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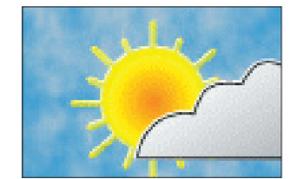
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Liquor license request on hold

Judge Barr to give mall owner 30 days to pay back taxes

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

A business located in the Big Spring Mall looking to obtain a license to sell alcoholic beverages had its request put on hold by county officials Tuesday, due to delinquent taxes owed by the owner of

the mall facility. County Judge Mark Barr, who was expected to make a judgment on whether or not to allow BSM Ice Cream and Coffee Shop to acquire a license to sell alcoholic beverages through the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, said he is giving the company

that owns the mall 30 days to pay its back taxes before he will rule on the matter. "I received a letter of protest from the Howard County Tax Collector and Assessors Office," Barr said. "The limited liability corporation that owns the Big Spring Mall owes back taxes from 2009

and 2010. Since this wasn't brought up in previous meetings, I decided to give the company 30 days to pay their back taxes before ruling on the matter." According to county officials, Raj Yadav, who purchased the mall facility in 2007, owes approximately

\$70,000 in delinquent taxes. Mall manager Lara Spalding, who has been in charge of the facility since 2008, said the owner, who is currently in California, will be notified of the situation. Barr said he expects to

See **ON HOLD**, Page 3A

Big Spring man files suit over son's 2010 death

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

A Howard County man has filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Daystar Residential Treatment Center in Manvel amid claims his teenage son was restrained and later died at the facility, which was already under heavy scrutiny from the state. Michael Owens, 16, was pronounced dead at a Houston hospital Nov. 5, 2010, after struggling with staff members at the residential treatment center, where the boy had been a patient since March 2010. The lawsuit was filed by the boy's father, Wesley Owens, and Gwyneda Seymour in 23rd District Court in Brazoria County. The suit names the defendants as Shiloh Treatment Center Inc., Daystar Residential Inc., Behav-

ior Training Research Inc., C&E Investments Inc. and HHH Community Service Inc. Owens is being represented by Dallas attorney Keith Purdue, while Seymour is being represented by Colorado City attorney Jeanie Fuller. Michael Owens had been in state foster care since 2008. According to reports made by the Houston Chronicle following Owens' death, the teen died after a restraint was applied by a staff member at the Daystar facility in a closet — just four days after the home had been placed on probation by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. Owens had been removed by police from Manvel High

See **SUIT**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Karen Schobel talks to visitors to her Juice Plus booth during the 2010 Health Fair. The 2011 event will be held from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. There is no admission charge.

Healthy Woman returns to annual fair

See Troy Tompkins' column, Page 5A.

Herald Staff Report

For the third year in a row, Scenic Mountain Medical Center's April Healthy Woman event will be held in conjunction with the Big Spring Health Fair, scheduled for Saturday from 8 a.m. until noon in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The Healthy Woman Advisory Council invites the public to take advantage of the many free screenings being offered by Health Fair vendors. "A Call to Action - Women & Financial Preparedness" will be presented at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College. Troy Tompkins, CMFC, will be the featured speaker.

See **HEALTH**, Page 3A

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Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



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Communication seminar slated by Alzheimer's group

By AMANDA MORENO
Staff Writer

MIDLAND — It's all about communication. The 2011 Alzheimer's Association educational symposium will address communication venues in a symposium set from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday at the Midland College Advance Technology Center, located at 3200 W. Cuthbert in Midland. "We aim to inform people and provide them with the skills and tools they need to deal with those who have Al-



Cross

zheimer's or the other dementias," said Janet Cross, Alzheimer's Association representative. Because of the venue capacity, the number of participants is limited to 120 people. Invitations, however, are extended to anyone in the surround areas, including San Angelo, Fort Stockton, Pecos, Lamesa, Colorado City and Big Spring. "We encourage anyone who is having to provide care, whether it be individually or professionally, to attend and hear the skills and tools that we will be talking about," Cross said. "We are trying to help people be able to reach someone with Alzheimer's." These communication tools will consist of verbal and non-verbal communication, pet and music therapy and spiritual connections. "For those taking care of people with Alzheimer's or

See **SEMINAR**, Page 3A

Employee contracts on ISD agenda

Employment recommendations is the key item of business for Big Spring Independent School District trustees, who meet in special session at 5:15 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room. Also on the agenda is the superintendent's report, resignations and retirements. The board room is located at 707 11th Place.

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Obituaries

Bobby Sumner



Bobby Sumner, 62, of Big Spring died Saturday, April 2, 2011, at Martin County Hospital. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 8, 2011, at Life Church with Pastor Clint Collins officiating. Burial with military honors will follow in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

He was born Dec. 28, 1948, in Birmingham, Ala., to Tia and Walter David Sumner. He was a veteran of the United States Marines. He came to Big Spring in 1974. He worked at the Big Spring State Hospital until retiring in 1999 and had worked at Wal Mart since 1983. He was a member of Life Church. He married Margaret Salgado on Sept. 4, 1975, in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Sumner of Big Spring; one son, Robert Sumner and wife Jovena of Memphis, Tenn.; two grandchildren, Jocelyn Sumner and Josiah Sumner of Memphis, Tenn.; three sisters, Darla Wheat, Bonny Richardson and Jonette Boone, all of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one son, Brandon Sumner.

Pallbearers will be Wallace Spraberry, Randy Sanders, Cary Karns, Ary Martinez, Joe Robles, Junior (Mondo) Salgado, Herman Evans and Danny Sherman.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests love offerings be made to The Family of Bobby Sumner, c/o Life Church, 1004 Johnson, Big Spring 79720.

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

Paid obituary

Orville Steve Brant

Orville Steve Brant, 57, of Big Spring died Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Leroy E. Pearl



Leroy E. Pearl, 85, of Big Spring passed on to glory peacefully at his home Sunday morning, April 3, 2011, with his partner, Thelma Roberts, by his side.

He was born to George Alvah Pearl and Lila Irene Ivy of Junction on June 25, 1925, in the Little Saline Community five miles northeast of London, Texas.

Leroy volunteered and proudly served in the United States Navy during World War II from May 5, 1943, to April 25, 1946, on the USS Ticonderoga in the Pacific as a parachute rigger.

After being honorably discharged, he married Naleen McCollum of London, Texas. Leroy ranched, worked in the oil fields in West Texas and finally retired from operating heavy equipment with the Operators' Local Union.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sis-

ter, Lila Beth Brown of Junction.

Leroy is survived by his six children, three daughters, Kathy Duncan of Shirley, Ark., Patsy Matheson of Deatsville, Ala., and Wannetta Quick of Norman, Okla.; three sons, Reggie Pearl and Eddie Pearl of London, Texas, and Ronnie Pearl of Ozona; 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service is scheduled at the Church of Christ in London, Texas, at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 10, 2011.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made in his memory to a Veteran's organization of choice.

The family wishes to thank Crossroads Hospice, the VA Hospital and the many citizens of Big Spring who helped with their father.

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

Paid obituary

Teresa Phillips Darden

Teresa Phillips Darden, 44, of Dallas, formerly of Big Spring died Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Myra Kemper

Myra Kemper, 86, of Big Spring died Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

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HEALTH

Continued from Page 1A

and Great Western Catering will provide a cold buffet luncheon. While there is no

charge to attend, seating is limited so reservations are necessary. For more details or to RSVP, log on to www.healthy-womanonline.com or call Kim Howell at 268-4842 or Anita Cline at 268-4721.

Police blotter

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

- DANIEL LEE NOGGLER, 39, of 101 Moore Rd., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of aggravated assault with a motor vehicle.
- RANDY TIMOTHY ORTEGA, 33, of 704 S. Johnson, was arrested Tuesday on a warrant from another agency and warrants for speeding and failure to appear.
- RICHARD GENE ARMSTRONG, 32, of 203 Merrick Rd., was arrested Tuesday on warrants for expired motor vehicle inspection certificate and failure to appear.
- ROBERTO VALDEZ BALTAZAR, 37, of 3610 Hamilton, was arrested Tuesday on charges of driving while intoxicated – open container and driving while license suspended/invalid with a previous conviction.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 1700 block of E. FM 700.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 3200 block of Drexel.
- THEFT was reported: In the 2900 block of W. Highway 80. In the 2900 block of W. Highway 80. In the 1100 block of Austin. In the 1400 block of Nolan.

Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 70 inmates at the time of this report.
- DANIEL LEE NOGGLER, 39, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of aggravated assault and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
 - RANDY TIMOTHY ORTEGA, 33, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a warrant for motion to revoke probation and suspend license and municipal warrants for speeding and failure to appear.
 - RICHARD GENE ARMSTRONG, 32, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on municipal warrants for expired vehicle inspection and failure to appear.
 - ROBERTO VALDEZ BALTAZAR, 37, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of driving while intoxicated and driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
 - SABRINA VALENCIA MADRID, 26, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid and a municipal warrant for failure to appear.
 - BRANDON JOSEPH SCHEIRBECK, 37, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
 - JOHNNY LEE JOHNSON, 39, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of no driver's license.
 - TONY GARZA, 39, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
 - CALEB JAMES CHAVEZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Coronado. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 1600 block of E. 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Union. One person was transported to SMMC.

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- Western Hills Animal Clinic is sponsoring a rabies clinic from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Foran Fire Station on Main Street. Rabies shots are \$8; K-9 distemper/parvo, \$14; and feline CVR, \$20.

- Friday is live band dance night at Big Spring Senior Center, 1901 Simler. Senior adults are invited to an evening of fellowship (and good exercise) from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. each Friday. Cost is \$6 per person. For more information or to find out what band is playing, call the Senior Center at 432-267-1628.

- The Howard County A&M Club is accepting applications from high school students who are graduating this May and have been accepted at Texas A&M University for fall 2011. Students must be Howard County residents and will enroll for at least 12 hours. Deadline for applications is April 15. More information and the application may be found on the club website: www.westexags.com

ON HOLD

Continued from Page 1A

revisit the issue May 9, giving Yadav 30 days to pay the delinquent taxes on the property.

The prospective alcohol license has drawn some opposition in the

community, according to Barr, because of BSM Ice Cream's close proximity to the Cinemark movie theater.

"The main complaint we're hearing is because of how close it would be to the movie theater. However, that's simply not grounds to deny a license," Barr said. "Denial of a license has to

be based on health and safety issues."

The TABC license being sought by BSM Ice Cream would allow the local business to sell beer and wine at the mall location.

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

SUIT

Continued from Page 1A

School after striking a school staff member Nov. 1, according to officials with Alvin ISD. Owens spent four days at the Brazoria County Detention Center in Angleton before being transported to the Daystar facility. Investigators with the

Brazoria County Sheriff's Office said Owens became distressed because a radio was missing from his belongings, after which a struggle ensued inside a closet at the treatment center.

Brazoria County Sheriff's investigator Ronnie Falks said the staff member involved in the struggle attempted to apply physical restraints to Owens, who fell un-

conscious shortly after.

According to Wesley Owens, his son's death was ruled a homicide by the Harris County Medical Examiner's Office. The cause of death was determined to be asphyxiation.

Daystar Residential Treatment Center was shut down by the state in January, after Owens' death was ruled a homicide.

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

SEMINAR

Continued from Page 1A

any of the dementias, they need to understand how to communicate," Cross said. "The biggest frustration in caring for a person with one of the dementias is finding ways to communicate with the person they care about."

According to Cross, Alzheimer's is an ever-growing issue. Every 69 seconds a person is diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

"More people are currently diagnosed with Alzheimer's than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined," Cross said. "At some point in every person's life there is a good chance that they will come in contact with someone with Alzheimer's. The more information they receive, the more equipped they will be when it comes time for them to deal with the issue."

On top of the yearly

symposiums, the Alzheimer's Association provides support groups in different areas, a 24-hour help line and numerous educational programs throughout the year. The Big Spring Alzheimer's support group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center. The next educational program for the Big Spring area is scheduled for early June and will be directed towards members of the clergy and church family.

"We are encouraging everyone to come out and attend these events," Cross said. "If you are not currently dealing with this, there

is a good chance you will be in the future and it's better to be prepared. We are hoping to provide everyone that attends with some very useful information to assist them as they go through this journey."

For more information on upcoming events or the association, call 1-800-272-3900 or e-mail Janet.Cross@alz.org.

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

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Bobby Sumner, 62, died Saturday. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, at Life Church. Burial with Military Honors will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Teresa Phillips Darden, 44, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

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

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EDITORIAL

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-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

Old Sorehead Trade Days back in town

For two days, downtown Stanton turns into one big shopping arena.

Of course, it's not your usual designer names, but it is a great place to find anything and everything.

If unique, custom-made items are what you are looking for, make your way to Stanton on Saturday and Sunday for the Old Sorehead Trade Days.

Three times a year, arts and crafts vendors gather for a one-of-a-kind shopping experience.

During the trade days you can find toys, purses, wall art, and numerous types of food. There are more than 200 vendors at the trade days and each brings their own bit of flair.

It doesn't matter if you are 9 years old or 90 years old, you are bound to find something at trade days.

The weather may be windy, it may be hot, but that shouldn't stop you from making the trip.

There are enough vendors offering cool drinks and interesting food items. If you are one of the many that can't wait for the fair to come around specifically for the food, then don't. Food vendors serve up turkey legs, fresh lemonade, curly fries, fried desserts, hot dogs and more.

It seems the old favorites and even some new foods tend to make their way to every trade days.

There is plenty to look at, munch on and even places to rest.

If you want to make it an all-day event, it is completely possible. There are seating areas for those wanting to take time to enjoy the food and even live entertainment throughout both days.

Take the time to enjoy a little retail therapy and enjoy the outdoors at the same time.

You never know what you'll find.

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.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

We put our best foot forward, Lord, when we have You in our life.

Amen

Backing the rebels with no questions being asked

We are currently doing everything we can to bomb, strafe and use missiles

to carry the rebels into power in Libya. We want them to win. We just don't know who they are.

This is not merely my opinion. It is the statement of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, our point person in meeting with the rebels.

She was in London Tuesday to meet with diplomats from 30 countries, most of whom showed up to get in the group picture. There are certainly not 30 countries aiding us in waging the war in Libya.

Most of the media headlined Clinton's statement about possibly arming the rebels. Many stories left out entirely what I consider her more important statement that she really had no idea who the rebels are and that, in fact, they might actually include members of al-Qaida, the terrorist group that attacked America on Sept. 11, 2001.

I read dozens of stories that made no mention of this. Jennifer Epstein's story in Politico, I am happy to say, was an exception:

"Clinton didn't say whether the opposition movement includes members of the terrorist group al-Qaida, though she suggested it is possible.

"The opposition has demonstrated a 'commitment to democracy and to a very robust engagement with people from across the spectrum of Libyans,' but 'we do not have any specific information about specific individuals from any organization who are part of this,' she said."

Got that? We are killing people — Moammar Qadhafi's troops and possibly civilians through "collateral damage" — in order to put the rebels in power.

But "we do not have any specific information about specific individuals from any organization who are part of this," according to our secretary of state.

And they might include terrorists trying to destroy our coun-

try.

Does this make any sense? Shouldn't we know whom we are fighting for before we fight for them? Thus far, the U.S. has taken no casualties. Two of our airmen had to bail out over Libya, but thankfully they survived without injury.

We can't be sure our absolute safety will continue, however. Wars are messy. Accidents happen. And if we arm the rebels, those arms often require instruction and maintenance that sometimes requires "advisers" to accompany them.

President Obama has promised no American ground troops in Libya, but past presidents have injected advisers and even special forces into wars and not called them troops.

Make no mistake: Eventually troops — from some country — may be necessary if the rebels are going to win.

According to accounts from Western reporters on the ground, the rebels are highly disorganized, poorly trained, lightly armed and prone to rapid retreat.

Obama gave his speech Monday just at the time the rebels were taking territory and moving toward Qadhafi's stronghold, the capital city of Tripoli. Victory was in the air, and this made Obama's policy of intervention in Libya to protect American "core values" appear to be a stunning success.

But things have turned around quickly. The next day, Qadhafi's forces dug in and fired back. And, according to Reuters, "Libyan rebels fled in headlong retreat from the superior firepower and tactics of Moammar Qadhafi's troops."

According to the BBC's Nick Springate reporting from eastern Libya: "We've seen an incredible change in the last few hours. ... It is an amazing routing of rebel forces. ... Whenever they come up against the Qadhafi forces, they literally turn tail and run."

