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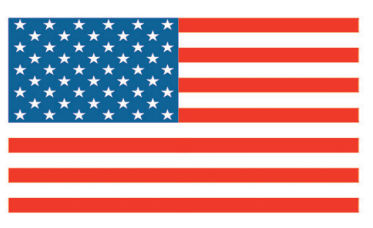
WEDNESDAY EDITION,
 FEBRUARY 17, 2021

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VOLUME 116, NUMBER 128

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Howard County deals with continued power outages, water line breaks amidst freezing temperatures

By AMANDA DUFORAT
 Managing Editor

As Howard County continued to deal with power outages, water shortages and frozen pipes area businesses and schools continued to announce closures for the days ahead. Oncor and the City of Big Spring continued throughout Tuesday with public notices, heating tips and announcements as the situation continued to progress.



Courtesy photo

Howard County residents continued to deal with cold temperatures, added snowfall and water restrictions as repairs continued into Tuesday afternoon.

We expect the plant to be back up and operating shortly, but it will take a bit of time to refill the storage tanks and delivery lines. We could be looking at low water pressures/outages for the next two or three days," Mayor Thomason wrote on his Facebook Page. "In the meantime, if you do have water, please conserve as much as you can. If you don't, we are working as quickly as we possibly can to get service back to you. Right now we

do NOT expect "the whole city to be out of water". However, due to the sheer amount of water it will take to refill the tanks, some areas could take longer to restore than others."

Regarding the electrical and water outages, the City of Big Spring released the following statement:

"Water and Electrical Outages: The prolonged freezing temperatures we are experiencing are affecting operations of the city's Water Treatment Plant. Immediate reduction of consumption is needed. The City of Big Spring is asking customers who still have water service to reduce consumption at this time. Please only use water for essential purposes only.

We are receiving numerous reports from citizens reporting no water service. Frozen pipes are extremely common during conditions that have impacted our area since the weekend. The City of Big Spring is aware of water issues around the City; the prolonged freezing temperature is the primary factor for the issues citizens are facing.

If you have water, please leave your

See **COLD**, Page 3

Upcoming Events

Hawk Softball scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th vs Dodge City CC has been canceled.

As temperatures continue to remain low and repairs continue to be made please do your part to conserve energy and water. Together Big Spring and Howard County residents will get through this together.

Take a moment to thank a veteran for their service.

Virtual Luncheon & Children's Show Feb. 25 hosted by CASA

Life Center fundraiser Feb. 23

Big Spring Rotary Club recognizes Students of the Month from Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan

Courtesy photo



Big Spring Rotary Club Student of the Month (February)

During a recent meeting of the Big Spring Rotary Club the February student of the month was recognized. Pictured left to right are: Big Spring High School Ananya Limaye, Forsan Ashlee Moore, Dana Johnson Rotary Club Vocational Chair, and Coahoma Jocelyn Young. Congratulations to these very fine Students and their Schools they represent.

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Find us online at:
 www.bigspringherald.com



WTVAHCS clinics closed due to severe weather

Special to the Herald
 WTVAHCS

West Texas VA Health Care System (WTVAHCS), is experiencing significant impacts from winter storm Uri. Currently our Abilene Community Based Outpatient Clinic and Fort Stockton Community Based Outreach Clinic are without power or water.

As a result, all Abilene and Fort Stockton appointments have been canceled and will be rescheduled. Veterans with questions concerning appointments should call our main scheduling line 432-463-7361 ext. 2800.

As well, the drive through COVID-19 vaccination clinic schedule for today at the Big Spring location has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021. All appointments have been automatically rescheduled. Veterans with questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccination should call our hot line 432-268-2364.

Our primary concern is the safety and wellbeing of all our Veterans. Any Veteran wanting to reschedule any appointment please contact our scheduling line.

Wilson & Young Medal of Honor CBOC, Hobbs, NM CBOC, and George H. O'Brien Jr. Medical Center are open.

Staying warm when the power is out

HERALD staff report

As Howard County continues to deal with cold temperatures and some homes are going on 48 hours of no electricity, maintaining heat and being able to warm your home is important.

A few tips to stay warm when the power goes out are as follows:

- Close blinds or curtains to keep in some heat
- Close off rooms to avoid wasting heat
- Wear layers of loose fitting, lightweight warm clothing.
- Eat and drink. Food provides energy to warm the body. Avoid caffeine and alcohol.
- Stuff towels or rags in cracks under doors. Use blankets and towels to cover windows to help keep heat in and cold out.
- For those dealing with intermittent power supply, use the time you do have to reheat one room of your home and close off vents to other rooms. While power is on, until notified, limit use of larger appliances such as washing machines, dryers, etc.
- Open cabinets to allow for the heat that does exist to flow to the pipes and help limit freezing.

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Take Note

• The Big Spring Symphony Association has kicked off the 39th season. The concerts will take place at the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door, but patrons are strongly encouraged to purchase tickets in advance online at www.bigspringsymphony.org or local ticket vendors: H-E-B, Heritage Museum, The Karat Patch or the CVB office. Students are admitted free. Performance adjustments have been made due to Covid-19 to assure the health and safety of everyone. Patrons are asked to arrive early and ushers will seat them in six foot social distance format. Everyone needs to wear a mask upon entering the facility. There are still two performances left: March 20 will be the Music of Queen 'Bohemian Rhapsody' featuring Jeans n' Classics and April 24 will be Pops Extravaganza The Texas Tenors

• The City of Big Spring has reopened all indoor rentable facilities as of Monday, February 1, 2021 for normal operations. We still request that individuals holding events and persons attending events adhere to the following: Please wear a mask when not eating or drinking anything; Make sure to wash and/or sanitize your hands regularly; If you are not feeling well, running a fever, or have been exposed please do not attend events.

