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H BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 12, 2015

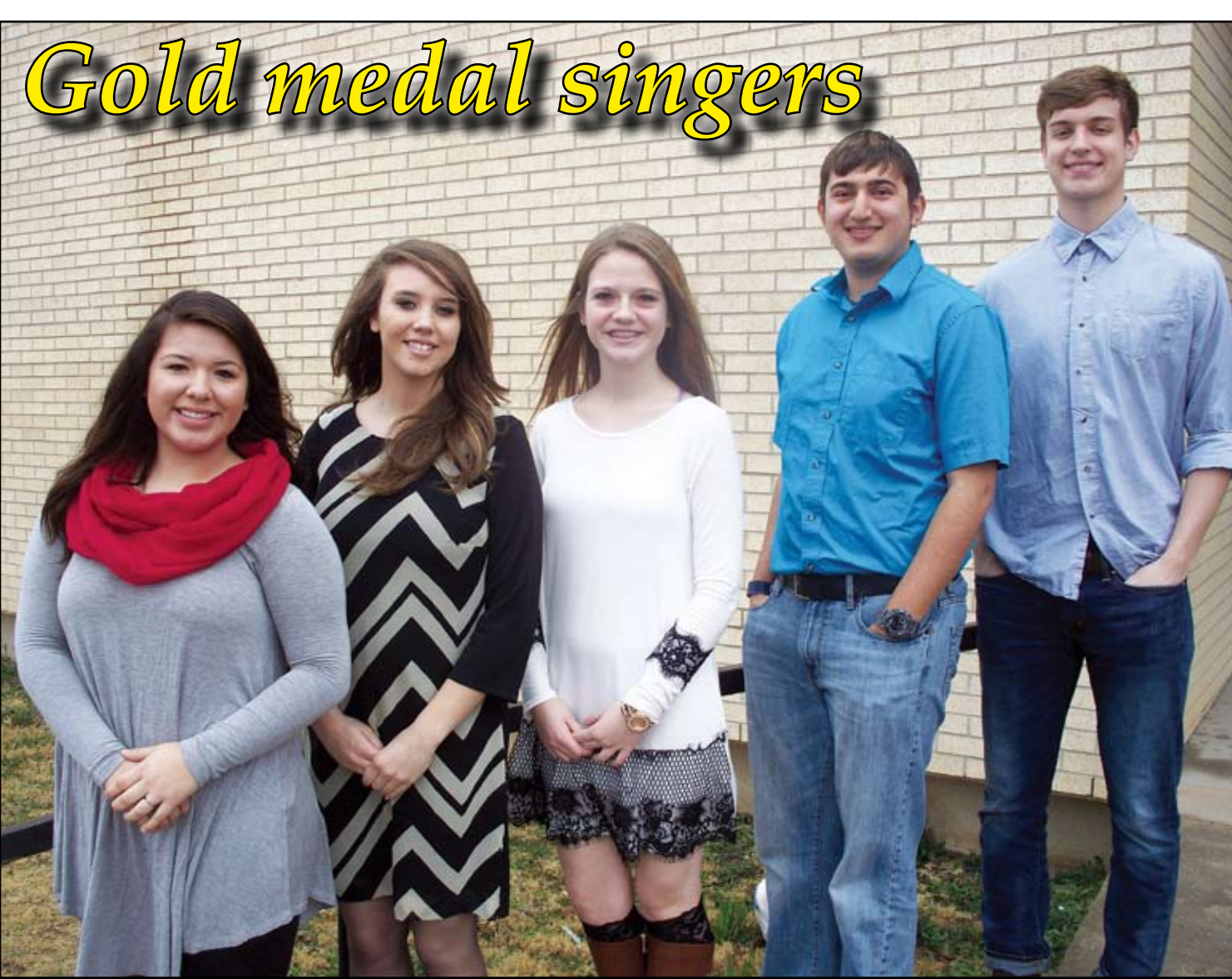


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Gold medal singers

Courtesy Photo

These Coahoma High School singers recently earned first division ratings on their Class I vocal solos and will advance to Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest in Pflugerville in May. They are, from left, Aimee Solis, Coley Rinard, Heather Goodger, Richie Ewing and Cameron Crabtree. This will be the first trip for Aimee and Heather and the second for Coley and Cameron. Richie has qualified three times.

Gasoline prices climbing

Special to the Herald

Average retail gasoline prices in Texas have risen 13.7 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$1.99 a gallon Sunday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 gas outlets in Texas.

This compares with the national average that has increased 12.6 cents per gallon in the last week to \$2.17 a gallon, according to gasoline price website GasBuddy.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Texas during the past week, prices yesterday were \$1.05 per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 7.0 cents per gallon higher than a month ago.

The national average has increased 1.7 cents per gallon during the last month and stands \$1.10 per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

"This past week gasoline prices saw the largest weekly incline since July, 2013. While the pace of increases will slow in the week ahead, we're looking at continued gas price increases over the next few weeks," said Patrick DeHaan, senior petroleum analyst with GasBuddy. "Oil prices have risen, contributing to the higher prices, but also worrisome are the refinery strikes initiated over the last week that have oil companies scrambling to keep refineries online. Just yesterday, more strikes hit refineries in

See **PRICES**, Page 3

Murder trial nears conclusion

Herald Staff Report

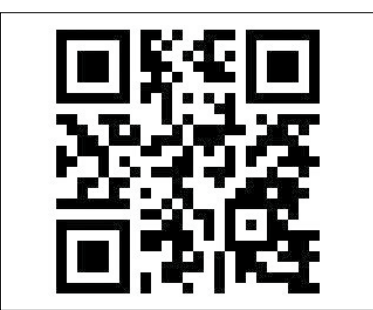
Closing arguments and jury deliberations are expected today in the murder trial of Sean Thomas Smith in 118th District Court.

Smith, of Stanton, stands accused of murder in the Oct. 14, 2013, shooting death of 26-year-old Carlos Guerrero of Big Spring.

Both the prosecution and defense rested their cases Wednesday.

Through two days of testimony, District Attorney Hardy L. Wilkerson has attempted to convince the nine-man, three-woman jury that

See **TRIAL**, Page 3



Big Spring school board, city council to meet today

Herald Staff Report

It's report card time of a sorts. Trustees with the Big Spring Independent School District are expected to head into executive session during their monthly meeting tonight for the superintendent's annual evaluation.

Chris Wigington will have been officially on the job for one year, minus a day, when trustees head into closed session to evaluate his job performance. The freshman superintendent was officially announced as the new head of BSISD on Feb. 13, 2014. Since the prior August, Wigington had served as the acting superintendent and before that was the secondary curriculum director.

Taking over a low-performing school district, Wigington has led the district through the overhaul of four campuses last year — a requirement by the Texas Education Agency — the accredited-warn status placed on the district by TEA, the reopening of a campus to compensate for the growing elementary-age student population and difficulties for recruiting employees during the recent

oil boon.

Although BSISD did not claw out of low-performing status when TEA released accountability ratings for 2013-2014, the data did show improvement throughout the district. Both Big Spring Junior High and Moss Elementary received "met standard" ratings while the high school received that same rating for the second year in a row. Goliad, Marcy and Washington elementaries received "improvement required" status.

Trustees will meet at the high school board room at 5:15 p.m. Thursday, 707 11th Place

In other business trustees will consider:

- Updating local board policies.
- Order school board trustee election.
- Personnel matters and contracts for administrators.
- Enrollment report.

Big Spring City Council members will take steps toward finding a new city attorney when they meet at 5:30 p.m. today in council chambers, 307 E. Fourth.

The council will hold an executive session to discuss a possible replacement

Barriers to be erected on interstate

Special to the Herald

On Friday, Texas Department of Transportation crews will begin placing concrete traffic barriers in the construction zone of the ongoing truck relief route on eastbound I-20 near Big Spring.

Between mile markers 172 and 174, crews will work near the roadway to install and secure the barriers, which could cause traffic delays, officials said.

This portion of the construction project, which should be completed by the end of the day Saturday, is intended to enhance the safety of this stretch of roadway. Periodically throughout the process, traffic will be stopped to allow the barriers to be secured in place before allowing traffic to proceed, a TxDOT news release stated.