The Washington Post reported Wednesday that the rebels were in "chaotic retreat" and that the rebel opposition "may have reached the limits of its capacity."

So this war might take longer than a few weeks. But accord-

ing to BBC News: "There may be limited appetite for a long-term military campaign within NATO, even one restricted to air operations. All of the divisions that have been there from the outset risk resurfacing.

"A stalemate on the battlefield could reopen the question of arming the rebel forces, something that many see as being banned by the U.N.-imposed arms embargo."

By the way, the rebels' Transitional National Council was not invited to the London conference, even though some people claiming to be rebel officials showed up to talk in the corridors. (Clinton sat down with them in an actual office.) This is because almost nobody, including the United States, recognizes the rebels as the legitimate government of Libya.

Which could make it kind of tricky to give that \$30 billion in frozen Libyan government money to the rebels so they can pay us for arms and support, as President Obama implied in his speech. And remember how we were going to pay for the Iraq war with Iraqi oil profits? Remember how well that worked out?

So let's see where we are: We are backing the rebels. Though we don't know who they are. And they appear to be in headlong retreat. Leaving us ... where?

Oh, don't worry. We are backing the people of Libya, and the people of Libya love us, do they not?

"Libya has for years been a fertile recruiting ground for al-Qaida," The Washington Post reported Wednesday. "Libyans have served in the senior ranks of the terrorist network and streamed into Iraq in disproportionately large numbers to carry out attacks on U.S. forces."

Whoops. Is there time for a rewind?

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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Immelt, the new jobs czar

The New York Times reported last month that General Electric earned \$14.2 billion in inter-

national profits, including, \$5.1 billion in the United States. Yet GE did not pay a dime in federal income taxes last year. Oddly, President Obama chose GE Chairman and chief executive Jeffrey Immelt to head his President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness.

According to the Associated Press, Immelt's compensation package doubled to \$15.2 million last year, while this year, GE is seeking major concessions from the unions that represent its shrinking American workforce.

That makes Immelt the wrong guy for the job of jobs czar.

Or as former Democratic Sen. Russ Feingold wrote, "Someone like Immelt, who has helped his company evade taxes on its huge profits — and is now looking to workers to take major pay cuts after his compensation was doubled — should not lead the administration's effort to create jobs."

No lie.

After all, what kind of economic advice can Immelt give?

Probably advice like this:

Don't push for lower corporate tax rates. Reformers want Washington to lower the U.S. corporate tax rate of 35 percent, so that America can compete with low-tax countries like Ireland and Singapore, where GE offshored significant profits. Immelt says corporate tax reform "deserves a healthy debate," but he knows the big money is in loopholes.

Hire an army of tax lawyers. GE's tax department has 975 employees — and make no mistake, they contribute to the economy.

Never stint on lobbyists.

In the last decade, GE spent more than \$200 million on lobbyists, many of them tax-law specialists. Remember, the best way to play by the rules is to ghostwrite them.

If Washington wants to spend money, support the spending. It doesn't matter if legislation involves economic stimulus, clean energy or health care — if your operation is large enough, it will get a cut.

There are some things you can't outsource. For example, CEOs, pet members of Congress and Washington lobbyists.

Donate to candidates from both parties. Republicans talk up lower, simpler taxes, but it's just talk. Last year, Obama hectored what he calls the rich for "shirking" their duty to pay higher taxes. But Obamaland has sincere sympathy for those shirkers.

Look at Obama's pick for Treasury Secretary, Timothy Geithner, who failed to pay \$34,000 in Social Security and Medicare payments due on income earned while working for the International Monetary Fund.

When Obama appointed Immelt to his jobs and competitiveness council, the president said that Immelt "understands what it takes for America to compete in the global economy."

Unfortunately, Immelt seems to have learned that the best way to increase GE's profits was to eliminate a fifth of its American workforce, ship jobs overseas and hire a small army of tax attorneys.

A generous person might argue that GE's experience makes Immelt the smart choice to reform the tax code.

But Immelt can't be in charge of GE and reform a tax system it helped pervert. Obama must know that. Obama must not care.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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ROGER SIMON



DEBRA SAUNDERS

Understanding a woman's worth

Editor's note: Troy Tompkins will be the key speaker for Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Healthy Woman seminar set for noon Saturday in the Howard College Cactus Room. See Page 1 for more information on the event.



TROY TOMPKINS

Today's women are busy. Working in and outside of the home, raising children, caring for aging parents. Clearly, a woman's value in the family and workplace is priceless. But what is all of this time and effort amounting to financially? A new study offers insights into the progress women are making when it comes to securing their financial future

The fifth biennial Prudential Financial survey, "Financial Experience & Behaviors Among Women," indicates that in many ways, women have become more hands on when it comes to controlling their financial destinies. The study surveyed 1,250 women between the ages of 25 and 64 with household incomes of \$50,000 or more. Among the study's findings:

- 95 percent of women say they are directly involved and 25 percent are primary decision makers in household financial decisions.
- The economic and financial turmoil led women to reassess their financial outlook. The market plunge led many women (57 percent) to become more cautious with their money, particularly those approaching retirement.
- Despite recent financial

setbacks, many women are optimistic about their financial futures. More than half believe they will have to work longer and postpone retirement, but remain confident they can make up for financial losses incurred during the recession.

With so much positive news from the survey, you would think women would be making greater strides when it comes to their actual balance sheets. Unfortunately, the one key element that many women still lack is confidence when it comes to understanding available financial products and services such as annuities, mutual funds, stocks and individual securities. And many seem at a loss regarding where to turn for financial advice. Many seek financial mentoring from family and friends, which is unlikely to provide the kind of broad spectrum

expertise you can — and should get — from a financial professional.

Experts say to build long-term financial security is a good idea to begin with the basics: analyze your existing debt versus income and savings ratios; review your knowledge of life insurance products; become familiar with workplace retirement plans and IRAs; and ramp up your understanding of the benefits of annuities. These are all topics a financial professional can help you explore.

The Prudential study concluded that while "Many women believed they could manage their finances alone, they now realize a lack of proper assistance caused them to lose ground during the crisis."

To learn more, go to www.prudential.com/women. The site includes helpful

life-stage checklists, easy-to-understand guides to financial products and services, and first-person financial accounts that provide encouragement and support. Educating yourself and getting help when you need it is worth every bit of time and effort when it comes to attaining your financial dreams.

Provided courtesy of Prudential Financial Planning Services. For more information, contact Troy Tompkins, CMFC, financial planner, who offers investment advisory services through Prudential Financial Planning Services, a division of Pruco Securities, LLC. Tompkins's private office is located in Big Spring. He can be reached at troy.tompkins@prudential.com and (432)263-0180.

Texas briefs

State budget demonstrations planned today at Capitol

AUSTIN (AP) — Texans both for and against staggering cuts to state programs are planning to demonstrate at the Capitol.

Demonstrators urging lawmakers to use the Rainy Day Fund as well as those committed to leaving it untouched will gather at the Capitol Wednesday.

The House recently approved a budget that pares back spending in every corner of state services. But public education and health care took the hardest hits, leaving many Texans outraged.

Tea Party lawmakers who won election based on promises to not raise taxes or raid the Rainy Day Fund had success in pushing a bare-bones budget through the House chamber.

But the Senate has vowed to find billions more to properly fund the state's health program for the poor, public schools and other social services.

Corpus Christi man guilty over video game killing

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A Southeast Texas man accused of killing his cousin in a fight over whose turn it was to play a video game about drug violence has pleaded guilty to murder.

Prosecutors say the plea agreement reached Tuesday for 22-year-old Alejandro Garcia means he must serve 30 years in prison.

Garcia was arrested in June over the 2007 shooting death of 17-year-old George Flores. The victim was found dead at his home.

Garcia was accused of shooting Flores after arguing over playing "Scarface: The World is Yours," a video game about a drug gangster.

Ex of woman killed in Colorado office found in Littlefield

WESTMINSTER, Colo. (AP) — A man wanted for questioning about the slaying of an office worker in suburban Denver is behind bars in Texas.

Police in Westminster, Colo. say 71-year-old Richard Paul Stewart was located Tuesday night in the Texas Panhandle town of Littlefield.