• All City of Big Spring offices have reopened to the public effective January 19, 2021. We ask citizens to act responsibly and follow all health precautions and sanitizing guidelines. We strongly recommend that citizens continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, stay home if you're sick, and wear a mask when in public areas.

• West Texas Centers will be hosting the 2021 Mental Health First Aid training classes in February. Adult mental health virtual class will take place Feb. 17 from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.; in-person adult mental health first aid class will take place Feb. 23, at 3205 Hwy 87 from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.; and the final class in the series will take place Feb. 25 from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. virtually.

• A GoFund me page for Ed Flores, who recently tested positive for coronavirus and was recently transferred to Lubbock. Donations are requested to help with medical bills and travel expenses so his wife can be close with him. Ed worked with Shroyer for about 25 years and 87 Auto Sale as a mechanic; he has always been willing to help out people even when they didn't have enough money to pay him. Donations can be made at GoFundMe by Monica Medina. For more information on how to help, e-mail jessemonica1234@gmail.com or call 432-517-7675.

• The Howard County Courthouse will only be open by appointment. All doors except the handicapped entrance located on the west side of the building will be locked. All who enter will be screened following Covid guidelines. Face masks are required for all who enter.

• Forsan Food Pantry will be open twice a month from 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. Families who are in need can pull up to the front doors of the Junior High/High School and receive a free box of pre-packed meals. If you have any questions or need to pick up a box at a different time, contact Kaci Wash at 432-457-2223 ext 821 or Jenny Sayles at jennysales@yahoo.com.

• Cub Scouts meet Monday from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Naz Family Church, located at 1400 S. Lancaster.

• Howard County Republican Club meets the second Monday of each month in the Cactus Room at Howard College. The next meeting is Jan. 20 and will be held in the newly renovated Cactus Room. Everyone is welcome. The meeting takes

place at Noon. For more information call 432-213-7628.

• A new group named Taking Care of Business has started in Howard County. It is made up of people of all ages and genders who want to be better than they are. The focus of the fledgling organization is to engage in meaningful discussions that promote personal growth. Additionally, the organization will plan and execute worthwhile activities within the community. There is no membership fee and attendance is not taken. The only requirements are that you be positive or want to be more positive than you are, consider yourself to be a good person but want to be better than you are, and that you have a desire to help others be better too. Childcare is available during the discussion time if you let us know. Topics to be avoided include Religion and Politics, though we can dance around them.

Taking Care of Business is being sponsored by the local Masons and it meets in the Masonic Lodge on the court square. It is not necessary that you have any masonic affiliation to participate in this Growth Group. All Covid-19 safety protocols will be followed as defined by local, state, and federal authorities. At this time refreshments will not be served but you are welcome to bring your own and not share. The meetings take place at 219 South Main Big Spring, Texas. For more information write to Colonel.Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com or just come to the meeting.

• The Life Center in Big Spring is helping moms and dads with a Diaper Day Giveaway! Call for a five minute phone appointment and a pickup time for free diapers, wipes and formula. 432-606-5041.

• The Howard County Library meeting rooms will be opening up – at limited capacity – on Feb. 1. There will only be five people allowed in the small room and 15 in the large room and can only be used by appointment only by community organizations. No parties or social gatherings will be allowed at this time. For more information, call the Howard County Library.

• The Senior Supper Club has come out of hibernation to resume its normal Tuesday evening dinners. The Come-One-Come-All group will be meeting on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and orders will be placed around 5:30 p.m. after much socializing from a distance. The group will be meeting at Cowboys this week; Feb. 16 at Hunans and Feb. 23 at Spanish Inn. The Senior Supper Club is an informal group of folks from Howard County who meet at least weekly and sometimes more for Dutch-Treat food at different area restaurants.

Sometimes the group also meets for cards, dominoes, or desserts and fellowship. For more information, contact Colonel.Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com.

• St. Vincent de Paul will be open the following dates beginning November 2020. Food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and other assistance will be suspended at this time, but will resume on Dec. 17. Distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building. In December 2020, the food distribution will continue the 2nd Thursday as scheduled. SVDP will be closed from December 18 through January 7, 2021.



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ACCS MEMBER

Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity. The Howard County Detention Center reported a jail count of 91.

- WANDA MARIE BROWN, 48, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of theft of property between \$100 and \$750 shoplifting.
- CHRISTOPHER BUSTAMANTE, 34, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- THEODORE FRANKLIN CANNADY, 52, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of theft property between \$100 and \$750 shoplifting.
- KELSEY RENEE CHAVARRIA, 26, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- ARMANI SHARONNE DAVIS, 19, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of burglary of vehicle and evading arrest detention.
- MATTHEW COREY FOWLER, 37, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of aggravated assault with deadly weapon (x2) and criminal mischief between \$100 and \$750.
- JEROMY LEE GOMEZ, 30, was arrested by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated
- BRANDY RENEE GREGORY, 40, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- JAMES EARL MAGERS, 59, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
- MIGUEL MARTINEZ-IBARRA, 51, was arrested by HCSO on a charge of possession of marijuana between 50 pounds and 2,000 pounds.
- GILBERT SILVA, 33, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

• Caregivers Support Group, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging, meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. The meetings are held at the Senior Citizens Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. These meetings are open for any caregiver, whether medical professional or family member. For more information, please call Becky Letz at 267-1628.

• Al-anon family group meets at 8 p.m. at 615 Settles.