Traffic is currently reduced to one lane in this area, so drivers could experience additional delays as these barriers are put in place. Officials warn motorists should be especially aware of crew members and heavy equipment.

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Obituaries

William B. Crooker



William B. Crooker, 91, resident of Big Spring, Howard County, since 1954, died Feb. 9, 2015, at his home in Big Spring, Texas. He was born in New York, N.Y. July 2, 1923, the son of William B. Crooker and Doris Miller Crooker of White Plains, N.Y. He married Joyce Glenn Aug. 8, 1945 in Big Spring, Texas. They would have celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in August of this year.

Bill was a graduate of The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, and had more than 35 years of personnel, purchasing and business management experience. He owned his own business, Mr. G's Garden Center and Christmas Store, for more than 10 years.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the European Theater with the 464th Bomb Group, 778th Squadron, 15th Air Force. On Dec. 6, 1944, on a bombing mission, his B24 plane was shot down by German fighters and he was taken as a prisoner of war by the Germans and held in Barth, Germany Stalag Luft I. He was honorably discharged in 1945 and received a Prisoner of War medal in 1988.

He was the first Republican to be elected to a political office in Howard County. He became Howard County Commissioner, Prec. 3, Jan. 1, 1969, and retired Dec. 31, 2008, after 10 four-year terms (40 years). He served with seven county judges.

His conservative values guided the way Howard County was managed and the taxpayers were well served.

He chaired the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee and provided preliminary data for the Highway 87 Truck Reliever Route; he was a board member of the Ports-to-Plains Trade Corridor Coalition from its inception in 1977, retiring in 2011.

Being a visionary, always intent on finding ways to improve economic conditions for Howard County, he relentlessly fought for his \$45 million truck reliever route. For other transportation projects, in 2003 he was a recipient of the Texas Department of

Transportation Road Hand Award.

Bill was member of the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services Advisory Panel that worked to keep the Veterans Administration Hospital located in Big Spring. He also served as Chairman of the Board of the Directors of the West Texas Center for Mental Health and Mental Retardation in 1994 and 1995 and was instrumental in the development of the 23-County Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

After retirement, he continued to work for the benefit of Howard County by serving as a board member of the Howard County Community Health Center, a division of South Plains Rural Health Services, Inc. The health center provided medical, eye and mental health care, but lacked a dental clinic. Through a generous private donor, money was provided for the dental clinic, with emphasis that it be named the William B. Crooker Dental Clinic, for his outstanding commitment to the community and lifelong public service.

Bill had requested in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Howard County Health Center, Attention Administration, 1000 FM 300, Levelland, Texas 79336.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Jane Crooker; and an infant son, James Crooker.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce; two daughters, Karen and husband, Dan Patterson of Big Spring and Dori and husband, Ronnie Wegner of San Angelo; a son, William B. Crooker III and wife, Debbie of Temple; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and many cousins.

Pallbearers will be Rick Proffitt, Jay Proffitt, Seth Proffitt, Jeb Willingham, Grayson Honeycutt and William Crooker.

Visitation will be Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Friday, Feb. 13, 2015, at 10 a.m. Interment with military honors will follow at Trinity Memorial Park.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com

Paid obituary

Robert C. Hill

Robert C. "Bobby" Hill, 90, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2015, in a local nursing home. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral & Crematory.

Today's Weather

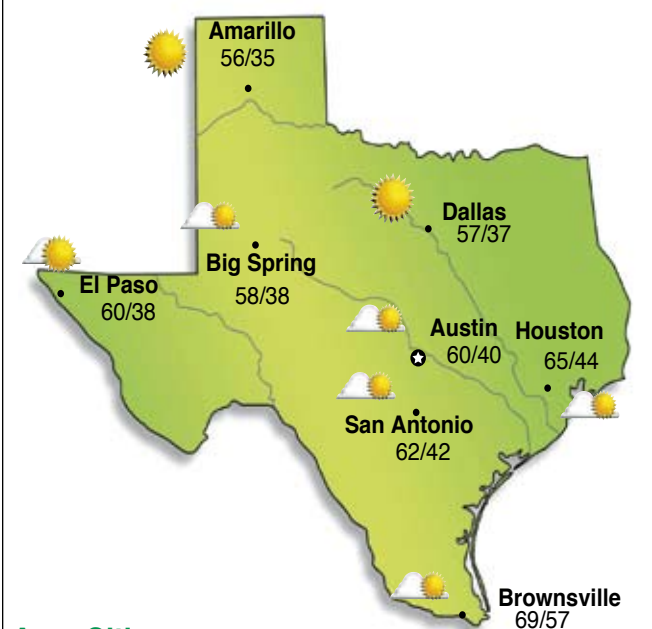
Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 2/13	Sat 2/14	Sun 2/15	Mon 2/16	Tue 2/17
58/38 Mostly cloudy early, then afternoon sunshine. High 58F.	67/39 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	74/47 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the upper 40s.	64/46 Cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 40s.	77/38 Partly cloudy and windy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise: 7:31 AM Sunset: 6:29 PM	Sunrise: 7:30 AM Sunset: 6:30 PM	Sunrise: 7:29 AM Sunset: 6:31 PM	Sunrise: 7:28 AM Sunset: 6:31 PM	Sunrise: 7:28 AM Sunset: 6:32 PM

AmericanProfile

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Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	56	39	pt sunny	Kingsville	68	50	pt sunny
Amarillo	56	35	sunny	Livingston	60	37	sunny
Austin	60	40	pt sunny	Longview	57	31	sunny
Beaumont	64	35	sunny	Lubbock	56	33	sunny
Brownsville	69	57	pt sunny	Lufkin	61	35	sunny
Brownwood	57	36	mst sunny	Midland	56	38	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	66	47	pt sunny	Raymondville	68	54	pt sunny
Corsicana	58	36	sunny	Rosenberg	64	42	sunny
Dallas	57	37	sunny	San Antonio	62	42	pt sunny
Del Rio	56	45	rain	San Marcos	59	41	pt sunny
El Paso	60	38	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	54	33	sunny
Fort Stockton	48	39	rain	Sweetwater	55	39	pt sunny
Gainesville	53	33	sunny	Tyler	57	34	sunny
Greenville	55	32	sunny	Weatherford	56	37	sunny
Houston	65	44	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	53	33	sunny

Support Groups

FRIDAY

• 7 p.m. — The Stepping Stone Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets at Spring Town Plaza (inside the mall, across from the movie box office, next to Sears).

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles.

MONDAY

• VA Alcoholics Anonymous support group, 7-8 p.m., Veterans Healing Center.

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

• LISA NICOLE GOMEZ, 27, of 1609 Harding St. was arrested on warrants from another agency, failed to maintain financial, no driver's license-when unlicensed, and failure to appear (two counts).

• MARCUS MENDEZ III, 21, of 427 E. Davis Road was arrested on a charge of prohibited weapons-knuckles.

• ROBERT ADAM MATA, 48, of 1511 Johnson was arrested on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

• REGINO GARCIA MENDEZ, 36, of 1507 E. 6th St. was arrested on a charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous conviction.

• GEORGE ULLOA, 30, of 2510 Carleton Drive was arrested on a warrant from another agency.

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Police/Sheriff

• ANDY LEE CUELLAR, 29, of 1512 Sycamore St. B was arrested on warrants from other agencies.

• CREDIT/DEBIT CARD ABUSE was reported in the 500 block of Sunset Boulevard and in the 200 block of S. Goliad St.

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

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

• REGINO GARCIA MENDEZ, 36, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with previous conviction/suspension.

• GEORGE RIVAS

ULLOA, 30, was booked by the BSPD on a Young County warrant for driving while intoxicated.

• ANDY LEE CUELLAR, 29, was book by the BSPD on Midland County warrants for failure to appear, credit card abuse-counts violation of bond, and child support failure to appear.

• BRENDA LEE LERMA, 28, was booked by the GCSO on a charge of no driver's license.

