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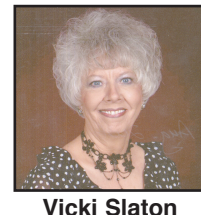
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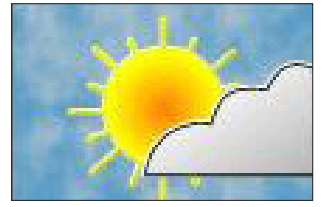
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VOLUME 103, NUMBER 212

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**Colorado pilot
harmed in
ultralight crash**

*Injuries said serious,
not life-threatening*

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Practice flights took a turn for the worst for an ultralight pilot late Monday afternoon when his aircraft crashed into the fence near the north end of the runway at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark.

Tim Collard, of Colorado, age unknown, was transported to the emergency

room with serious but non life-threatening injuries shortly after 5 p.m., according to emergency response personnel.

According to witnesses at the scene, Collard was practicing touch-and-go landings on the north end of the runway — where participants with the Big Spring International Hang

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HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins
Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray, left, and Big Spring Police Crime Scene technician Wayne Jones look over the remains of a crashed ultralight at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark late Monday afternoon.



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

B.J. Herring, a hang glider pilot from Denver, Colo., gets his glider ready for competition Monday morning at the Big Spring Airport. Herring was one of several pilots that made personal-best flights during Sunday's competition, breaking a long-standing hang gliding record.

**Gliders set world record;
enjoying 'best' conditions**

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Several hang glider pilots participating in the Big Spring International competition shattered a world record Sunday, and according to event officials, could take down other records this week if the weather holds out.

David Glover, event coordinator for the competition, said competitive flights began Saturday, but it was Sunday's weather — which was far from perfect by most pilots' standards, thanks to a lack of clouds in the sky — gave the competition an



Glover

auspicious boost.

"We had a practice day Friday, and there was a little rain," said Glover. "We flew Saturday and Sunday, however. Saturday was an 80-mile task and a bunch of people made it, so there were a lot of happy pilots."

"The second day (Sunday), we set a record in hang gliding competition history. No competition in the world, ever, has set a 214-mile task and made it. Six pilots made it Sunday. Even though it was entirely blue, which makes it a little tougher

for the pilots, they had a great time and it was the longest one ever."

Flights resumed Monday afternoon and will continue at the Big Spring Airport around noon each day until Saturday, as pilots and event coordinators wait to see what the weather — including Tropical Storm Edouard which is taking aim at the Texas' Gulf coast — will bring.

"It looks like we have a few good-weather days left this week. The hurricane might bring in some interesting things, but it might also bring in the clouds," said Glover. "We've

See **GLIDERS**, Page 3A

Edouard hits Texas coast with strong wind, rain

By **JUAN A. LOZANO**

Associated Press Writer

GALVESTON — Tropical Storm Edouard hit the Texas Gulf coast east of Galveston on

Tuesday with strong winds and heavy rain, but did little more than soak the travelers who came to relax on the tourist town's beaches.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami said the storm made landfall over a stretch of coast east of Galveston and west of the Louisiana border, between

the small coastal town of High Island and Sabine Pass. Though forecasters had feared it could become a hurricane, its sustained winds only reached 65

mph, short of hurricane strength at 74 mph.

The storm is expected to weak-

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Sandwich hotline

JACKSONVILLE, Florida (AP) — The sauce for a spicy Italian sandwich was apparently a must have for one Florida man.

Reginald Peterson called 911 twice after a sandwich shop left off the sauce. Peterson initially called Thursday so that officers could have his sandwiches made correctly, according to a police report. The second call was to complain officers weren't arriving fast enough.

When officers arrived at Subway, they tried to calm Peterson and explain the proper use of 911. Those efforts failed, and he was arrested.

We'll return in 2 weeks

JERUSALEM (AP) — An Israeli couple going on a European vacation remembered to take their duty-free purchases and their 18 suitcases, but forgot their 3-year-old daughter at the airport, police said Monday.