Stewart is the ex-husband of a woman found dead inside an Edward Jones Investments office just before it opened Monday morning. Officers were called to the office after the panic alarm was

pressed.

Westminster police spokeswoman Cheri Spottke (SPOT'-key) said Stewart is in custody in Texas on unrelated charges but will also be held on a warrant for investigation of murder.

Police haven't identified his ex-wife or said how she died.



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That's What I Like About Texas.

In Sunday's Big Spring Herald



How the Civil War Began

150 years ago this week, Confederate cannons fired upon Fort Sumter, a federal fortification on a small island in Charleston (S.C.) Harbor, sparking the bloody American Civil War.



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Why not check this out? At the library

When looking for a particular author or series, do check the large print section. We have a really neat series called Sophie's Daughters, written by Mary Connealy. Book 3 in the series is "Sharpshooter in Petticoats" (LP F CON M), a fast-moving, entertaining story featuring talented, strong, independent heroines who know how to survive in the wild west.



HOLLIS
MCCRIGHT

Widow Many McClellan Gray is a sharpshooter who wants nothing more than to raise her children and live on the mountain alone. How can she do that when outlaws are determined to steal her gold — gold that she doesn't have? This is a very entertaining book featuring two strong people who must learn to get along.

Another great novel is Maeve Binchy's "Minding Frankie" (LP F BIN M).

When Noel learns that his terminally ill former flame is pregnant with his child, he agrees to be guardian upon her death. Noel is a single father who battles the demon drink and can't do it on his own. This is when his network of friends come together to care for Frankie and to keep Moira the social worker from putting Frankie in a foster home. A great Irish story.

Jennifer Chiaverini writes the Elm Creek Quilts series. This time, she goes back to Civil War times, in Water's Ford, Pa. Abolitionism is rampant in Water's Ford and the men answer the call of Mr. Lincoln to fight the Confederacy, while the women do their part in piecing and quilting quilts. The quilting women becomes a support group, helping each other cope with loneliness and fear and devising a way to keep Water's Ford businesses functioning. Another well thought out and researched book from Chiaverini.

Lesley Hauge was born in England but grew up in Zimbabwe. She taught

English and was editor for the Oslo Peace Research Institute. Her first novel is "No Man's Land" (SF HAU L). After wars and fire have devastated the earth, a lonely windswept island is populated solely by women. Their life is tough. An elite force, "Trackers," are expert horse-men and archers and are trained to protect the island from others. I have not read it, but it looks to be very interesting.

If you are trying to cut down your red meat consumption or if the price of meat is too high, try eating vegetarian. To me, a pot of blackeyed peas or red beans with hot water cornbread can really be a complete meal. In "Vegetarian Times Fast and Easy" (641.563 WIL P), the editors of "Vegetarian Times" have some excellent, tasty sounding recipes. Each recipe is noted either vegan or not. True vegans only eat plant materials while a partial vegan will eat food that contains eggs or milk. Either way, there are recipes for beverages, soups, appetizers, main dishes, etc.

With the Colorado River Municipal Water District limiting water deliveries to area towns, you might find the following an interesting book to look at. Geographers Lawrence E. Estaville and Richard A. Earl have compiled a vast amount of data that will visually convey important information on Texas' climate, surface and groundwater, water uses and hazard and future supply projections. Filled with more than 150 color maps, "Texas Water Atlas" (REF 553.709 EST L) is an engrossing volume. It is a reference book so check with Johnny and he can locate it for you.

Carrie Vaughn is a New York Times best-selling author. "Discord's Apple" (SF VAU C) is the story of Evie Vaughn, who has gone home to spend time with her dying father.

The home in Hope's Fort, Colo., is not the only thing she will inherit upon his death. She will also be the guardian of the wondrous treasures from myth and legend: The Golden apple of Discord; Pandora's Box, Ar-

thur's Excalibur and many other treasures

I don't know if you have heard, but the silver mine that is down around Shafter in the Big Bend area has been sold to a Canadian firm and is in the process of being re-opened for silver production. Along the same lines, comes the story of "Quicksilver: Terlinqua & the Chisos Mining Company" (338.762 RAG K) by Kenneth B. Ragsdale.

This book tells the story of mercury mining in Texas. Solidly researched, with many primary sources, it tells of the profit, power and loss; the protection from the U.S. Army when revolution rocked Mexico; labor unrest amongst the miners and is a very interesting book to read.

The library is located at 500 S. Main St. Our phone number is 264-2260. The website is www.howard-county.lib.tx.us

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I need to talk to someone. No one knows about this — not even my husband of 19 years.

I am now 40, and when I was a young girl, I was molested for a period of time by a hired man on the farm my dad owned. He said if I ever told anyone, he would hurt me, and I believed him. I never went to my parents. I was also raped my second year in college by a fellow classmate. He was convicted, and my family knows about that, as does my husband. But for some reason, I couldn't tell anyone about the earlier molestation. I was still afraid this man was going to hurt me.

Lately, I have been having nightmares about it and don't know why. The guilt, pain and anger are eating me up inside. I don't attend church, so I cannot speak to a pastor. And I

have no close friends nearby who I would feel comfortable confiding in. Besides, how do you bring up something like this?

Please help me. Should I tell my parents now? I'm afraid of saying anything to them or to my husband because it would be terribly hurtful. Why is this happening now? — *A Horrible Secret*

Dear Secret: Sometimes these things surface when you are under stress, or in your case, you may have some form of post-traumatic stress disorder because you never dealt with the earlier abuse. Confiding in your husband could provide much-needed emotional support, but since this is so difficult for you, we recommend you contact RAINN (rainn.org) at 1-800-656-HOPE. Their trained

counselors will help you work through this.

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married for 30 years. We had a wonderful sex life until the past five years. Between the medication for his high blood pressure and the pain of two hernias, his interest in me has gone right out the window.

I crave some sort of affection. I tried letting him know we can have some closeness without these problems getting in the way, but he just rolls over and goes to sleep.

My husband cannot take drugs for erectile dysfunction. He also cannot take time off of work to have hernia surgery. His job might not be waiting for him when he returns. Maybe he'll do it when he retires.

I will unhappily live with my problem, but if other men see themselves in this letter, I hope they will think about their wives once in a while. — *Just Wanted To Share*

Dear Share: Ask your husband if you can accompany him to his next doctor's appointment so you can discuss this and see about changes to his medication. The doctor might also give your husband suggestions



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

for making your physical relationship closer. You also should try talking openly and lovingly with your husband, explaining that affection, even without sex, can improve your relationship and make both of you happier.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Forgotten in California," the events coordinator who collects money for cards and cakes for office birthdays, but hers is neglected.

I, for one, do not like having my birthday recognized. I am a private person and would rather not be the center of attention on my birthday. To me, it's just another day.

Additionally, I do not like being hit up for money to buy other people cakes and gifts at the office. When I kindly communicate this to my co-workers, they give me a look as if I just committed a murder. I wish people would be more understanding. — *Leave Me Alone in Omaha*

Dear Omaha: You are certainly not the only reader who feels this way, but unfortunately, not everyone in an office will find it friendly.

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VICTIM SERVICES OF BIG SPRING TO HOST INAUGURAL FUNDRAISER West Texas Casino Night & Concert with Cody Johnson Band

Victim Services of Big Spring announces their inaugural fundraiser "West Texas Casino Night & Concert with Cody Johnson Band" on Friday, August 5, 2011 at Hog Heaven BBQ Party Barn in Big Spring, TX. This first ever fundraiser is designed to help with the daily expenses needed to operate the non-profit independent community based program.

"West Texas Casino Night" will be hosted by Casino Parties of Lubbock and will feature blackjack, roulette, craps, and Texas hold 'em from 7p - 10p, with raffled door prizes valued at over \$5,000.00.

A concert featuring Texas country music artist Cody Johnson Band will follow from 10:30p - 12:00a. Cody Johnson is the recent winner of the "New Male Vocalist of The Year" award at the 2011 Texas Regional Radio Music Awards. When asked about performing at this inaugural fundraiser, Cody Johnson said, "I'm truly honored to be chosen to perform for this first time event, and can't wait to put on a great show for my fans in Big Spring and the surrounding area."

Tickets for this event will be \$30, and will include an all you can eat barbeque buffet, \$2,000.00 worth of casino chips to gamble with, and entry into the concert. For those wishing to attend only the concert, \$20 will be charged at the door.