• WILLIAM A. RILEY, 44, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of violate bond/protective order, twice within 12 months.

• SUSIE LEDESMA, 29, was booked by the BSPD on a charge of driving while license invalid with previous conviction/suspension.

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News in brief

New peace deal reached for eastern Ukraine but questions remain over its implementation

MINSK, Belarus (AP) — Leaders of Russia, Ukraine, France and Germany on Thursday emerged from marathon 16-hour talks to announce a comprehensive peace deal for eastern Ukraine, but questions remained whether Ukraine and the pro-Russian rebels have agreed on all of its terms.

Russian President Vladimir Putin told reporters that the agreement envisages a cease-fire that will be effective starting from the start of the day Sunday (21000 GMT or 4 p.m. EST Saturday) as well as a special status for the rebel regions, provisions on border controls and humanitarian issues.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, however, denied that there was any agreement about autonomy in eastern Ukraine.

More than 5,300 people have died since April in the fighting, which continued to rage Thursday even as the four leaders were engaged in talks.

With war powers request, Obama's successor could inherit Mideast conflict

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seeking war power authority for three years, President Barack Obama is setting up the prospect that his successor will become the third American president in a row overseeing U.S. military forces grappling with turmoil in the Middle East.

Passing on an active military mission in the region would be an unexpected and unwanted legacy for Obama, a president who once appeared poised to fulfill his campaign pledge to end U.S.-led conflicts in the region.

"It's conceivable that the mission is completed earlier," Obama said Wednesday as he urged Congress to pass a force authorization against the Islamic State group that would extend into 2018. "It's conceivable that after deliberation, debate and evaluation, that there are additional tasks to be carried out in this area."

"The people's representatives, with a new president, should be able to have that discussion," he added.

The president has long said the campaign against the Islamic State militants would be lengthy, suggesting it could extend beyond his presidency. But his authorization request to Congress makes that implication a reality and injects a complex foreign policy matter into the early stages of the 2016 presidential campaign.

EU leaders set to debate slate of anti-terror measures in wake of French attacks

BRUSSELS (AP) — Galvanized by the recent terror attacks in France, European Union leaders on Thursday debate a range of ambitious steps to bet-

ter protect their 28 nations, including exchanging airliner passenger manifests, tightening controls at the border and combating extremism on the Internet.

"Europe is facing an unprecedented, diverse and serious terrorist threat," Gilles de Kerchove, the bloc's counter-terrorism coordinator, told EU member governments in a report last month.

Latvian Foreign Minister Edgars Rinkevics, whose nation holds the EU's six-month revolving presidency, said Tuesday the often fractious members had reached broad consensus on what actions to take, and share the "strong will" to implement them.

But Wednesday, an EU official, briefing journalists on condition he not be identified by name or function, said work was still going on to finalize the list of recommended actions to be submitted to the leaders at the summit for their approval.

Counter-terrorism policy shot to the top of the EU agenda following the Jan. 7-9 terror attacks in Paris against a satirical weekly, a policewoman and a kosher grocery store that claimed a total of 17 victims. The three gunmen, who proclaimed allegiance to Al-Qaida in Yemen and the Islamic State group, were also shot dead by French police.

Lebanon plagued by divisions, justice still elusive 10 years after Hariri's assassination

BEIRUT (AP) — The public gallery at a court in the Netherlands was as deserted as the defendant's dock on a recent day at the trial of five Hezbollah suspects in the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, one of the most prominent Sunni politicians in the Middle East.

The massive explosion that tore through his convoy on the Beirut seaside 10 years ago sent a tremor across the region and unleashed a popular uprising that briefly united the Lebanese and ejected Syrian troops from the country. But a decade later, and despite millions of dollars spent, justice remains elusive in a case that has been overshadowed by more recent turmoil.

"The tribunal harks back to another era, and the latest developments have regrettably overtaken it," said Hilal Khashan, professor of political science at the American University of Beirut.

And yet despite its failings, the tribunal is still widely seen as a small but necessary step toward ending a culture of impunity in an increasingly violent region.

The Feb. 14, 2005 assassination of Hariri, referred to by some as Lebanon's Sept. 11, killed the former premier and 21 others, and wounded more than 200 people, stunning a nation long used to violence and political assassinations.

Hariri, a charismatic billionaire businessman, was the most prominent Sunni politician in Lebanon.

Although a divisive figure, he was credited with rebuilding downtown Beirut from the ravages of the 1975-1990 civil war.

Take note

• Back in Motion Chiropractic will host a community blood drive Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Those who donate will be entered in a drawing for a two night stay and dinner at the Inn of Mountain Gods in Ruidoso, N.M.. Back in Motion is located at 1113 S. Scurry Street. To schedule a donation appointment, call Tessa or Mary Ellen at 267-2225. Donors will receive a custom T-shirt, entry for the drawing and a free cholesterol check.

• Home Hospice is in need of volunteers of all ages. The organization is requesting volunteers to sit with patients, make items for patients and help with office work. Volunteers set their own hours. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7911 or 432-213-0150.

• Big Spring High School cheerleaders are offering a night of babysitting Friday from 6-10 p.m. in Steer Gym. Children in grades kindergarten through fifth are eligible. Cost is \$25 per child. Cost includes pizza, water, snacks and entertainment. For more information, contact the high school at 264-3641.

• Crossroads Hospice needs volunteers for patient care. Contact Eva at 263-5300.

• A hungry child cannot learn. Food2Kids - Big Spring was created to provide nutrition for hundreds of children who do not get a substantial meal on the weekends. F2K began last November and this volunteer program now serves more than 300 children weekly. Once the need has been identified, F2K fills a sack of food to send home each Friday during the school year. You can help. Volunteers are needed and donations can be sent to Food2Kids - Big Spring, P.O. Box 1641, Big Spring 79721. Find us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/Food2Kids

• Order of the Eastern Star Big Spring Chapter 67 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 219 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

MEET

Continued from Page 1

for Linda Sjogren.

Sjogren, who has held the position for the past several years, announced her retirement effective the first of the year. In her absence, Kaye Edwards has filled the post on an interim basis.

"We certainly wish Linda the best," City

Manager Todd Darden said. "She has done an outstanding job for the city and we will definitely miss her."

The closed session highlights a routine agenda for the council, which will also consider:

• The police department's annual contact report.

• A right-of-way and easement agreement with Oncor.

• Amending the airport budget to allow the purchase of two mowers.

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PRICES

Continued from Page 1

the Midwest, and while the strikes are not currently a contributor to

higher gasoline prices, should there come a time when the strikes cause less production of refined fuels, motorists can expect spikes.

"But while gasoline prices have rebounded, diesel consumers have not seen the massive spikes that their gasoline counterparts have. In fact, diesel prices will

likely continue to slowly drift lower," DeHaan added.

In the last week, the percentage of gas stations selling under \$2 a gallon has shrunk by a large margin: A week ago, more than half of all gas stations were under \$2 a gallon, but now just 27 percent are selling under that price.

Similarly, the number of stations charging more than \$2.25 a gallon has risen from 17 percent a week ago to 31 percent currently.

TRIAL

Continued from Page 1

Smith fatally shot Guerrero in the chest with a .17-caliber rifle following an altercation in front of the victim's home early in the morning of Oct. 14, 2013.

Smith is represented by attorney Dan Hurley of Lubbock.

If convicted, Smith faces a possible sentence of between 5 and 99 years, or life, in prison.

Applications now being accepted at the Big Spring Herald for Full time Staff Writer

Successful candidate will possess good communication skills, customer service attitude, be dependable, honest and reliable. Get experience working with city and county commissioners, school board, community groups and a wide range of social events and local festivals. Requirements include proficient computer skills, typing, photography and writing. Ability to multi-task is a must. Employee must have a valid driver's license and dependable vehicle. Employee will work about 40 hours per week and will include some evenings and/or weekends.

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

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You are cordially invited...



Coahoma ISD will honor Kim Nichols, Coahoma Bulldog head boys' basketball coach, for his recent career milestone of 500 wins.

The presentation will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, at the Coahoma gym prior to the Bulldog varsity home game versus Reagan County.