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations.

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Athletic Support:

“Pregame music offensive”

Dear Athletic Support: My wife and I recently travelled to a nearby town for the boys' conference basketball tournament. All of our children are grown but we still enjoy watching the games, especially when it comes time for the postseason. These were the first high school basketball games we'd been able to make it to this year (blame COVID!) but once we got seated for the pregame warmups, I was appalled by the music. Yes, I'm in my sixties, but I grew up with Rock and Roll! In other words, I'm used to music that pushes boundaries. The music at this tournament, however, wasn't even music. It was downright nasty. Lewd and crude. I felt embarrassed just sitting next to



my wife. I can't imagine how some of the parents with younger children felt. Are there some sort of rules regarding what music is played at high school sporting events? I sure hope so!
—Rock N' Roll

Dear Rock N' Roll: When I played football in Sweden, they blared uncensored music from the speakers before every game. I always guessed there was a language barrier but still found it shocking to see little kids running around the bleachers while f-bombs reigned down from the stadium's PA system.

Hopefully, the music at this tournament was at least censored, right? If not, I imagine the superintendent has already received a barrage of calls.

When I was coaching, I let my players choose the music for warmups. This seemed to really get them pumped up before the game, but it also came with

certain risks. Players sometimes forgot to download the “clean” versions, and the results were, well, shocking.

I know, I should've previewed the playlist beforehand, but honestly the pregame music was the last thing on my mind during a game week, which is probably true for most coaches.

Nevertheless, the coach is the one who makes the final call in regard to the pregame music. He's tasked with choosing music the kids will enjoy and music the parents will also think is appropriate, which is just as hard as it sounds.

Dear Athletic Support: I've been a college basketball fan for what seems like forever, but I think I missed something. I was watching a game the other night and noticed a semi-circle beneath the basket. Do you have any idea what this is for?

—Keith (Joplin, Missouri)

Dear Keith: That semi-circle is called the “restricted area,” and it's the area where place a player cannot draw a charge.

At its core, the restricted area is a safety precaution. It prevents defenders from hanging out under the goal and trying to draw charges, which could end up cutting the legs out from under an offensive player driving to the basket.

The rule was implemented in the NBA for the 1997-98 season, and then introduced to men's college basketball in the 2010-11 season. So you're only about ten years late to the “restricted area” show!

Eli Cranor is a former professional quarterback and coach turned award-winning author. Send questions for “Athletic Support” to eli.cranor@gmail.com

COLD

Continued from Page 1

lines dripping throughout the day and night to help prevent your pipes from freezing and leave cabinet doors open to spaces where pipes are located. City crews have their attention focused on municipal water lines. If you have questions about your frozen water lines or preventing your frozen pipes from bursting, please contact a licensed plumber.

We are aware some areas are experiencing extended power outages. We do not have time estimates on when it will be restored, or when more outages could occur. Please DO NOT call 911 to report these outages. Our dispatchers need these lines free to answer emergency calls.”

Around 3:30 p.m. the City issued the following public service announcement:

“Early this morning, equipment failure at the City's Water Treatment Plant caused some of the chemical supply lines to freeze up. As a result, the plant had to be taken offline while the frozen lines replaced. During that time, we began operating off of stored water. Repairs have been made and the plant is operational again at this time. Citizens are advised that it will take time to refill the storage tanks and delivery lines. Customers may experience low to no water pressure while this process takes place. If you do have water, we ask you to PLEASE conserve as much as you can. Limit use to ESSENTIAL USE ONLY. The more we conserve, the faster the supply will be replenished, and water service restored to everyone. We sincerely appreciate your patience and cooperation in this matter.”

Area businesses began to close their business in

order to help conserve energy and for the safety of their employees and the community. In addition, Forsan ISD, Big Spring ISD, and Coahoma ISD cancelled in person classes for Tuesday. Big Spring and Coahoma ISDs went virtual for Tuesday, with Big Spring ISD cancelling online classes Tuesday due to the continued situation. Forsan ISD announced Tuesday afternoon that no school would take place the remainder of the week due to the current situation of freezing temperatures, water lines freezing and rolling outages. Coahoma ISD announced Wednesday would also be virtual learning, as of press time.

“If circumstances prevent you from connecting with the school, CISD will continue to work with families affected. Lunch will be available for grab and go from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the cafeteria. Student and staff safety will remain the number one priority for CISD as this situation evolves. Stay safe and warm,” the notice from Coahoma ISD stated.

Due to a power outage at the Howard County Courthouse, the Big Spring Municipal Court will be closed on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. If you had a scheduled appointment at Municipal Court today, please call the court on Wednesday to reschedule. The number to call is 432-264-2530. We apologize for any inconvenience.

The City of Big Spring also announced that the District 2 Large Bulk/Item pickup would be postponed. The notice read as follows: District 2 you get an extra week to prepare for large/bulk item pickup. District 2 residents must call Public Works at 432-264-2501, or email nhernandez@mybig-spring.com by 5 PM on Monday, February 22, 2021, to schedule a large/bulk item pickup for the following Wednesday, February 24, 2021 (designated collection day). If you do not get on the schedule, your items will not be picked up. Please visit <http://www.mybigspring.com/616/LargeBulk-Item-Pickup> to review complete program rules.

Due to no water or power the Big Spring Senior Center will not be offering congregate meals at this time. We apologize for any inconvenience. We will notify the public when services and meals are available again. In addition due to the current situation, the Municipal Court is also closed.