KBST, Best Country 95.7 FM, will serve as the official media partner and L.T. Hinojos of LT Entertainment will serve as event producer.

Victim Services of Big Spring is a 501 c (3) non-profit independent community based program providing support and advocacy for all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and all forms of violent crime in Howard, Borden, Glasscock, Martin, Mitchell, and Dawson counties.

Executive Director Shann Smith said, "Our staff, board of directors, and volunteers are truly excited about this upcoming fundraiser. This year we have already experienced financial cuts in our grants and this fundraiser will hopefully help with the shortfall. We are anticipating this to be an annual fundraising event, bringing community and agency together, and helping past and present victims."

For more event information and sponsorship opportunities contact L.T. Hinojos at 432-517-9536, or lt.hinojos@hotmail.com.

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► News briefs

Talks intensifying as possible government shutdown looms

WASHINGTON (AP) — Talks appear to be intensifying on Capitol Hill on reaching a deal on long-overdue legislation to finance the government through the end of September — and avoid a government shutdown. Whether a shutdown can be avoided in three days' time is another matter.

A White House meeting Tuesday that included President Barack Obama, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., failed to produce the hoped-for breakthrough, however, with a stopgap government funding bill set to expire Friday at midnight.

Obama ratcheted up the pressure afterward, sounding exasperated with Republicans for not warming to a White House proposal that matched, more or less, an earlier GOP framework proposed in February. In it, Democrats propose cuts netting \$73 billion in savings below Obama's original requests — or \$33 billion below current spending levels.

Boehner said yet again that there is no agreement on a level of spending cuts. And there's been little progress on the 50-plus GOP policy "riders" dotting the House version of the measure.

"There's no reason why we should not get an agreement," Obama said. "We have now matched

the number that the speaker originally sought. The only question is whether politics or ideology are going to get in the way of preventing a government shutdown."

Reorganized Libyan rebels can hold off Gadhafi, victory remains elusive

BREGA, Libya (AP) — The Libyan rebels' battlefield tactics have come a long way since their chaotic, amateur performance just weeks before when their untrained fighters madly charged ahead and then fled just as wildly in the face of bombardment.

On a recent day on the front lines, a truck-borne battery of rockets moved methodically, unleashing a whooshing volley of Grads on government forces, then advanced several hundred yards ahead to avoid counter-strikes before firing again. Forward observers with newly acquired satellite phones and GPS trackers guide the strikes.

But despite being more organized, as well as reinforced with captured heavy weapons and backed by some of the world's finest air forces, the rebels are a long way from overpowering Moammar Gadhafi's forces, much less marching on the capital, Tripoli.

The core of the rebel force is about 1,000 military troops who defected to the opposition backed now by hundreds of civilian volunteers.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Old World blacksmiths knew that the best way to bend metal to a desired shape is to strike it while it's hot. Yesterday it was. Today it's not. The bemusing qualities of Mercury retrograde, agitated by an unusually long void-of-course Taurus moon, suggest the iron has indeed cooled. So relax and save your efforts for a more auspicious moment.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You deserve to be heard and considered. Deliver your message at an optimum time. Avoid afternoon appointments. And make sure that you are not the last one on the agenda.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your social life gets a cosmic boost. You will be more comfortable than ever mingling in groups. Your buoyant humor and enthusiasm will sparkle up the room.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The bustle that once energized you is turning into a grind. You will thrive after a period of quiet seclusion. Tranquility will

recharge you. Arrange for a solitary retreat in your near future.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know the facts, and you have a definite opinion. For these reasons, you will be invited to share in a public forum. You'll make an accurate prediction that will further enhance your reputation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Contrary to what the 10-year-olds of the world believe, there are no "take backs." Once words are delivered, they cannot be retrieved. With this in mind, you will be extra-careful with today's communication.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be in the mood to stir the pot. However drawn you feel toward controversial, provocative and mischievous ideas, avoid sensitive areas of communication.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've already had the experience of being thrown to the lions, and you do not care to repeat it. This is a day to stick with what you know and work strictly with trusted allies.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You show up strong. Everyone knows that you're in control of your own scene. When others ask for your opinion, advice and help, you'll know you've made the impression you set out to make.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Check your

state of mind before you walk in the door, pick up the phone or start up the computer. Control the image you are projecting, and you will control your destiny.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The reason you are working so hard is because you want to give the world something from you that is the best of its kind. You will succeed in this noble cause; however, it will take more time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll ask questions, not because you are interested in the answer, but because you want to build a rapport with the other person. Just be sure to really listen to the response you get, and you'll succeed in this aim.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). For what you want to accomplish, you will need quality support and in greater numbers. Get dressed up and go out with the purpose of meeting your future team.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 6). You will happily meet your own high standards of personal achievement, leading the way with your trademark qualities of respect and good humor. This month presents the opportunity to uplift your family through improved home economics. The events of May broaden your intellect and skills. June brings an exciting win. Pisces and Virgo people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 19, 10, 41 and 7.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I am a shy Scorpio, and I often run out of things to say in social situations. I hate to ask people what they do for a living, just because everyone asks that and it seems boring. When a person is among strangers they might never see again or have another chance to get to know, shouldn't that person ask important questions and try to connect in a meaningful way? I want to get to the heart of people and what's really going on inside them. Do you have any suggestions for getting the ball rolling?"

Scorpio is a deep sign, drawn to the mysteries of life. Making a soulful connection is important to Scorpio, who has a better-than-average tolerance for understanding the messy human condition under the surface of social niceties. However, you should note that the small talk you seem to think of as frivolous is actually a vital key to making the kind of connection you desire. You must first build trust and rapport with another person before you can get to the heart of what's really going on. A simple question like "What do you do for fun?" might be the only opening you need. Really listen to the answer for your next cue.

To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com. © 2011 CREATORS.COM

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FHS does the Howard County two-step



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Coahoma's Kaleb McAdams delivers a pitch during the Bulldogs' game with Forsan Tuesday night in Coahoma.

Forsan stops Bulldogs, pulls into tie for third

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

COAHOMA — The race for the third baseball playoff spot from District 3-2A can't get much tighter.

The Forsan Buffaloes moved into a tie with Coahoma for third place in the district baseball race by knocking off the Bulldogs, 8-3, here Tuesday night.

The Buffaloes were led by the pitching duo of Dylan Lowery and Peyton Parker, who combined to scatter eight Coahoma hits. Lowery took the win, while Parker pitched two innings of scoreless relief for the save. Coahoma starter Kaleb McAdams was tagged with the loss.

The game was close until the sixth inning, when the Buffaloes broke through for three runs to pad their lead to 6-1. Parker brought

home the first run of the inning when he laced a double to left-center, which scored Bryson Phillips. After Elgen Suazo, who had reached base when he was hit by a pitch, scored on a wild pitch, Trevor Burchett plated Parker with a single to center.

Forsan made the lead stand up, although the Bulldogs chased Lowery on a Regan Reid two-run home run to left in the bottom of the sixth inning. Phillips added a pair of insurance runs with a two-RBI single in the seventh, and Parker set down the Bulldogs in order in the bottom of the inning to secure the win.

"This was an extremely big win for us," Forsan Coach Jason Phillips said. "It wasn't exactly a must-win game, but it was about as close as

See **BUFFS**, Page 2B

Opportunistic Forsan Lady Buffs take 6-3 decision over Bulldogettes

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

COAHOMA — The Forsan Lady Buffaloes have a specific script for success they must follow this softball season.

Unlike the past two state championship teams, this year's squad is not packed with star power and therefore has a smaller margin of error. To succeed, their coach said, the Lady Buffs have to combine good defense with timely hitting and throw in a pinch if they are going to have any chance of duplicating their past success.

So far, so good.

Forsan received a gutsy pitching performance from Ashley Buzbee, who was supported by almost spotless defense, and capitalized on some Coahoma mistakes to carve out a 6-3 win over the Bulldogettes

in District 3-2A play Tuesday night.

Buzbee wasn't overpowering from the pitcher's circle — Coahoma raked her for 12 hits — but she seemed to find an extra gear whenever the Bulldogettes threatened to erase their deficit. And she received no small measure of support from her teammates, who made the most of their eight hits and a pair of Coahoma errors.