Coach Nichols has led the Bulldog basketball team for 30 years and has spent his entire 38 year teaching/coaching career at Coahoma ISD.

Please Save the Date...

Top musicians in their class...



Herald photo/Lyndel Moody

Nick Conner and Alex Rivera are Big Spring High School band students who qualified for All-State Band.

Herald Staff Report

Big Spring High School students, Nick Conner and Alex Rivera, are participating in All-State Band clinics this week. The duo earned their spot with the best musicians in the state after competing against students in their region and area for slot.

Both Conner and Rivera are planning to continue their music studies after high school. Conner has been accepted at Texas Tech University and plans to major in music performance. Rivera is considering three schools, including Tech after graduation. He also plans to major in music performance.

Both young men were quick to give both their music instructors and family credit for their success.

"Making this far to the state level, I couldn't have done it without our band directors and family for giving us support and motivation to keep going, trying out and going for it,"

Rivera said.

The duo participated in auditions to determine their chair on Wednesday night. The next few days, the two will be in rehearsals directed by nationally recognized conductors and a performance of the band will be held Saturday. All State Band is held during the Texas Music Educator's Association.

Also representing Big Spring High School at the convention are choir students Michael Mathews, Hannah Morgan and Ranen Wilson. The trio also qualified for the prestigious honor after competing against students in their region and area last semester.

According to the association's web-site, more than 1,600 students are selected through competitions held earlier in the school year with more than 60,000 students vying for an honor to perform in one of 14 ensembles — bands, orchestras, and choirs.

BSHS cheerleaders hosting Valentine's babysitting night

Herald Staff Report

What a deal.

Nationally-recognized Big Spring High School junior varsity and senior varsity cheerleading squads are willing to babysit your child Friday.

For those with Valentine plans, the cheerleaders will host a babysitting night Friday, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Steer Gym. The cost is \$25 per child. That price includes pizza, water, snacks and entertainment. Children, age kindergarten through fifth grade, are eligible.

Parents can sign up at the Big Spring High School front office.

Scholarship contest for area students

STANTON — The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District (PBUWCD) is sponsoring an essay contest for graduating seniors.

One senior student from each of the high schools located in the district's coverage area, Forsan, Grady, Sands and Stanton, will be awarded a scholarship. All senior students who are planning to attend college are eligible to enter the essay contest.

Each winner of the contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship to the college of their choice.

The essays are due no later than March 3, 2015. They may be submitted to the student's school counselor or the Permian Basin UWCD

office at 708 W St. Peter, Stanton, TX.

For further criteria and information, please contact your high

school counselor or the PBUWCD office at 432-756-2136 or email pbu-wcd.edu@gmail.com.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Fortune Favors Ffred

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 6
♥ A 10 8 4
♦ J 3
♣ J 10 9 5 4 3

WEST
♠ 5 3
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ A Q 9 7 6 4
♣ Q

EAST
♠ A 10 7 4
♥ —
♦ K 10 8 5 2
♣ 8 7 6 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q J 9 8 2
♥ K Q 7 6 3
♦ —
♣ A K

The bidding:
1 ♠ West North East
2 ♦ 2 ♦ Pass 5 ♦
5 ♥ Pass 6 ♥ Pass
Opening lead — ace of diamonds.

This hand was reported by Dr. James Parrack in the British Bridge Magazine many years ago. As usual, the doctor casts his favorite character, Ffred, in the role of hero.

Ffred was the dealer and opened one spade. It is true that most players would have opened with a stronger bid, but Ffred was seldom inclined to do what most players would do.

West overcalled with two dia-

monds, and East raised the ante to five. This development did not faze Ffred, who bid five hearts in what can best be described as a forcing voice.

North thereupon came to life and raised Ffred to six hearts, which West doubled after two passes. West then led the ace of diamonds. Ffred ruffed, of course, and played the king of hearts, on which East showed out. Most declarers at this point would probably have shifted their attention to spades, but this thought did not cross Ffred's mind.

Instead, he cashed the ace of clubs. When West's queen fell on it, Ffred's face lit up like a Christmas tree. Situations of this type were a source of great joy to him, and Ffred proceeded to bring home the slam in his customary bang-bang style.

He led the heart six to dummy's eight, ruffed the jack of diamonds with the queen of hearts and led the seven of hearts to dummy's ten. Ffred then cashed the ace of hearts and discarded the king of clubs on it, allowing him to run dummy's five remaining clubs and so score 12 tricks.

During the post-mortem, when Ffred was asked why he had not tried to establish the spades instead of the clubs, he replied, "What spades?"

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

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Michael Mathews



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Lady Steers to face Pampa in bi-district

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Big Spring High School Lady Steers finished the 2015 regular season on a hot streak to finish in a tie with upstart Lubbock Estacado for second in the District 2-4A standings.

With both teams at 6-4 in district, Estacado and Big Spring discussed staging one-game district playoff to determine the second- and third-place seeds. The two teams on Monday decided to go the safer

route on Wednesday, saving their teams the wear and tear of an extra game heading into Tuesday's bi-district playoff opener by determining the seeding via a coin toss.

"We went ahead and coin flipped to keep our kids fresh for Tuesday and heal some injuries," Said Smalley.

Estacado came out the luckier team with the coin.

With the coin-toss loss, Big Spring settled into the third-place seed and can now focus on their first-round opponent, the Pampa Lady Harvesters.

Big Spring is scheduled to tip off its Class 4A postseason run on Tuesday when they face off against Pampa, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Littlefield High School gym.

The Lady Steers head into the contest enter the playoffs on a hot streak, having won their last two outings to finish the regular season with a 15-14 record.

Pampa nailed down the runner-up honors in the District 1-4A race on Friday with a 60-56 victory over Bushland. The Lady Harvesters finished the

regular season at 15-15, and at 5-3 in district competition.

Estacado, by virtue of its second-place seed, will face Bushland in the first round.

The Lady Steers are led into the playoffs by seniors Julianna Rodriguez and Jackie Castillo, and junior Diamonique Mayes.

The Lady Harvesters will be led into Tuesday's game by guards Taylor Eubanks and Rayna Wall. Both scored into double digits against Bushland on Friday.



Tony Claxton/www.claxtonphotography.com
Jackie Castillo and the BSHS Lady Steers will open the state playoffs on Tuesday against Pampa.

BSHS netters 6th in Andrews

The Big Spring High School Steers tennis team officially kicked off the spring individual tennis season last Saturday by competing in the Andrews Spring Invitational. The two-day tournament was very competitive with the attendance of several Class 5A and Class 6A schools, along with some of the top Class 4A teams in the state.

Big Spring was led by the team of Kieran Atherton and Josh Baker, who finished second in boy's doubles. Atherton and Baker defeated teams from Midland Christian, Andrews and the No. 1 Odessa High boy's doubles team before falling to top-seeded Andrews.

In other boy's doubles action, the team of Noe Arguello and Brandon Hilario split four matches and finished 11th.

In girl's singles, Megan Parnell upset No. 3 seed Zayra Gomez of Andrews on her way to a fourth-place finish in a very tough girl's draw.

Megan Hughes finished 14th.

In boy's singles, Tristian Turner showed some flash before a back injury forced him to default his last match and left him in 8th place.

William Grigg split four matches and finished in 9th place, losing his last match, 12-10, in a super tiebreaker.

The girl's doubles team of Braylee Cantu and Taylor Olivo won their last match, 6-3, 6-4, and finished 13th, while Victoria Deubler and Ashlen Eckert finished 14th after Eckert was forced to withdraw with an ankle injury.

Finally, in Mixed Doubles, the team of Elisa Hernandez and Sean Rios finished 11th, while Robbie Downing and David Caldera finished 12th.

Big Spring finished sixth overall as a team.

"We weren't at full strength as we had quite a few players out participating in other activities, but we did have a great opportunity to see everyone play a lot of matches and be able to assess what needed work going forward," said BSBS tennis coach Dana Jones

The Steers are scheduled to compete in the Brandon Clark Memorial Invitational in San Angelo Feb. 13.