The Big Spring EDC also cancelled the meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday afternoon.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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Take Note

• Many Howard County residents are still dealing with power outages and frozen pipes. Area churches, such as Cornerstone Covenant Church and NazFamily Church have opened their doors to help those who are needing to warm up or a hot cup of coffee. Some local businesses have also chosen to close to help conserve energy. Before heading out on the roads please check weather advisory, road conditions and call the business you are heading to.

• Permian Basin Multiple Sclerosis Support Group for information, encouragement and support. The group meets monthly on the Second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express at 5321 John Ben Shepard Parkway, Odessa. If you or someone you know has been touched by MS, or if you are just interested in more information please feel to contact Gary Tidwell at garylteagle1987@gmail.com.

• VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting.

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Texas Coronavirus Relief Bill Rental Assistance Program administered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Providing false, incomplete, or inaccurate information on application forms or seeking assistance for months in which assistance has been or will be provided, may result in up to 5 years of imprisonment and for each occurrence a fine of up to \$10,000. | Other program limitations and eligibility requirements apply, not all households may be eligible. See TexasRentRelief.com for details. | Funds may no longer be available by the time a household applies.

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We are looking for an ambitious, creative, self-starter, to fill a staff writer role at the Big Spring Herald.

Do you have a heart to share others' stories and the desire to be involved in your community? We want to hear from you!

This individual would provide news coverage, build pages, and update social media accounts/website.

Indesign and Photoshop are a plus, but will train the right person. We are looking for a creative, outgoing individual familiar with social media. Must be a self-starter, and be able to meet deadlines.

Individual will be responsible for several areas of coverage, from feature stories to hard news. Must have a flexible schedule.

Contact Amanda Duforat 432-263-7331 Ext. 230 for questions or to submit your resume at editor@bigspringherald.com.



The Big Spring Herald is looking for individuals to throw newspaper routes in the Big Spring area. If you have a reliable vehicle and valid automobile insurance, we would like to talk to you! Fill out an application at the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry St. No phone calls please.

Help Wanted

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is here given that the Commissioners' Court of Howard County, Texas, will receive bids until 10:00 A.M., March 12, 2021, in the Commissioners' Courtroom, Howard County Courthouse, Big Spring, Texas, for a County Depository.

The County Treasurer will supply bid application forms.

The Commissioners' Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive all technicalities.

By order of the Commissioners' Court, Howard County, Texas.

/s/ Kathryn Wiseman
Kathryn Wiseman,
County Judge
Howard County, Texas

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Angelo, Texas. Contact Kye B. Franke at Kye@kfwarchitects.com or Jeff Havlak at Jeff@kfwarchitects.com for more information.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The percentage play

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A 9 3
♥ 9 6 2
♦ A 5 4
♣ 10 9 8 2

WEST

♠ 7 2
♥ K Q 10 4
♦ Q 10 7 2
♣ J 6 5

EAST

♠ 10 6 4
♥ A 8 5 3
♦ J 9
♣ Q 7 4 3

SOUTH

♠ K Q J 8 5
♥ J 7
♦ K 8 6 3
♣ A K

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♠	

Opening lead — king of hearts.

When and when not to draw trump is a problem you face almost every time you're declarer in a suit contract. Unfortunately, there is no pat formula that tells you when to do one or the other; what you do in each case depends entirely on the circumstances you face.

Consider this deal where the defense starts out with three rounds of hearts, and you ruff the third one. Should you draw the opposing trumps at this point? First let's see

what happens if you do.

You play three rounds of trump followed by the A-K and another diamond, hoping the missing diamonds are divided 3-3. In that case, you'd have 10 easy tricks. However, it turns out that the diamonds are divided 4-2, and down you go. This is not really a surprising development, as the odds are approximately 2-1 against a 3-3 break.

Now let's suppose that you don't draw trump at the outset but begin by playing the A-K and another diamond instead. If the diamonds are divided 3-3, you're virtually certain to get home safely. Whatever is returned, you win and draw the outstanding trumps to finish with 10 tricks.

And what happens if the diamonds break 4-2, as in the actual deal? In that case, you plan to ruff the fourth round of diamonds in dummy (with the ace of spades if necessary) and then draw trump, hoping for a normal 3-2 division. In the actual deal, you make 10 tricks without even breathing hard.

Given the circumstances of this particular deal, it is therefore better not to draw trump at once. By playing diamonds rather than spades first, you become a distinct favorite to make the contract rather than an underdog.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



Saturn Calls on Janus

So-called good ideas very well may develop into later regrets. How can one test the long-term potential of a decision? Tensely aspected, Saturn, keeper of time, poses questions to Janus, the Roman god of gates. With one face for the past and one for the future, Janus brings to bear a historical perspective and an educated projection at once.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's scary to want and scarier still to desire. Remember this, because you have the keys to what other people want. Over the course of your dealings, their feelings may be heightened and illogical.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). People around you will take off their sweaters because you create such warmth. Other effects of your personal weather system will include the privilege of hearing what's really on their hearts and minds.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In this human family, usefulness helps ensure a decent position. You're always looking for ways to make yourself more useful and, today, you'll land on one that will be fun to learn.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today's atypical and nonsensical journey will amuse you. Why you go one direction instead