"Ashley's doing her job," Forsan Coach Shanna Roberts said. "We are going to have to do a good job in the field behind her and find ways to score some runs ... I was happy with her performance (Tuesday)."

The Lady Buffs gave their pitcher some breathing room in the fourth inning. Leading 2-1, they parlayed singles from Shelby Roemer and Ambra Hill, plus a pair of Coahoma er-

rors into three runs and a 5-1 advantage.

Coahoma didn't go quietly, however, striking for a pair of runs in their half of the inning. The big blow was a two-run single to left off the bat of Emilea Brumley which closed the Bulldogettes' deficit to 5-3.

Coahoma wasn't able to get any closer, however, and Buzbee didn't allow a runner past second the rest of the game. She ended the evening with seven strikeouts while issuing only one walk.

Her counterpart for Coahoma, Kyla Clanton, struck out eight and walked two in taking the loss.

Coahoma Coach Tracy Tadlock said his team's two errors in the fourth inning were a big difference in the game.

"(Forsan) is a good club, and at times, we're a good club, but if you make mis-

takes against a good club, they're going to make you pay, and that's what they did," he said. "What we need to do is to keep working and find a way to play a mistake-free game."

The Lady Buffs improved to 17-8 overall and 6-2 in district play to remain in second place in the league standings. Coahoma dropped to 11-18 overall, 4-4 in district action and find themselves in a dogfight for the third and final playoff spot from 3-2A.

Tadlock agreed that every game from here is a must-win situation for the Bulldogettes, but he added that the team has been in must-win mode all season.

"We always feel like every game is a must-win one for us. You have to approach it that way," he

See **FORSAN**, Page 2B



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Forsan's Ashley Buzbee earned the win in the Lady Buffs' 6-3 victory over Coahoma Tuesday.

Gig 'em!

Texas A&M wins women's crown over Notre Dame

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — This NCAA tournament had plenty of twists, turns and upsets even before the championship game. Gary Blair and Texas A&M delivered a thrilling ending.

This was the supposed to be the year Maya Moore's Connecticut juggernaut won its third straight title or Stanford broke through or Tennessee got back to the top.

Instead, the Aggies rewrote the script in their first Final Four appearance. They made the 65-year-old Blair the oldest coach to win a national championship just one night after UConn's 68-year-old Jim Calhoun did the same thing on the men's side.

"We gave you that national championship game without the so-called powers of the world," Blair said. "The two powers tonight were the two that earned it."

Danielle Adams scored 22 of her 30 points in a dominating second half Tuesday night to help the Aggies

See **AGGIES**, Page 2B

HC cowgirl tops barrel-racing field

By CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

Kaci Smith has finally found her rhythm and for the second week in a row brought home the first place prize in barrel racing this past weekend at the Western Texas College rodeo in Snyder.

Smith scorched times of 13.64 in the long round and a 13.80 in the short, which was enough for the first place finish in the average.

"Kaci is doing a great job," said Greg Kernick, Howard College rodeo coach. "She just needs to keep going fast and we'll see her at the national finals."

The men's team was led by a second place finish in bull riding by Cody Samora. Samora rode to a 76-point score on his first bull, but was unable to hang on for a score in the short round. Ironically, only one cowboy was able to cover a bull in the short go Saturday night.

In the steer wrestling,



Courtesy photo

Howard College's Kaci Smith rounds a barrel during competition at the Western Texas College Rodeo in Snyder. Smith took first place with a combined time of 27.44 seconds in her two runs.

K.C. Fryar represented the Hawks with a sixth place finish in the average. He had a time of 4.20 in the long round but came up short in the finals.

Team ropers Rhett Anderson with partner Brody Self from Tarleton State University held first place after the long round after turning in a time of 5.0.

The higher finish wasn't in the cards for the duo, however, as they had to add 10 seconds to the score to finish the short go with a 15.6, which was still enough for third place finish in the average.

"We just need to work on our consistency and performing strong each week," said Kernick.

"Kaci is doing a great job. She just needs to keep going fast and we'll see her at the national finals."

Greg Kernick
Howard College
Rodeo Coach

"We'll get there."

In other events, Wace Holmes, Chase Sullivan, Clinton Teller and Page Woodward all made strong showings for Howard, but were unable to finish up in the top spots.

Hawk rodeo will be open this coming weekend as they make preparations to host their annual rodeo April 14-16 at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl.

For more on the Howard College rodeo team and updated schedule and results, visit www.hchawk.com.

Lady Steers climb back into district race

Herald Staff Report

SWEETWATER — The Big Spring Lady Steers rode the hitting of Jillian Valle and the pitching of Valerie Ross to a 5-1 victory over Sweetwater in District 5-3A softball action Tuesday night.

The Lady Steers plated four runs in the top of the first inning and Ross and the BSHS defense made the lead stand up.

Ross went the distance for Big Spring, scattering eight hits while striking out six and walking three. Taylor McCoy took the loss for Sweetwater.

“It worked out well for us,” BSHS Coach John Sparks said. “We jumped out quick in the first and we played good defense. That was huge for us.”

Ross helped her own cause by going 2-for-4 at the plate. Valle was a perfect 4-for-4 offensively, collecting two RBI on a double and home run. Hayley Dimidjian added another pair of RBI with her first-inning single.

“Jillian’s bat has been strong this year,” Sparks said. “She’s just really focused at the plate and that’s been good for us.”

With the win, the Lady Steers put themselves back in the race for a playoff spot. Their 2-3 league mark leaves them tied for second place in District 5-3A, along with Snyder and Sweetwater.

Brownwood is alone in first place with a 5-0 league mark, while Abilene Wylie is a half-game behind the Lady Steers with a 1-3 district record.

Big Spring returns to action Friday at Snyder. Game time is 5 p.m.

Big Spring 400 010 0 — 5 9 3
Sweetwater 000 000 1 — 1 8 1
W — Ross; L — McCoy.

Big Spring falls to Mustangs

SWEETWATER — The Big Spring Steers came agonizingly close to breaking their District 5-3A winless drought, but left the potential winning run at second base in the seventh inning to drop a 3-2 decision to Sweetwater in District 5-3A baseball action Tuesday.

The Steers were held hitless, but were able to stay in the game thanks to erratic Sweetwater pitching.

“We had our chances,” BSHS Coach Burt Otto said. “Sweetwater’s pitcher walked

nine. We had baserunners all night, but we couldn’t get a hit when we needed it ... We had runners on second and third with one out in the seventh, but we just didn’t take advantage of the opportunity.”

Max Pappajohn took the loss for Big Spring, which committed six errors in the game.

The Steers, who fell to 10-12 overall and 0-4 in district play, return to action Friday at Snyder. Game time is 7 p.m.

Big Spring 100 000 1 — 2 0 6
Sweetwater 010 101 x — 3 8 3

Ogando picks up win, Rangers down Seattle

ARLINGTON (AP) — Alexi Ogando punched his glove and bounced off the mound, punctuating the last out the right-hander would get in a nearly flawless first major league start for the Texas Rangers.

Ogando pitched six scoreless innings and Texas remained undefeated with a 3-2 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Tuesday night in a matchup of first-time major league starters.

“I think you’ve seen two coming stars,” Rangers manager Ron Washington said. “You saw well-pitched games on both sides.”

Defending American League champion Texas improved to 5-0, its best start since winning the first seven games in 1996. The Rangers are the first team in the majors to five wins — the only other undefeated teams are Baltimore (4-0) and Cincinnati (4-0).

A standout reliever last season, Ogando (1-0) allowed only two hits and struck out four, the last being Jack Cust for his final out despite a developing blister on his index finger.

Michael Pineda (0-1) struck out four and walked one in his major league debut. He gave up five hits, four of them for extra bases. None of them were home runs by the Rangers, who hit 13 balls out of the park their first four games.

“He was poised out there,” Mariners manager Eric Wedge said. “He should feel real good about it, the way he pitched, the way he controlled the game. We couldn’t have asked for a better outing.”

The 22-year-old Pineda became the

first Seattle pitcher to make his major league debut in a start since Felix Hernandez on Aug. 4, 2005. Pineda, the first Mariners rookie to be in the opening day rotation since Freddy Garcia in 1999, struck out four and walked one.

