate enthusiastically	
54 Negative particle	



The Ladies Golf Association held its annual Spring Fling Tournament Tuesday and Wednesday at Comanche Trail Golf Course in Big Spring. At least 15 different cities and 32 players showed up to compete in the event. Shown here are Kaye Reynolds of Farwell (left) and Debra Lusk of Big Spring on the putting green of Hole No. 7.

HERALD photo/Brian McCormack

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Baylor gets three years probation

WACO, Texas (AP) — The NCAA put Baylor on three years of probation Wednesday after an investigation turned up hundreds of impermissible telephone calls and text messages sent to prep recruits by coaches and assistants on the basketball teams.

The violations were considered to be major infractions, and they were announced less than a week after the Lady Bears won the national championship with the first 40-0 season in NCAA history.

Still, it could have been much worse for Baylor. All of the penalties were proposed by the school and accepted by the NCAA after a review of nearly 900,000 phone and text message records found that 738 texts and 528 calls were against the rules.

The NCAA said men's coach Scott Drew failed to monitor his program and will be suspended for two games next season. I

In addition to recruiting restrictions. Women's coach Kim Mulkey also received recruiting restrictions.

"I believe strongly in following NCAA rules and will always try to do so in the future," Mulkey said in a statement released by the school.

"I do nothing without permission from our compliance office and will continue to ask questions to

assure that things are done right. Any compliance-related mistakes, even those that are secondary, are disappointing. The majority of mistakes in this matter were errors in sending text messages and failure to accurately document our phone calls."

Besides Baylor's win over Notre Dame for the women's title, Drew's team won a school-record 30 games and reached the NCAA regional finals, where the Bears lost to eventual national champion Kentucky. And all that came after star quarterback Robert Griffin III became the school's first Heisman Trophy winner following a football season that included 10 wins for the first time since 1980.

Mulkey was named the

AP's national coach of the year and junior Brittney Griner was its player of the year. How Baylor recruited Griner, one of the most dominant women's players in college basketball history, was reportedly part of the NCAA probe.

A school report obtained by ESPN.com said Mulkey and her staff committed minor NCAA violations for having impermissible contact with Griner and her family.

During a 2007 camp, coaches spoke with the Griners about the basketball program, academic requirements and the school in general both before and after the camp.

Mulkey also reportedly broke NCAA rules when she sat next to Griner's father and discussed what the Baylor experience would be like. Brittney Griner, who is from the Houston area, played on the same AAU team as Mulkey's daughter.

The NCAA report did not mention Griner or her family by name, though Mulkey addressed it in her statement.

Griner said she had "made it clear to the NCAA staff and everyone else" that she had chosen Baylor early in the recruiting process.

Besides keeping Mulkey off the recruiting trail in July, Baylor said one of her assistants has been barred from making recruiting calls from January through April. The school also reduced its women's basketball scholarships from 15 to 13 in 2011-12.

On the men's side, Drew will miss the first two Big 12 games of the season, recruiting visits were trimmed and he lost a scholarship this past season and in 2012-13.

In addition, a former coach faces a one-year "show cause" order that effectively prevents him from coaching at an NCAA school.

"I sincerely apologize to Baylor University and Baylor Nation," Morefield said in statement released by his lawyer. "I learned a very valuable lesson in this case. In my 13 years of coaching at NCAA institutions, I have not intentionally violated NCAA rules. I will grow from this experience with a better understanding of NCAA rules."

The NCAA violations come nine years after Baylor basketball player Patricpk Dennehy was found shot to death after he had been missing for six weeks. Teammate Carlton Dotson pleaded guilty to murder. The ensuing investigation uncovered NCAA violations, illegal tuition payments and unreported failed drug tests that led to the resignation of coach Dave Bliss, who was secretly recorded by an assistant coach of trying to persuade others to cover up misdeeds by portraying Dennehy as a drug dealer.

Athletic director Ian McCaw said the school has

made "significant investments in compliance staffing and infrastructure" since the investigation began.

Drew said he took full responsibility for the violations, saying many were simply the result of improperly logging or failing to log calls to recruits.

He noted that the school has a new software tracking system to assist coaches with the logistics.

"I came to Baylor in 2003 to do a job: rebuild a program decimated by very serious NCAA rules violations and tragedy," he said.

"I promised to rebuild the program in a way Baylor could be proud-morally, academically and, finally, athletically, and we continue on that journey today."

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