LL sign-ups to resume Feb. 14

Big Spring Little League sign-ups will continue on Feb. 14 at the Springtown Plaza from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The league is open to players ranging in ages from 4-16. Parents should bring their children's birth certificate.

Registration is \$90 per child and the league provides the entire uniform.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Set to start ...

Makenzie Roberts and the Big Spring High School Lady Steers will kick off the 2015 softball season on Feb. 17 in Muleshoe. The Lady Steers, who had their Feb. 14 scrimmage with Shallowater canceled, are scheduled to open the season with a 4 p.m. start.

Howard College men, women set for showdown with FPC

By TOMMY WELLS
Sports Editor

The Howard College men's and women's basketball teams will return to the court tonight in Borger for a pair of Western Junior College Athletic Conference matchups.

The Hawks, now 18-6 for the season, will be looking to keep pace with South Plains for the top spot in the WJCAC men's standings. Both teams enter tonight's action tied for first with 9-2 records.

In Frank Phillips, the

WJCAC Standings		
Women		
Team	Conf.	Overall
New Mexico JC.....	10-0	23-1
Odessa	8-2	22-4
Midland	8-2	17-8
Frank Phillips	4-6	17-7
South Plains	4-6	8-16
Clarendon	3-7	13-13
Western Texas	2-8	10-13
Howard	1-9	7-18

Men		
Team	Conf.	Overall
South Plains	9-2	19-5
Howard	9-2	18-6
New Mexico JC.....	9-3	20-6
Odessa	6-6	18-7
Midland	6-6	16-10
NMMI	6-6	12-10
Frank Phillips	4-7	15-10
Western Texas	2-10	11-13
Clarendon	1-10	4-20

for one of the four WJCAC playoff berths. The Plainsmen, 15-10 overall, are 4-7 in conference play.

The Plainsmen won't be an easy opponent, HC Scott Raines warned. FPC is 9-1 at home this season.

The Howard College Lady Hawks will try and collect their second conference win of the season tonight when they square off against the Lady Plainsmen. HC enters at 7-18 and 1-9, while FPC is 17-7 and 4-6.

Games will begin at 5:45 p.m.



Tony Claxton photo (www.claxtonphotography.com)

Midland bound ...

Howard College's Jessica Elder catches a pop fly during the Lady Hawks' sweep of Ranger College on Saturday. The HC women travel to Midland today to participate in the Midland Classic.

BSCC to hold scramble on Feb. 21-22

The Big Spring Country Club will be holding a 4-player scramble on Feb. 21-22.

The entry fee for the event is \$120 per player, plus the cost of a cart rental. Private carts are welcome on Saturday

and Sunday.

The scramble is scheduled to get under way on both days with a shotgun start.

Entry includes a muligan each day as well as barbecue on Saturday. Practice rounds are

available on Friday.

The field will be flighted by first round scores. The number of flights will be determined by the number of entries.

For more information call 432-267-5354.

BSGSA to start '15 sign-ups on Feb. 14

The Big Spring Girls Softball Association will be holding sign-ups for the 2015 season on Saturdays, beginning on Feb. 14 until March 7. Registration will be

held from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the Springtown Plaza.

The league is open to players ranging in ages from 4-14 (age as of Jan. 1, 2015) The cost is \$90,

with discounts available for families with additional siblings in the same family.

For more information contact Ron Shafer at 432-213-3747.

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Howard County Appraisal District is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Appraisal trainee. The successful applicant will do office and field work associated with the appraisal of residential, rural, commercial and personal property in HCAD. Candidates must have organizational skills, along with effective communication and people skills. A high school diploma is the minimum educational requirement, college preferred. RPA registration with Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation is preferred. Previous appraisal experience and knowledge of a CAMA software system is preferred. Must be physically able to complete on site measurement and inspection of property over rough and uneven terrain, as well as stand and/or sit for extended periods of time. Position requires bending, reaching, lifting heavy file boxes and moving up and down steps and steep grades. Salary will be commensurate with experience. The Appraisal District provides excellent Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Long Term Disability and 401A Retirement Plan, and optional 457b Deferred Comp. Retirement Plan.

Howard County Appraisal District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Resumes will be accepted until position is filled. Mail resume to:
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Salary will be commensurate with experience. The Appraisal District provides excellent Health Benefits packets. Howard County Appraisal District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Resumes will be accepted until position is filled. Mail resume to:
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Cosmic Synaesthesia

People who have synaesthesia experience a blending of their senses. They may experience a taste when hearing a sound, or hear a sound when they are receiving visual information. Today represents a kind of cosmic synaesthesia, as the Sagittarius moon has us craving new blends of sensation. Get out and experience the world!



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). In certain ways, you are your own boss. And yet, you still have to report to another person and do everything you can to keep that person happy. Today you'll make easy work of that.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It may be difficult to discern between the two kinds of problems there are in this world: my problems and your problems. Because you want to help, you'll make some of their problems your own. Just don't take on too many!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Physical attractiveness is not as important to you as creativity is. You need people around you who will perpetually challenge you to see the world in new ways.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Life is like an all-you-can-eat buffet. Even though you'd like to load up on the tater tots and chocolate cake, you'll put a good amount of healthy food on your dish and feel better because of it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You magnify the positive aspects of a relationship, and yet there are still certain things your partner does that give you pause. Try to step back from the issue until tomorrow, when you're likely to have a more balanced perspective.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You have a choice about where to go and what to do. You'll select an environment that highlights your best traits, and when people interact with you in this context, you'll shine bright.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your hunches are strong, and you'll likely have one about a person who would make a terrific partner for you. Take steps to get organized and save yourself from wasted afternoon hours spent looking for something.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The task at hand is mysterious and involves unknown elements, and you'll have to learn new skills, too. Don't let that stop you. You don't have to know everything about it now. Just get started.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Living up to their standards is easy. What's hard is living up to your own. You're expecting yourself to perform at a level that even much more experienced folks have trouble hitting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Unlike other animals, humans are hard-wired to look for explanations as to why events occur. However, you'll be better off today spending less energy on the "why" while you focus on the "how."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The young,

inexperienced and impressionable need a positive example, and you'll be the ideal model, mostly because you take the time to be kind to others no matter how busy things get.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You know better than to present a problem without also proposing possible solutions. For this reason, you'll get your needs met with very little resistance. You make it easy to please you.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 12). You'll develop a special humor and bond with someone over the next six weeks. You'll also get on a lucky streak work-wise. Save the extra money and resources you'll net for an opportunity later in the year. April will be romantic. Finally, you'll get acceptance and support for a venture in May. Travel in October. Libra and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 14, 2, 24 and 18.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: I'm developing feelings for someone I work with. He is a very private person, and I'm afraid that if I come on too strong I will scare him away. Also, I'm not sure where the professional boundaries are, and I don't want to mess up anything having to do with our work. There's another problem: I don't know that I would be the kind of person he might be attracted to. He's a Capricorn, and I'm a Sagittarius.

You're over-thinking this. And as you turn it over in your mind and churn out all the frightening ways things might go wrong, you are forgetting who you are: a Sagittarius! You are a risk taker. You're the type to fly by the seat of

your pants, unnerved by danger. Your moxie is exciting and attractive! As for those who can't return your affections for whatever reason, it's no concern of yours. Move on to the next thrill. Before you do anything concerning this possible love interest, get back in touch with your true nature by going on an adventure that has nothing to do with him. Make arrangements for something you've always wanted to try, do or see. You're so attractive when you're in the thick of a quest!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Happy birthday to the 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, the humanitarian

Aquarian leader who saved the Union and emancipated the slaves. His moon in Capricorn shows hardworking determination and a character unfazed by challenge. "Give me six hours to chop down a tree, and I will spend the first four sharpening the ax." -- Abraham Lincoln

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

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Sudoku Answer On Page 3

sudoku

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

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I am 53 years old and have been with my boyfriend for four years. The first year was awesome. We would hug and kiss hello and goodbye, and often say "I love you."

Now? Nothing. We don't touch at all. I am so unhappy. We have sex once a month and only when he wants it. During sex, there is no kissing or embracing. When I talk to him about this, he becomes angry and says I live in a fantasy world and have unrealistic expectations. He says he is not going to crawl all over me. He then says he loves me very much.