Nelson Cruz, who had homered in each of the Rangers’ first four games, drew a two-out walk in the second and scored on a standup triple by Mitch Moreland.

Josh Hamilton, the reigning AL MVP, had a run-scoring double in the sixth and scored what proved to be the deciding run on a double by Michael Young.

Center fielder Julio Borbon made a diving, runs-saving catch to end the seventh after the Mariners had already scored twice against a pair of relievers and had the bases loaded. The ball hit by Milton Bradley was slicing away from Borbon when he fully extended his body to catch it inches off the ground.

Neftali Feliz worked a perfect ninth for his second save in two chances.

Ogando is a converted outfielder who excelled out of the bullpen last season, when he was 4-1 with a 1.30 ERA in 44 appearances before pitching in five postseason games. The 27-year-old right-hander made three starts last summer for Double-A Frisco.

The Rangers planned to keep Ogando in the bullpen this season, but Tommy Hunter strained his right groin the last week of spring training in Arizona — on the same day he was told he was in the starting rotation.

AGGIES

Continued from Page 1B

beat Notre Dame 76-70 and bring the women’s title back to College Station and the former all-male military academy.

“I had a little voice in my head, ‘Don’t let this team down,’” said Adams, who became the school’s first All-American a week ago and was picked as the MVP of the tournament.

“Every time we’d get down, we were telling each other we’re not going to lose this game. We worked hard all season to prepare for this point. I had to do this for my teammates. They’ve been doing everything for me. I decided to take them on my back and just let them ride on my back.”

Tyra White added 18 points for A&M, including a huge 3-pointer as

the shot clock buzzer sounded to put the Aggies up 73-68 with 1:07 left.

“That was the knife in my heart. That was the game,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said, bowing her head when the question was asked. “I thought that was just an amazing play on White’s part.”

Adams and her teammates then staved off a final, frantic push by the Irish and their sensational young point guard, Skylar Diggins.

Now the Aggies (33-5) are national champs, newcomers who bullied their way through the tournament to win it all. Like Notre Dame, they vanquished their conference rival on the way, beating Baylor in the Dallas regional final after losing to the Lady Bears three times during the season.

Adams, who struggled badly against Baylor,

was up to the task and then some against Notre Dame, scoring the second-most points ever in a championship game (Texas Tech’s Sheryl Swoopes had 47 against Ohio State in 1993).

Both teams reached the championship by knocking off two No. 1 seeds. Notre Dame ended an 0-20 skid against Tennessee, then swept past Connecticut in the semifinals — the first time one team has taken down those two women’s basketball icons in the same tournament. After A&M dumped Baylor, the Aggies knocked out Stanford in a bruising national semifinal.

It wound up being the first title game without a No. 1 seed since 1994 and only the second overall. It also was the first final without either Connecticut or Tennessee since Maryland beat Duke in overtime for the 2006 championship.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

said. “In terms of making the playoffs, you could say every game is must-win for us, but every game we play is important to us.”

The Bulldogettes return to action Friday at home against Slaton. Game time is 5:30. Forsan’s next game is Friday at home vs. Post. First pitch is scheduled

for 6:30 p.m.

Forsan 101 300 1 — 6 8 1
Coahoma 010 200 0 — 3 12 2
W — Buzbee; L — Clanton; 2B — Forsan (Park), Coahoma (Clanton); 3B — Forsan (Buzbee).

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

BUFFS

Continued from Page 1B

you can get.”

Phillips said Lowery gave the team his maximum effort on the mound.

“I’m getting a little better at seeing Dylan’s end point,” Phillips said. “He had pretty good stuff tonight ... and he kept us in the lead. That’s all you can ask from a pitcher.”

Coahoma Coach Shane Fuller said the loss was disappointing, but hardly a season-breaker for his team.

“We made some mistakes and Forsan was able to capitalize on them,” Fuller said. “We hit the ball hard all night, but usually, those hits were right at a defender. Forsan made

the plays when they had to.”

Despite the tight nature of the playoff race, Fuller said he’s not worried about the pressure effecting his team.

“My guys will step up. I’m not worried about them,” he said. “They’ve been here before, and I know they can get the job done.”

The Bulldogs, now 4-3 in district play, have an off day Friday. Forsan, which sports an identical 4-3 league mark, returns to action Friday at home vs. Post. Game time is 7 p.m.

Forsan 101 103 2 — 8 14 1
Coahoma 000 102 0 — 3 8 1
W — Lowery; L — McAdams.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 235 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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1	6	4	7	5	2	3	9	8
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The Clinic manager is responsible for directing day-to-day operations of the assigned clinic or clinics and implementing programmatic and administrative policies and procedures in order to attain organizational goals and objectives. This is a full-time position with South Plains Rural Health Services, which is responsible for managing the Lamesa Primary Care Clinic and the Lamesa Dental Clinic. This position requires at minimum an Associates degree or one to two years related experience and/or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Bilingual a plus. Must work well independently and answers to an administrative team. This full-time position offers a competitive salary, benefits, and holidays. Please mail resume/ applications to Dale Moore, South Plains Rural Health Services, Inc. 1000 FM 300, Levelland TX 79336, or fax to (806)894-3378. Or apply online at www.sprhs.org EOE. No phone calls please.

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

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♦ A J 7
♣ 9 6 4

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♥ 8
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ K 7 5

EAST
♥ A 4 2
♦ 6 5 2
♦ 9 5 4
♣ Q 10 8 3

SOUTH
♦ 10 5
♥ K Q 10 7 4
♦ K Q 3
♣ A J 2

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1♥ 1♠ 3♥
3♠ 4♥

Opening lead — eight of spades.
Most readers dislike fancy hands, preferring instead those that are simple, interesting and instructive. But in some deals, only a "fancy" play can do the job, and today's deal provides a case in point.

West led a spade, won by East with the ace after dummy followed low. East then shifted to the three of clubs, on which South played low, forcing West to win with the king.

West now tackled a new suit, returning a low diamond, but by this time the damage had already been done. Declarer won the diamond

with the king, drew trumps and then led the spade ten toward the Q-7. West took his king, and declarer easily scored the rest of the tricks to bring home the contract.

However, South would have gone down one against better defense. The turning point came at trick two, when East should have returned the ten of clubs instead of the three! Had he done that, it would have been impossible for declarer to make the contract. If South covers with the jack, which is the best he can do, West takes his king and returns a club, and declarer eventually loses two spades and two clubs.

How can East know to lead the ten of clubs rather than a low one at trick two? This would appear to be an abnormal play, since the standard lead with a holding such as Q-10-8-3 is the three (fourth best). But the presence of the 9-x-x in dummy necessitates that East alter the standard practice, since the ten lead protects against South holding the A-J-x or K-J-x. In these two instances, the defenders will score two club tricks after the ten is returned, but only one if a low club is led.

The given situation is an illustration of why one doesn't play bridge by rote. Following general rules will win in the long run, but a serious bridge player reserves the right to figure things out for himself.

Tomorrow: High-class technique.
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BigSpringHerald.com