of another is a mystery. Even more mysterious is how you still manage to get there.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You gravitate toward the people who see you as you would like to be seen and also the ones who see things in you that you cannot yet see in yourself. Both types are essential in your development.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You cannot be enticed today, neither by advertiser nor friends with (what they think are) good ideas. It's so obvious to you what the next right move is that you can't help but laugh in the face of persuasion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll get people to switch to your side because you do it better. Knowing which metrics matter most to people will be key here. Hint: Everyone wants to have more fun and ease.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have high expectations for loved ones but you also afford them wide margins for error. Those two factors go together toward optimal performance and, at the same time, sanity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You cannot have diamonds without paying the price. Even those who come by their diamonds via gifting pay the diamond rate in one way or another. It's something to consider before purchase or reception.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When your mind goes to that negative situation, go exercise, listen to happy music or do anything that brings you vitality. You're making a habit of getting your emotional payoffs from seeking joy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're not interested in what you should do today, as societal expectation has nothing to do with your own journey of self-discovery, which cannot be fulfilled under the umbrella of "should."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Though you'd love to fill your time with meaningful pursuits, it's even better to discover the purpose behind the pursuits you already engage in and frame it all with your own meaning.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 17). A lump sum comes to you and with it a

sense of security and just what you need to take action instead of having to constantly be in reactive mode. This grace feels good but not nearly as epic as the true gift of great harmony in your world. Conflicts resolve quickly and relationships glow with sweetness. Leo and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 38, 22, 40 and 8.

COSMIC QUESTION:

In response to yesterday's reader question: "My actions are dictated by responsibility, duty and care and are, accordingly, a partnership. If my thoughts don't begin and end within me, though, then where? And why does it bother me when you suggest that thoughts can be in my head that do not originate there?"

Your actions, as you suggest, do not spring from duty, etc., any more than your bones are moved by neural impulses. The brain sends messages down nerves that, for the most part, connect to muscles. The muscles move the bones. In this comparison, your thoughts are like the neural impulses and your muscles are akin to your processing system, which decides to move or not move those bones, and which way. Were it not for your muscles, your bones couldn't move at all.

Just as you can work on building muscles to assist you in moving and doing in a desired way, you can work on building thought processes that assist you in desired behaviors.

Your freedom and individuality are expressed through the process of thought-choosing. You get to choose to pay attention to a thought or let it drift by. You choose to identify with or condemn a thought. You get to choose which thoughts to act on and what actions you choose because of them. In this chain of command, there are more possible points of free will and personal expression than were your actions entirely bound to duty, which would make you, essentially an organic robot. More on this tomorrow.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Michael Jordan has been called the greatest athlete of all time, though his all-star status was hard-won. He was once cut from his high school team and was not considered the best player on his college team either. The fleet-footed Aquarius (with Mercury and Saturn in Aquarius) applied intelligence, persistence and creativity to become an athlete for the ages.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to infants.

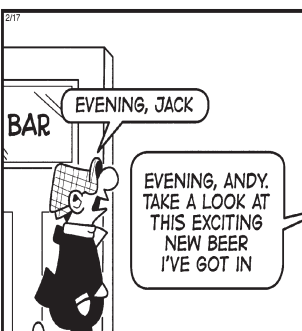
T O L B E T

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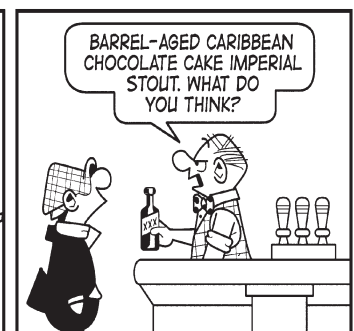
Answer: Bottle

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5 :PM	Big 2	Noticiero	FamFeud	CBS 7	Tele	News	For Such	Wild Kratt	King	Burgers	Family Guy	Movie: Central Intelligence (DVS)	SportsCenter	College Basketball: TCU at Texas Tech.	Rangers Texas Rangers	NCIS (DVS)	Court	Airplane Repo
6 :PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Exatlón Estados Unidos (SS)	News	Cowgirl	Xavier	Last Man	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Movie: Ride Along (DVS)	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Rockets at 76ers	Mavericks	NCIS (DVS)	Court	Airplane Repo
7 :PM	Gold House	Te doy la vida	The Masked Dancer (DVS)	Tough as Nails	La suerte de Loli	Chicago Med	Truth	Molly	Dateline	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Movie: Ride Along (DVS)	SportsCenter	College Basketball: Arizona State at USC.	Mavs Pre. NBA Basketball: Detroit Pistons at Dallas Mavericks.	WWE NXT	Court	Airplane Repo
8 :PM	Call Your	Amor eterno	FOX 24 News at 9	S.W.A.T.	Buscando a Frida	Chicago P.D.	Light of Southwest	Cyber Molly	Mike	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Movie: Ride Along (DVS)	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Heat at Warriors	Mavs Inside	(08) Movie: John Wick (DVS)	Court	Airplane Repo
9 :PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Pink	Friends	Creek	Conan	Movie: Ride Along (DVS)	SportsCenter	2021 Australian Open Tennis: Women's Semifinals.	World Poker	(08) Movie: John Wick (DVS)	Court	Airplane Repo
10 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live!	Contacto deportivo	Funny	James Corden	Sin Senos Si	Seth Meyers	Issues4	Tiger	Jokers	Gold	Conan	Movie: Ride Along (DVS)	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Pistons at Mavericks	NBA Basketball: Pistons at Mavericks	NCIS: Los Angeles	I Survived	Airplane Repo
11 :PM	Nightline	Extra	Innocente de ti	Two Men	Simpsons	Drew Barrymore	Late-Lilly	Jesus IS	Nature	Forensic	Short List	Work	Wipeout	NCIS: New Orleans	Wipeout	NCIS: Los Angeles	I Survived	Airplane Repo
12 :AM	Dr. Ho's	Papá a toda madre	Pawn	Dr. Carras	Programa	News	Inside Ed.	Wild Kratt	Springer	Short List	Work	Wipeout	NCIS: New Orleans	Wipeout	NCIS: Los Angeles	I Survived	Airplane Repo	