It's not that I want sex all the time, but a little affection would be nice. Other than this, things are good. We get along well and support each other. I just wish it could be like our first year. I don't want to start all over with someone else, but lately I'm asking myself, "Should I stay or should I go?" -- Ursula

Dear Ursula: Embracing and kissing during lovemaking is normal. Please ask your boyfriend to see his doctor to check out any hormonal problems that could possibly be resolved. If he refuses to go and will not discuss it with you, you must decide how important physical affection is, because he isn't likely to provide it.

Dear Annie: I was born in the middle of the baby boom generation. My dad was a Pearl Harbor veteran. There were hundreds of heroic acts performed that day,

and one of them involved a friend of my father's, whose destroyer took a direct hit. Even with severe injuries, he lowered himself into the harbor and dog-paddled out to keep an unconscious seaman alive until help could reach them.

That day, my dad decided that if he had a son, he would name him after this friend, whose name was Richard. The common nickname is "Dick," which brings me to the reason for this letter.

Seventy-five years ago, Dick was a common name, but not so much today. For years, I have put up with people making lewd comments about my name. At 6-foot-3, I can get in anyone's face if I choose, and that usually ends the matter. But I don't want to do that. Instead, I'd appreciate it if you could provide a concise response that leaves little room for additional interaction with marginally literate people. -- Richard

Dear Richard: We are not miracle workers. The Beavis and Butt-Heads of the world will continue to snicker at your nickname because they never matured past adolescence. We favor the world-weary sigh, along with ignoring them. An eye roll is optional. You also could introduce yourself as "Rick" or "Rich," both common nicknames for Richard that will elicit fewer asinine reactions. But we will open the floor to our readers, who are sure to

come up with a greater variety of responses. (Please keep them printable, folks.)

Dear Annie: You recently printed a letter from "Wish We Knew," and in your response, you mentioned symptoms of Parkinson's disease. Sometimes those same symptoms can indicate other conditions.

My 83-year-old mother started twitching, shaking, feeling nervous, having trouble sleeping and becoming dizzy. When her ankles began to swell from fluid buildup, she was finally diagnosed with a very high CO2 level. She had been on oxygen for years, and even her lung doctor missed the signs, including rapid breathing. He thought she needed more oxygen, but in fact, the problem was too much. The only way to test for a buildup of carbon dioxide is with a special blood gas test. This is a treatable condition.

Anyone with these symptoms, especially those on oxygen, should ask their doctor not only about Parkinson's, but also about CO2 levels. -- Joan in Louisiana

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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“ I’VE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY MY HUMAN WON’T LEAVE THE HOUSE WITHOUT HER LEASH. I THINK SHE’S AFRAID OF GETTING LOST. BUT IT’S OK, I KIND OF LIKE SHOWING HER AROUND. ”

—HARPER
adopted 08-18-09

A PERSON IS THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO A SHELTER PET

adopt
theshelterpetproject.org

Ad Council THE HUMANE SOCIETY

	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWTT (14)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)
	Midland	Spanish	Odesa	Odesa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odesa	Odesa	Odesa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports
5:PM	News ABC	P. Luche	Two Men	News	Tele	News	Seinfeld	Yohanah	Global	ChIPS	Alaskan Bush		Last Samurai, Timothy Spall	Castle	Loretta Devine	(:15) Movie: WALL-E, Jeff Garlin	Around Pardon	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Notic. La Gata (SS)	Big Bang	News	Caso Cerado	News	Seinfeld	Messiah	Business	M*A*S*H	Last Frontier	Movie: First Blood, Brian Dennehy		NBA Tip-Off			College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.
7:PM	Wheel	Grey's Anatomy	Mi corazón es tuyo	American Idol	Big Bang	Los Miserables (SS)	Seinfeld	Rocks	Hour	M*A*S*H	Last Frontier			NBA Basketball: Cavaliers at Bulls	Game It's a Mann's World	Movie: Wreck-It Ralph	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.
8:PM	Scandal	Hasta el Fin	Backstrom	Two Men	McCar	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	The Blacklist	Fam. Guy	Daytrip	Griffith	Western	Movie: Rambo: First Blood Part II	Movie: 300, David Wenham					
9:PM	Away-Murder	Que te Perdona	Mod Fam	Elementary	Dueños del Paraíso	Allegiance	Big Bang	Jewel in the Crown	Charlie Rose	C. Burnett Perry Mason	To Be Announced	Movie: Die Hard 2, William Atherton		Inside the NBA	Game I Didn't	Basket	SportsCenter	
10:PM	News	Impacto	Cleveland	News	Tele	News	Conan	McGee	Justice					NBA Basketball: Cavaliers at Bulls	Game I Didn't	NBA	SportsCenter	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	La Que No	How I Met	Letterman	Titulares	Tonight Show	Office	Called	T. Smiley	Israel	Off Air							
12:AM	Extra	Un Refugio	How I Met	The Late Late Show	Tierra de Reyes (SS)	Seth Meyers	Conan	Israel	T. Smiley	Off Air								
1:AM	Paid	Alma	Law & Order: SVU	Ent	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid					

DENNIS THE MENACE



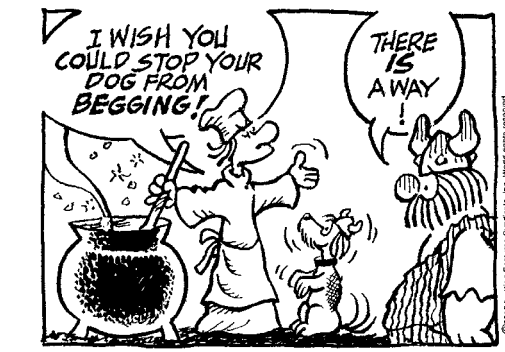
"THINGS ARE GOOD AT SCHOOL. FEEL FREE TO SKIP THE PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill Keane

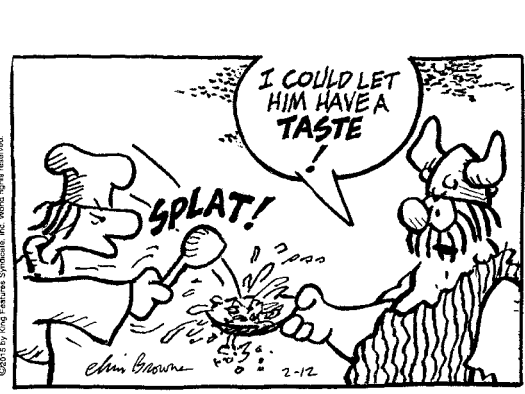
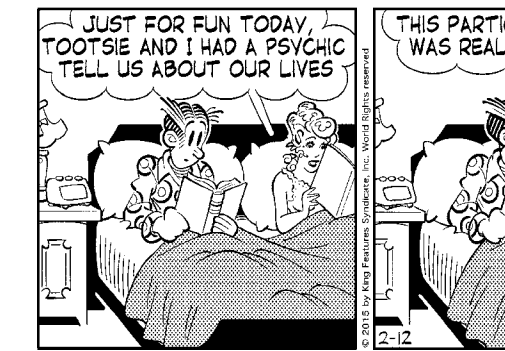


"I never like this week of school. I'm terrible at drawing hearts."