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HERALD

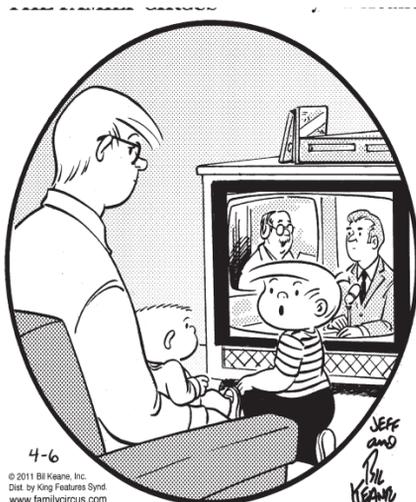
	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWTT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM :30	News ABC	Alma Notic.	Lopez George	News News	Noticias Noticiero	News News	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Swallow House	World Business	70s Show 70s	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Movie: From Dusk Till Dawn	UFC Unleashed	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Good Deck	SportsCenter	Yes Sir: Jack
6:PM :30	Jeopardy!	Llena de Amor (SS)	Two Men Two Men	News Ent	Caso Cer-rado	News Millionaire	King King	McGee Dr. Diana	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld Seinfeld	Cash Cab Alaska	UFC Unleashed	Bones		Good Deck	MLB Baseball: Minnesota Twins at New York Yankees.	SportsCtr	NBA
7:PM :30	Middle Middle	Eva Luna (SS)	American Idol	Survivor-Is-land	Aurora (SS)	Minute to Win It	Browns Browns	Upd Bill Cloud	The Civil War	Top Model	Gold Rush: Alaska	Movie: Rambo: First Blood Part II	UFC Unleashed	Bones	Movie: Training Day, Scott Glenn	Good Deck		NBA Basketball: Milwaukee Bucks at Miami Heat.
8:PM :30	Family Sunshine	Teresa (SS)	Breaking	Criminal Minds	Herederos-Monte	Law & Order: SVU	There There	Light of the Southwest		Shedding for	MythBusters	The Ultimate Fighter	Bones		Good Deck			
9:PM :30	Off the Map	Triunfo del Amor	Simpsons How I Met	C.M.: Sus-pect	La Reina del Sur	Law & Order: SVU	Payne Payne		Smitten	Browns	S Beach	Movie: Deep Blue Sea, Samuel L. Jackson	Coal	Bones	Game	Good Deck	Baseball Tonight	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Warriors
10:PM :30	News Nightline	Impacto	How I Met Raymond	News Letterman	Noticias Ei Cartel	News Jay Leno	Conan	Bill Cloud Chumney	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Gold Rush: Alaska	Coal	CSI: NY	The Mo'Nique	Deck	SportsCenter		
11:PM :30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Para Volver a Amar	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	Lopez Tonight	Cortes Sala	World T. Smiley	South Pk	MythBusters	The Ultimate Fighter	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Hannah Hannah	Baseball Tonight		
12:AM :30	Extra Paid	Destilando Amor	Paid Raymond	Insider	Pagado	News	Conan	Light	(Off Air)	Cops	S Beach	Breaking Bad	UFC Unleashed	CSI: NY	Movie: Training Day, Scott Glenn	Wizards	NBA	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	Paid Paid	Mujer... Cero	King-Hill	(:37) Up to	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest		Gospel	Overhaulin'	(:32) Breaking Bad	Best of PRIDE	Southland	Suite Life	MLB Baseball: Twins at Yankees	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE



"SHE'S A TATTLETALE, A SQUEALER, AND A SNITCH."
"IT'S CALLED... MULTI-TASKING."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Why do all these people hafta come on and tell me what I just heard the president say?"

HAGAR



WATERFALL AHEAD! ANY IDEAS WHAT I SHOULD DO?!

BLONDIE



BC



BLONDIE



BLONDIE



WIZARD OF ID



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, April 6, the 96th day of 2011. There are 269 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

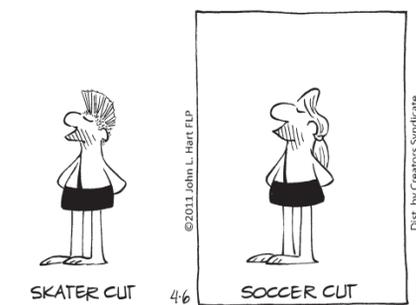
- On April 6, 1909, American explorers Robert E. Peary and Matthew A. Henson and four Inuits became the first men to reach the North Pole.
- On this date: In 1830, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints was organized by Joseph Smith in Fayette, N.Y.
- In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Shiloh began in Tennessee as Confederate forces launched a surprise attack against Union troops, who beat back the Confederates the next day.
- In 1886, the Canadian city of Vancouver, British Columbia, was incorporated.
- In 1896, the first modern Olympic games formally opened in Athens, Greece.
- In 1917, Congress approved a declaration of war against Germany.

This Date In History

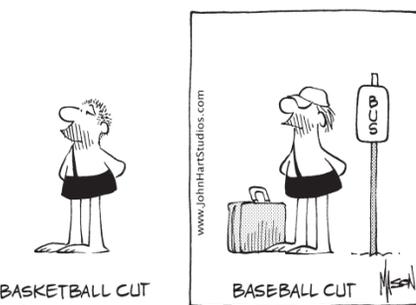
- In 1945, during World War II, the Japanese warship Yamato and nine other vessels sailed on a suicide mission to attack the U.S. fleet off Okinawa; the fleet was intercepted the next day.
- In 1965, the United States launched the Intelsat I, also known as the "Early Bird" communications satellite, into orbit.
- In 1971, Russian-born composer Igor Stravinsky, 88, died in New York City.
- In 1985, William J. Schroeder (SHRAY-dur) became the first artificial heart recipient to be discharged from the hospital as he moved into an apartment in Louisville, Ky.
- In 1994, the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi were killed in a mysterious plane crash near Rwanda's capital; widespread violence and killings erupted in Rwanda over claims the plane had been shot down.

Today's Birthdays: Nobel Prize-winning scientist James D. Watson is 83. Composer-conductor Andre Previn is 82. Country singer Merle Haggard is 74. Actor Billy Dee Williams is 74. Actor Roy Thinnes is 73. Movie director Barry Levinson

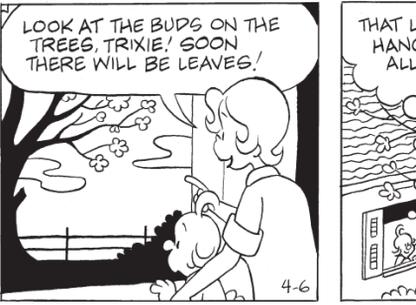
AGNES



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Briny waters
 - 5 Satisfy, as thirst
 - 10 Stylish, '60s-style
 - 13 Turnpike toll unit
 - 14 Vacationer's digs
 - 15 Try to elude "it"
 - 16 Set up camp
 - 18 Reversed figure
 - 19 Bloodstream bit
 - 20 Venerable service club
 - 22 "So's ___ old man!"
 - 23 Superman foe Luthor
 - 24 Talkative bird
 - 25 Debit color
 - 26 Firefighters' rescue devices
 - 30 Pellet shooter
 - 33 Trig ratio
 - 34 Mideast carrier
 - 35 Aquatic bird
 - 36 Dating from
 - 37 Latvia's capital
 - 38 2 Down site of Napoleon
 - 39 Place for a kids' fort
 - 40 Salt's "Halt!"
 - 41 Wandering one
 - 43 One of the Stooges
 - 44 McGregor of Star Wars films
 - 45 Scratch up
 - 46 Paving material
 - 49 Invisible rabbit of film
 - 52 Slice of the Big Apple
 - 54 "Understood"
- DOWN
- 55 Start riding, in surfer-speak
 - 57 "Pants on fire" guy
 - 58 Think the world of
 - 59 Dry as dust
 - 60 Wee fellow
 - 61 Bocelli or Domingo
 - 62 Square-dance ladies
 - 8 Reunion folks
 - 9 Cost to compete
 - 10 Easily split mineral
 - 11 Nasal appraisal
 - 12 Refuse to grant
 - 15 Get too personal, so to speak
 - 17 Abductee in Troy
 - 21 Small bill
 - 24 Chop into pieces
 - 25 Need 47 Down, perhaps
 - 26 Cruise vessel
 - 27 Director Kazan
 - 28 Price holders
 - 29 Venetian blind part
 - 30 Wasted
 - 31 Tulsan's tie
 - 32 Elapse
 - 33 "All clear" signal
 - 36 Alley howler
 - 40 Major blood vessel
 - 42 Knock the socks off
 - 43 Potato gadget
 - 45 Computer shortcut
 - 46 Pageant prize
 - 47 Aleve alternative
 - 48 Marsh plants
 - 49 Sample of ant architecture
 - 50 Home to most
 - 51 Perused
 - 52 School attended by 007
 - 53 Pirate's plunder
 - 56 Suffix for block

PLAY BALL by Fred Piscop

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

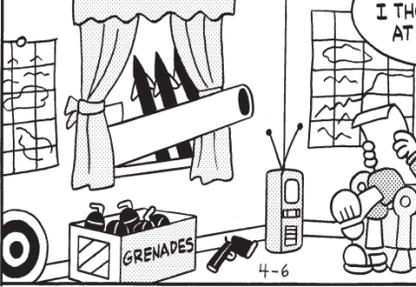
THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



Answer to previous puzzle

R	A	S	P	S	T	A	G	S		D	A	I	S					
A	L	T	O	T	O	S	E		U	N	T	O						
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I	D	E	A															
T	E	N	T															
A	N	T	E															

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