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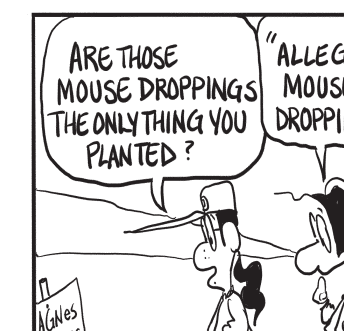
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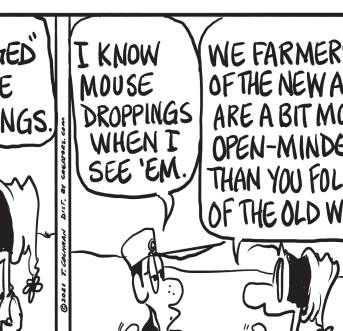
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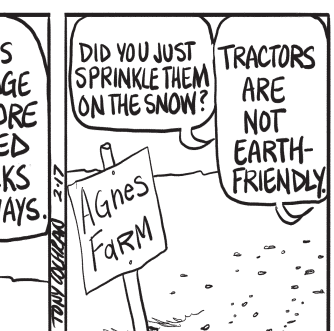
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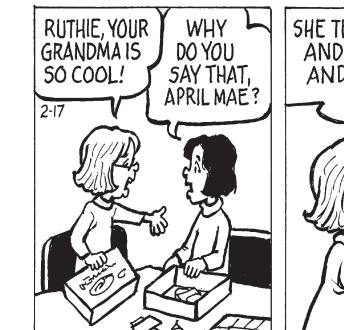
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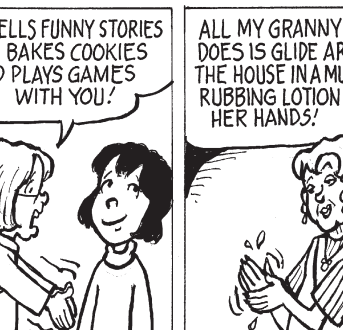
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This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 17, the 48th day of 2021. There are 317 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 17, 1815, the United States and Britain exchanged the instruments of ratification for the Treaty of Ghent, ending the War of 1812.

On this date:

In 1801, the U.S. House of Representatives broke an electoral tie between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, electing Jefferson president; Burr became vice president.

In 1863, the International Red Cross was founded in Geneva.

In 1864, during the Civil War, the Union ship USS Housatonic was rammed and sunk in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina, by the Confederate hand-cranked submarine HL Hunley in the first naval attack of its kind; the Hunley also sank.

In 1897, the forerunner of the National PTA, the National Congress of Mothers, convened its first meeting in Washington.

In 1944, during World War II, U.S. forces invaded Eniwetok (ehn-eh-WEE'-tahnk) Atoll, encountering little initial resistance from Imperial Japanese troops. (The Americans secured the atoll less than a week later.)

In 1964, the Supreme Court, in Wesberry v. Sanders, ruled that congressional districts within each state had to be roughly equal in population.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon departed the White House with his wife, Pat, on a historic trip to China.

In 1988, Lt. Col. William Higgins, a Marine Corps officer serving with a United Nations truce monitoring group, was kidnapped in southern Lebanon by Iranian-backed terrorists (he was later slain by his captors).

In 1996, world chess champion Garry Kasparov beat IBM supercomputer "Deep Blue," winning a six-game match in Philadelphia (however, Kasparov lost to Deep Blue in a rematch in 1997).

In 2006, Tanja Frieden of Switzerland won the Olympic women's snowboardcross, speeding past American Lindsey Jacobellis, who'd fallen

on her next-to-last jump before the finish line.

In 2015, Vice President Joe Biden opened a White House summit on countering extremism and radicalization, saying the United States needed to ensure that immigrants were fully included in the fabric of American society to prevent violent ideologies from taking root at home.

In 2018, President Donald Trump's national security adviser, H.R. McMaster, told a conference in Germany that there was now "incontrovertible" evidence of a Russian plot to disrupt the 2016 U.S. election; the statement stood in stark contrast to Trump's claim that Russian interference in his election victory was a hoax.

Ten years ago: A group of Democratic Wisconsin lawmakers blocked passage of a sweeping anti-union bill, refusing to show up for a vote and then abruptly leaving the state in an effort to force Republicans to the negotiating table. Iowa high school wrestler Joel Northrup defaulted on his first-round state tournament match rather than face Cassy Herkelman, one of the first girls ever to qualify for the event, saying that wrestling a girl would conflict with his religious beliefs.

Five years ago: A three-way feud among the GOP's leading White House contenders escalated, with Ted Cruz daring Donald Trump to sue him for defamation and dismissing Marco Rubio's charges of dishonesty during a CNN forum just days before South Carolina's high-stakes primary. Travis Hittson, a former Navy crewman, was executed in Georgia for killing a fellow sailor, Conway Utterbeck.