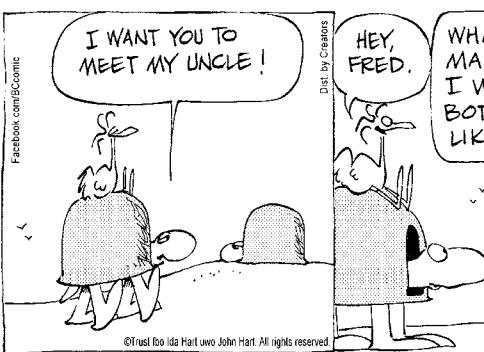
HAGAR



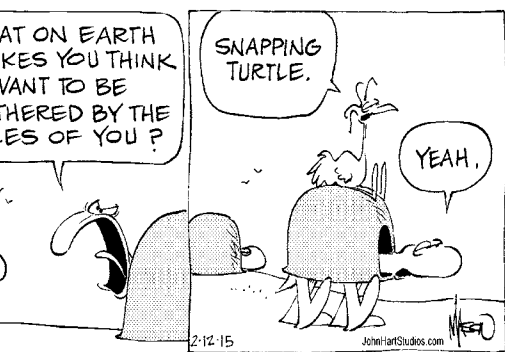
BLONDIE



BC



WIZARD OF ID



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Feb. 12, the 43rd day of 2015. There are 322 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States, was born in present-day Larue County, Kentucky. On this date: In 1554, Lady Jane Grey, who'd claimed the throne of England for nine days, and her husband, Guildford Dudley, were beheaded after being condemned for high treason.

In 1818, Chile officially proclaimed its independence, more than seven years after initially renouncing Spanish rule. In 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded. In 1914, groundbreaking took place for the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. In 1915, the cornerstone was laid for the Lincoln Memorial. In 1924, George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" premiered in New York. In 1940, the radio play "The Adventures of Superman" debuted with Bud Collyer as the Man of Steel. In 1959, the redesigned Lincoln penny (with an image of the Lincoln Memorial replacing two ears of wheat on the reverse side) went into circulation. In 1963, a Northwest Orient Airlines Boeing 720 broke up during severe turbulence and crashed into the Florida Everglades, killing all 43 people aboard.

AGNES



HI AND LOIS



Newsday Crossword

HIGH SPOTS by Bruce Venzke Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

AGNES



HI AND LOIS



ACROSS

- 1 They're charged in physics
- 5 Easy task
- 9 Stadium walkways
- 14 Bit of wit
- 15 Aesopian animal
- 16 Onetime
- 17 Setting
- 18 Conclusion
- 19 Conversation
- 20 Optimal shape
- 23 Tad
- 25 Opposite of da
- 26 Taste
- 27 Lobbying org.
- 28 Half-square shape
- 30 Vigor
- 32 Little Miss Sunshine
- 34 Skeptical comment
- 37 Ultimate
- 41 Oral-care product
- 44 Literary governess
- 45 Wraps up
- 46 Print-shop gadget
- 47 Massachusetts state tree
- 49 Babble
- 51 Gandalf
- 52 Prefix for school or screen
- 55 October birthstone
- 58 Resounding slaps

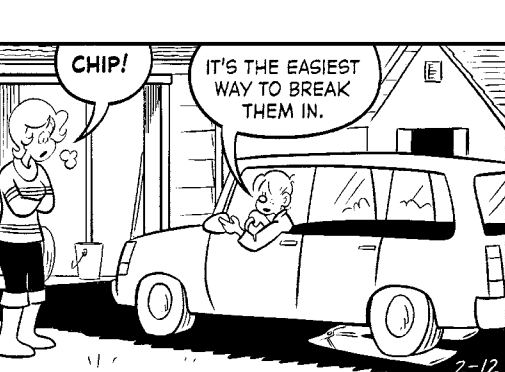
DOWN

- 5 Israeli coin
- 6 Certain
- 7 About 1% of the atmosphere
- 8 Showy flower
- 9 Say from memory
- 10 Be beside
- 11 Have coming
- 12 Earlier offense
- 13 Unemotional
- 21 Deal maker
- 22 Profundity
- 23 Place to park
- 24 Bring together
- 29 Griffin, in part
- 31 Word following
- 1 Measures of brightness: Abbr.
- 2 Alsace
- 3 Fussy fellow
- 4 Swiftswan
- 56 Inviting to dinner
- 39 Grilling
- 40 Migratory birds
- 42 Tantalize
- 43 Swedish girl of kid lit
- 48 Mill around
- 50 Behind a Boeing
- 52 Exams for some juniors
- 53 Clinton Treasury secretary
- 54 Be overtheatrical
- 56 Intensify
- 57 Office equipment contract
- 59 The longest range
- 61 Symbol of stubbornness
- 62 All square
- 66 Valuable rock
- 67 Ruckus

THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



AGNES



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
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23	24			25				26				
27			28	29			30	31				
32		33		34	35	36		37	38	39	40	
41				42				43				
44				45				46				
			47	48			49	50			51	
52	53	54		55	56	57		58	59			
60			61				62					
63				64				65		66	67	
68				69				70				
71				72				73				

Scoreboard

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Toronto	36	17	.679	—
Brooklyn	21	31	.404	14½
Boston	20	31	.392	15
Philadelphia	12	41	.226	24
New York	10	43	.189	26

Southeast Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	43	11	.796	—
Washington	33	21	.611	10
Charlotte	22	30	.423	20
Miami	22	30	.423	20
Orlando	17	39	.304	27

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Chicago	33	20	.623	—
Cleveland	33	21	.611	½
Milwaukee	30	23	.566	3
Detroit	21	33	.389	12½
Indiana	21	33	.389	12½

Western Conference

Southwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Memphis	39	14	.736	—
Houston	36	17	.679	3
Dallas	36	19	.655	4
San Antonio	34	19	.642	5
New Orleans	27	26	.509	12

Northwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Portland	36	17	.679	—
Oklahoma City	28	25	.528	8
Denver	20	33	.377	16
Utah	19	34	.358	17
Minnesota	11	42	.208	25

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Golden State	42	9	.824	—
L.A. Clippers	35	19	.648	8½
Phoenix	29	25	.537	14½
Sacramento	18	34	.346	24½
L.A. Lakers	13	40	.245	30

Wednesday's Games

Orlando 89, New York 83
Toronto 95, Washington 93
San Antonio 104, Detroit 87
Boston 89, Atlanta 88
Indiana 106, New Orleans 93
Oklahoma City 105, Memphis 89
Milwaukee 111, Sacramento 103
Golden State 94, Minnesota 91
Cleveland 113, Miami 93
Dallas 87, Utah 82
Portland 102, L.A. Lakers 86
L.A. Clippers 110, Houston 95

Thursday's Games

Cleveland at Chicago, 8 p.m.

NBA Leaders

Scoring

G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG	
Harden, HOU	53	441	429	1451	27.4
Westbrook, OKC	39	343	283	1007	25.8
James, CLE	44	400	266	1136	25.8
Davis, NOR	46	436	256	1129	24.5
Anthony, NYK	40	358	189	966	24.2
Cousins, SAC	40	334	281	950	23.8
Curry, GOL	51	418	206	1203	23.6
Aldridge, POR	47	435	213	1108	23.6
Griffin, LAC	51	448	245	1149	22.5
Thompson, GOL	50	397	155	1104	22.1
Irving, CLE	51	401	197	1111	21.8
Lillard, POR	53	383	242	1138	21.5
Bosh, MIA	44	343	179	928	21.1
Butler, CHI	49	322	302	998	20.4
Gay, SAC	48	338	231	955	19.9
Ellis, DAL	55	428	163	1087	19.8
Hayward, UTA	53	352	247	1042	19.7
Vucevic, ORL	50	427	125	981	19.6
Walker, CHA	42	278	167	789	18.8
Rose, CHI	42	296	122	784	18.7

Rebounds

G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	
Jordan, LAC	54	249	496	745	13.8
Drummond, DET	54	266	427	693	12.8
Cousins, SAC	40	121	377	498	12.5
Gasol, CHI	50	149	460	609	12.2
Randolph, MEM	44	170	357	527	12.0
Chandler, DAL	52	209	407	616	11.8
Vucevic, ORL	50	158	407	565	11.3
Monroe, DET	52	180	361	541	10.4
Love, CLE	52	109	430	539	10.4
Aldridge, POR	47	124	362	486	10.3

Assists

G	AST	AVG	
Wall, WAS	54	546	10.1
Lawson, DEN	51	513	10.1
Paul, LAC	54	524	9.7
Rondo, DAL	43	374	8.7
Curry, GOL	51	402	7.9
Westbrook, OKC	39	298	7.6
Teague, ATL	50	375	7.5
Carter-Williams, PHL	41	302	7.4
James, CLE	44	324	7.4
Lowry, TOR	53	382	7.2

N.Y. Rangers at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Calgary at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

NBA Development League

East Conference

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Fort Wayne	20	12	.625	—
Sioux Falls	18	13	.581	1½
Iowa	16	14	.533	3
Grand Rapids	15	15	.500	4

Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Maine	20	10	.667	—
Canton	18	14	.563	3
Delaware	12	19	.387	8½
Erie	12	19	.387	8½
Westchester	9	21	.300	11

West Conference

Southwestern Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Austin	22	9	.710	—
Texas	16	14	.533	5½
Oklahoma City	17	15	.531	5½
Rio Grande	16	15	.516	6

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Bakersfield	23	10	.697	—
Santa Cruz	19	12	.613	3
Reno	13	17	.433	8½
Los Angeles	9	23	.281	13½
Idaho	5	28	.152	18

Wednesday's Games

No games scheduled

Thursday's Games

Reno at Canton, 7 p.m.