The couple and their five children were late for a charter flight to Paris Sunday and made a mad dash to the gate. In the confusion, their daughter got lost.

Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said a policeman found her wandering in the duty-free area at Ben-Gurion airport. He said the officer alerted airline staff, but the flight had already taken off.

Oil falls near \$119

WASHINGTON (AP) — Oil prices slid further Tuesday, dropping to as low as \$118 a barrel on widening expectations that the slumping U.S. economy will keep eroding consumer demand for gasoline and other petroleum products.

The U.S. dollar's gains against the euro also contributed to oil's decline. Light, sweet crude for September delivery was down \$1.51 at \$119.90 a barrel in premarket trading. Earlier, it dropped to \$118, before regaining some ground. Crude has now fallen more than \$25 since reaching a trading high of \$147.27 on July 11.

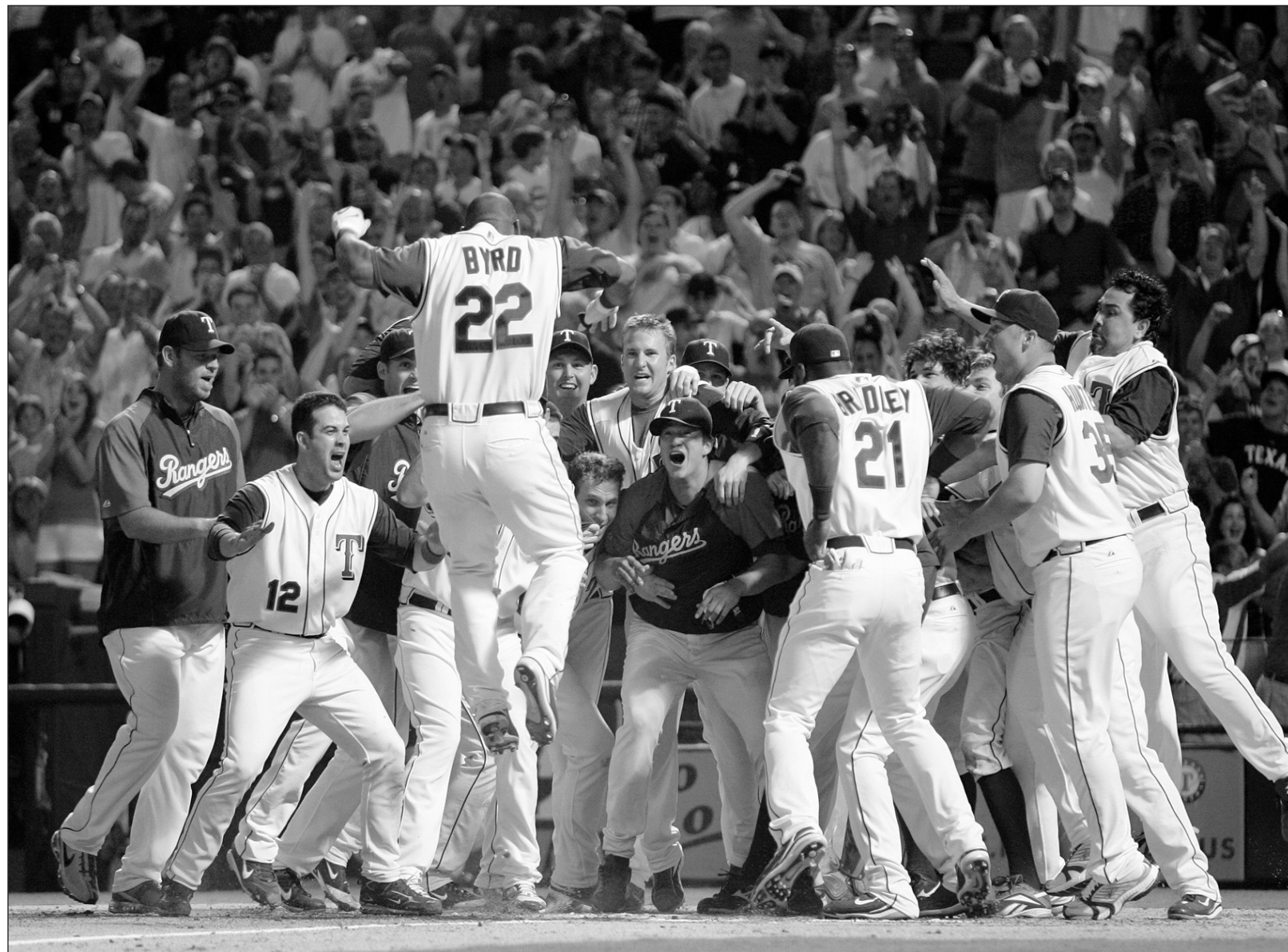


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AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez

Texas' Marlon Byrd (22) leaps onto home plate as the team waits to congratulate him following his walk off grand slam against the New York Yankees Monday in Arlington. The Rangers won 9-5.

Byrd's walk-off slam sinks Yankees

ARLINGTON (AP) — First, the New York Yankees lost Joba Chamberlain to a shoulder injury. Then, they lost the game.

Marlon Byrd hit a game-winning grand slam with two outs in the ninth inning and the Texas Rangers snapped a 10-game home losing streak to New York with a 9-5 victory Monday night.

Already missing No. 1 starter Chien-Ming Wang and right-hander Phil Hughes from a top-heavy rotation, the Yankees received more bad news when Chamberlain exited with a stiff right shoulder in the fifth.

He'll return to New York on Tuesday for tests, and manager Joe Girardi said the 22-year-old right-hander probably will miss a turn in the rotation. Anything more than

that would be a major blow to the injury-depleted Yankees, who are 2½ games behind Boston for the AL wild-card lead.