One year ago: More than 300 American cruise ship passengers, including 14 who tested positive for coronavirus, were quarantined at military bases in California and Texas after arriving from Japan on charter flights. A push by Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam to ban the sale of assault weapons failed after some of his fellow Democrats in the state Senate balked at the proposal. Denny Hamlin won the rain-delayed Daytona 500 for a third time, beating Ryan Blaney in the second-closest finish in race history; Ryan Newman suffered a head injury in a spectacular crash on the final lap. Amazon founder Jeff Bezos said he planned to spend \$10 billion of his own fortune to help fight climate change. Novelist Charles Portis, whose best-seller "True Grit" was twice adapted into Oscar-nominated films, died at 86. Hall of Fame golfer Mickey Wright, winner of 82 LPGA tournaments including 13 majors, died in Florida; she

was 85.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Barry Humphries (aka "Dame Edna") is 87. Actor Christina Pickles is 86. Football Hall of Famer Jim Brown is 85. Actor Brenda Fricker is 76. Actor Becky Ann Baker is 68. Actor Rene Russo is 67. Actor Richard Karn is 65. Actor Lou Diamond Phillips is 59. Basketball Hall of Famer Michael Jordan is 58. Actor-

comedian Larry, the Cable Guy is 58. TV personality Rene Syler is 58. Movie director Michael Bay is 57. Singer Chante Moore is 54. Rock musician Timothy J. Mahoney (311) is 51. Actor Dominic Purcell is 51. Olympic gold and silver medal skier Tommy Moe is 51. Actor Denise Richards is 50. Rock singer-musician Billie Joe Armstrong (Green Day) is 49. Rock musician Taylor Hawkins (Foo Fighters) is 49.

Actor Jerry O'Connell is 47. Country singer Bryan White is 47. Actor Kelly Carlson is 45. Actor Ashton Holmes is 43. Actor Conrad Ricamora is 42. Actor Jason Ritter is 41. TV personality Paris Hilton is 40. Actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt is 40. TV host Daphne Oz is 35. Actor Chord Overstreet is 32. Singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran is 30. Actor Meaghan Martin is 29. Actor Sasha Pieterse is 25.

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Newsday Crossword

POWERLESS by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Resting upon
 - 5 Sailboat's pole
 - 9 Pair on a pirate flag
 - 14 Vanished
 - 15 Medicinal plant
 - 16 Allure in the air
 - 17 Inning enders
 - 18 Oscar actress Sorvino
 - 19 Very, very angry
 - 20 Soda-and-ice-cream treat
 - 23 Long, long time
 - 24 Did a marathon
 - 25 Sap-yielding trees
 - 29 Hotel worker
 - 31 Prominent period
 - 34 Portion out
 - 35 Made the scene
 - 36 Currier's partner
 - 37 Understood the implication
 - 40 Snowballs, for snowball fights
 - 41 Tiny songbird
 - 42 Indy entrant
 - 43 Adversity
 - 44 Twisted out of shape
 - 45 Cuban revolutionary
 - 46 Nectar collector
 - 47 Moral misstep
 - 48 Where Boston and Miami are
 - 55 Ocean's bottom
 - 56 Creative flash
 - 57 Invalidate, as a check
 - 59 Much the same
 - 60 Showing affection

- 61 Scandinavian capital
 - 62 Mary ___ Moore
 - 63 Bug that might bug a beagle
 - 64 Make mention of
- DOWN**
- 1 "Long, long" past
 - 2 Play gigs on the road
 - 3 Not fooled by
 - 4 Mexican coin
 - 5 Cuban dances
 - 6 From another planet
 - 7 Feeling offended
 - 8 Sock flaw
 - 9 Romantic tune
 - 10 Hunter constellation
 - 11 Halifax, ___ Scotia
 - 12 Send out, as steam
 - 13 Regrettable
 - 21 Edges of saws
 - 22 Fast-food side order
 - 25 Noisy parrot
 - 26 San Antonio landmark
 - 27 Fancy feather
 - 28 Letterhead art
 - 29 French painter Édouard
 - 30 End of a blessing
 - 31 Oust
 - 32 Allude (to)
 - 33 Houston baseballer
 - 35 Muffin flavor

- 36 Keogh alternatives
- 38 10-to-12-year-old
- 39 Liquid-Plumr alternative
- 44 One holding a check
- 45 Shrill insect
- 46 British guy
- 47 Public to-do
- 48 Friendly nation
- 49 Hard work
- 50 Petty squabble
- 51 Venerated person
- 52 Shakespeare's river
- 53 Not very good
- 54 Lean to one side
- 55 "Good" part of nut butters
- 58 Fawn's mother

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Forsan Lady Buffs beat Wink Wildcats in Bi-District Playoff game, 39-36

By **DUSTIN POPE**

Herald Sports Writer

The Forsan Lady Buffalos Basketball team Traveled to Andrews this Saturday, Feb. 13, to take on the Wink Wildcats in a Bi-District Playoff game. It was a challenging game, and the Lady Buffs came out on top 39 to 36.

After a few days filled with uncertainty due to the weather, both teams made it safely to Andrews to Battle it out in this ever-important playoff game. The Lady Buffalos had already had a win against the Wildcats earlier in the year by a score of 52 to 36. This game played out much differently.

As the first Period tipped off, both teams struggled to find the basket for the first couple of minutes. After giving up a slight early lead, the lady Buffs went on a seven to two-run to close out the first Period finishing with a score of eleven to eight.

To start the second, both teams began to find their

bearings both Defensively and with the offense. As Forsan and Wink, both began to get into a rhythm. The Wink Wildcats were able to cut the score down to two at a very competitive end of the first half. Wink cut the score to 21 to 19.

The second half kicked off with the Lady Buffalos clinging to a mere two-point lead. Forsan took an early lead to start the third Stanza, but The lady Wildcats would not go away. Wink closed out the third Period with an eight to zero run closing the gap to one by a score of 27 to 26.