BOXING

Fight Schedule

Feb. 12 — At Chetumal, Mexico, Pablo Cesar Cano vs. Jorge Silva, 10, welterweights; Vic Darchinyan vs. Juan Jimenez, 10, super bantamweights.

Feb. 13 — At the Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, Conn. (ESPN2), Boxcino Quarterfinals-Junior Middleweights: Cleotis Pendarvis vs. Ricardo Pinnell; Stanislav Skorokhod vs. Michael Moore; Brandon Adams vs. Alex Perez; Vito Gasparyan vs. Simeon Hardy.

Feb. 14 — At Tepic, Mexico, David Sanchez vs. Juan Alberto Rosas, 12, for the interim WBA super flyweight title.

At Resorts World Casino, New York, Deric Rossy vs. Akhror Muralimov, 10, for the IBF North American heavyweight title.

Feb. 20 — At Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, N.Y. (ESPN2), Boxcino Quarterfinals-Heavyweights: Donovan Dennis vs. Steve Vukosa; Razvan Cojano vs. Ed Fountain; Andrey Fedosov vs. Nate Heaven; Mario Heredia vs. Lenroy Thomas.

April 24 — At Madison Square Garden, N.Y. (HBO), Vladimir Klitschko vs. Bryant Jennings, 12, for Klitschko's IBF/WBA/WBO/IBO heavyweight titles.

to Elmira (ECHL).

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Assigned F Joakim Nordstrom to Rockford (AHL). Activated FF Kris Versteeg from injured reserve.

DALLAS STARS — Reassigned RW Brett Ritchie to Texas (AHL). Recalled G Henri Kiviho from Idaho (ECHL) to Texas and F Curtis McKenzie from Texas. Traded G Anders Lindback and a 2016 conditional third-round draft pick to Buffalo for G Jhonas Enroth.

EDMONTON OILERS — Recalled G Tyler Bunz from Wichita (ECHL) to Oklahoma City (AHL).

LOS ANGELES KINGS — Recalled D Derek Forbort from Manchester (AHL).

MINNESOTA WILD — Reassigned F Brett Sutter to Iowa (AHL). Recalled F Stephane Veilleux from Iowa.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Loaned G Kent Simpson from Bridgeport (AHL) to Stockton (ECHL).

SAN JOSE SHARKS — Announced the retirement of G Evgeni Nabokov.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled F Vladislav Namestnikov from Syracuse (AHL).

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Recalled D Petter Granberg from Toronto (AHL).

WINNIPEG JETS — Traded D Zach Bogosian, F Evander Kane and G Jason Kasdorf to Buffalo for D Tyler Myers, Fs Drew Stafford, Joel Armia and Brendan Lemieux and a 2015 first-round draft pick. Reassigned F Patrice Cormier to St. John's (AHL).

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

MONTREAL IMPACT — Released D Krzysztof Krol.

COLLEGE

ETSU — Named Mike Rader wide receivers coach and recruiting coordinator.

Hall of Fame basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian dies

LAS VEGAS (AP) — He couldn't stop fighting the NCAA any more than he could give up chewing towels courtside. Jerry Tarkanian built a basketball dynasty in the desert, but it was his decades-long battle with the NCAA that defined him far more than the wins and losses.

The coach who won a national title at UNLV and made the school synonymous with basketball died Wednesday after several years of health issues. He was 84.

Tarkanian put the run in the Runnin' Rebels, taking them to four Final Fours and winning a national championship in 1990 with one of the most dominant college teams ever. His teams were as flamboyant as the city, with light shows and fireworks for pregame intro-

ductions and celebrities jockeying for position on the so-called Gucci Row courtside.

He ended up beating the NCAA, too, collecting a \$2.5 million settlement after suing the organization for trying to run him out of college basketball. But he was bitter to the end about the way the NCAA treated him while coaching.

Kiffin's departure.

Kiffin, who turns 75 later this month, wasn't under contract for next season. He came in as defensive coordinator in 2013 to implement a scheme change to a four-man front after Dallas spent nearly a decade with a three-man line and four linebackers.

Rod Marinelli joined the staff along with Kiffin and was promoted to defensive coordinator in 2014.

AP source: Kiffin not returning to Cowboys

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Monte Kiffin won't return to the Dallas Cowboys coaching staff a year after he was demoted from the defensive coordinator job.

A person with knowledge of the decision said Wednesday that Kiffin, the assistant head coach under Jason Garrett last season, wouldn't return. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team wasn't planning to announce

Kiffin's departure.

Kiffin, who turns 75 later this month, wasn't under contract for next season. He came in as defensive coordinator in 2013 to implement a scheme change to a four-man front after Dallas spent nearly a decade with a three-man line and four linebackers.

Rod Marinelli joined the staff along with Kiffin and was promoted to defensive coordinator in 2014.

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BIG 12 CONFERENCE

Men's Standings

W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT	
Kansas	9	2	.818	20	4	.833
Oklahoma	8	4	.667	17	7	.708
West Virginia	7	4	.636	19	5	.792
Iowa St.	7	4	.636	17	6	.739
Oklahoma St.	7	5	.583	17	7	.708
Baylor	6	5	.545	18	6	.750
Texas	5	6	.455	16	8	.667
Kansas St.	5	7	.417	12	13	.480
Texas Tech	2	10	.167	12	13	.480
TCU	1	10	.091	14	10	.583

Wednesday's Games

West Virginia 76, Kansas St. 72
Texas 66, TCU 43

Thursday's Games

No games scheduled

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

Atlantic Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Tampa Bay	34	16	6	74	181	148
Montreal	35	15	3	73	143	118
Detroit	31	13	9	71	156	134
Boston	28	19	7	63	142	136
Florida	24	17	11	59	133	147
Ottawa	21	22	9	51	141	145
Toronto	23	28	4	50	157	170
Buffalo	16	36	3	35	103	191

Metropolitan Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
N.Y. Islanders	35	18	1	71	170	151
Pittsburgh	31	15	8	70	155	135
Washington	29	16	10	68	162	139
N.Y. Rangers	31	16	5	67	157	127
Philadelphia	23	22	9	55	146	157
New Jersey	21	24	9	51	122	148
Columbus	23	26	3	49	135	161
Carolina	19	26	7	45	116	139

Western Conference

Central Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Nashville	36	12	6	78	164	129
St. Louis	35	15	4	74	170	133
Chicago	33	18	4	70	167	129
Winnipeg	28	18	10	66	154	146
Minnesota	26	20	7	59	145	145
Dallas	25	21	8	58	172	175
Colorado	22	21	11	55	137	152

Pacific Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Anaheim	34	14	7	75	164	154
San Jose	28	20	8	64	158	158
Vancouver	30	20	3	63	148	140
Calgary	30	21	3	63	156	137
Los Angeles	23	18	12	58	144	144
Arizona	20	28	7	47	126	180
Edmonton	15	31	9	39	125	181

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Wednesday's Games

Pittsburgh 4, Detroit 1
Vancouver 5, Chicago 4, OT
Washington 5, San Jose 4, OT

Thursday's Games

Toronto at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Winnipeg at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Florida at Minnesota, 8 p.m.

VALENTINE'S DAY

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