You could tell both teams felt they had a shot at winning this game heading into the final period. Both teams went back and forth in an exhilarating end of the game. Both groups showed why they were in the playoffs as they traded shot for a shot coming down to the end. The lady Wildcats were able to close the gap to one on multiple occasions, but the lady Buffalos would not give up. With 2.6 seconds left, Riley Evans was fouled and went to

the free-throw line needing to sink the two shots to increase the lead to three. Evans must have ice flowing through her veins because the pressure never affected her as she made both free throws making the lead three. With only 2.6 seconds left, The Wink Wildcats heaved a desperation shot that came up short—ensuring the Forsan Buffalos moving on to the next round of the playoffs. The team was lead by Riley Evans, who had fourteen points, including the two crucial free throws. Taryn Spivey chipped in nine points of her own to help the Lady Buffalos move on in the playoffs tournament. The Forsan Lady Basketball team will take on the Sun down Roughnecks in the next round of the playoffs. The time and place have yet to be determined at the time of writing this article.

Dustin Pope is the sports writer for the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

City of Big Spring issues boil water notice after water restoration

Special to the Herald

On Tuesday, February 16, 2021, equipment failure at the City's Water Treatment Plant caused some of the chemical supply lines to freeze up. As a result, the plant had to be taken offline while the frozen lines replaced.

Due to frozen lines, water was drained from the City's water system for an extended period of time. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has required the City of Big Spring (PWS ID #1140001) public water system to notify all customers in Big Spring to boil their water prior to consumption (e.g., washing hands/face, brushing teeth, drinking, etc.). Children, seniors, and persons with weakened immune systems are particularly vulnerable to harmful bacteria, and all impacted customers should follow these directions.

To ensure destruction of all harmful bacteria and other microbes, water for drinking, cooking, and ice making should be boiled and cooled prior to use for drinking water or human consumption purposes. The water should be brought to a vigorous rolling boil and then boiled for two minutes.

In lieu of boiling, individuals may purchase bottled water or obtain water from some other suitable source for drinking water or human consumption purposes. When it is no longer necessary to boil the water, the public water system officials will notify customers that the water is safe for drinking water or human consumption purposes.

Once the boil water notice is no longer in effect, the public water system will issue a rescind notice to customers that cancels the boil water notice in a manner similar to this notice.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

If you have questions concerning this matter, you may contact Shane Bowles, Public Works Director at 432-264-2501.

Vandy set for another deep run, but Gators are team to beat

By **ERIC OLSON**

AP Sports Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Vanderbilt returns most of its everyday lineup, features the top two pitchers in college baseball and won the most recent national championship.

Still, the Commodores aren't even considered the team to beat in the Southeastern Conference, let alone the nation, not with Florida's roster overflowing with talent at nearly every position.

Among other top contenders to reach the College World Series in Omaha in June are UCLA, Texas Tech and Louisville. The season opens Friday.

The expectations remain the same inside the Vanderbilt clubhouse. The Commodores have played in the NCAA super regionals eight times between 2010-19, reached the College World Series finals three times since 2014 and won two titles.

The Commodores were 13-5 when their attempt to defend their 2019 championship was cut short when the COVID-19 pandemic shut down sports

across the nation in mid-March.

Kumar Rocker, who threw a no-hitter in super regionals in 2019 and was CWS Most Outstanding Player, is back and is the projected No. 1 pick in the Major League Baseball draft with his 96-mph fastball. Jack Leiter, who complements a mid-90s fastball with a knee-buckling curve, could be selected right behind Rocker.

The versatile Austin Martin, the No. 5 pick in the draft last year, is the key departure. The Commodores should have one of the nation's best outfielders with Cooper Davis, Isaiah Thomas and speedy freshman Enrique Bradfield.

Bradfield is among 18 newcomers on the 43-man roster, which is larger than normal because last season did not cost players a year of eligibility. The logjam of talent will require young players to be patient, not just at Vandy but at schools across the country.

"If only nine people are eating at the table, that means a lot of people are watching," Vandy coach

Tim Corbin said. "When you're watching, you have to find other roles that are conducive to helping the team move forward. There's a playing role and there's a team role, and it's very understandable that most of these guys on any given day are going to have to understand what a team role is."

FLORIDA (16-1 in 2019)

The Gators are in a familiar place as the consensus No. 1 team in the preseason. OF Jud Fabian (.294, 5 HRs) might be the best position player in the country, OF Jacob Young (.450) tied for third in batting among Power Five players, and Tommy Mace (3-0, 1.67 ERA) and Jack Leftwich (2-0, 4.15) anchor a deep pitching staff.

UCLA (13-2)

The Bruins lost a mainstay in first-round draft pick OF Garrett Mitchell, but this will be another strong defense up the middle with SS Matt McLain (.397, 19 RBIs) the headline player. RHP Zach Pettway (3-0, 1.05) had 29 strikeouts against one walk and returns as the Friday night starter.

Lady Steers fall to Lubbock Cooper in playoff game, 84-16

By **DUSTIN POPE**

Herald Sports Writer

The Big Spring Lady Steers basketball team(11-16) took the court at Lubbock Cooper to open the playoffs,

taking on the #2 ranked team in the 4A division, the Canyon Eagles(23-1). With a week filled with weather issues and uncertainty of when this game would be played. Along with the weather issues and the strong opponent, it was just too much of a perfect storm for the Lady Steers to overcome, as the lady Steers lost 84 to 16.

This loss is by no means indicative of the season these young women had. The lady Steers had a great season, winning double-digit games on the year. They played with passion and dedication all season long. The young Steers battled all year long, having to deal with not only the opponents on the court but, of course, the COVID-19 Pandemic as well. For this team to defy all the odds and make it to the

playoffs is a win in my book.

Dustin Pope is the sports writer at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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