"He has a little stiffness. We believe it's muscular," Girardi said. "We'll see what the tests reveal. I don't think it's serious. I don't think he'll be shut down a long time."

But the Yankees are likely to be cautious with the hard-throwing Chamberlain — even in a tight playoff race. He said he's never had a similar problem in his shoulder.

"My strength was fine. My velocity was fine," Chamberlain said. "We'll have tests just so we can rule out everything. It kind of grabbed and it was a little bit tighter in the fifth inning."

After the game, Girardi also revealed that star closer

Mariano Rivera was unavailable for the second consecutive game because of back spasms.

"We were a little short-handed," the manager said. "He said he felt OK, but I've got to hear that he feels great."

Girardi said he expects Rivera will be ready to pitch Tuesday night.

Leading off the bottom of the ninth on a 101-degree night, pinch-hitter Milton Bradley drew a walk from Damaso Marte (0-1). Travis Metcalf ran for Bradley and, one out later, Marte walked Gerald Laird.

After Michael Young flied out, Josh Hamilton walked to load the bases and Byrd hit the next pitch from Marte into the right-center seats. Byrd was mobbed at the plate

by his teammates after circling the bases with his seventh homer.

"I knew it was gone right when it came off the bat. He threw a fastball and I put a good swing on it," Byrd said after his second grand slam this season and the fifth of his career.

Young and David Murphy also homered for the Rangers, who earned their first home win over the Yankees since July 19, 2006.

Texas moved five games over .500 (59-54) for the first time this season.

"It was big because of the way that we did it, against the team we did it against, factoring in the circumstances," Murphy said. "We'll ride this for a while."

See **SLAM**, page 2B

Break's over — T.O. back on the field

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**
AP Sports Writer

OXNARD, Calif. — A refreshed Terrell Owens was back in pads and catching passes from Tony Romo when the Dallas Cowboys held their second practice Monday.

Owens got a break the previous two sessions, when he was on the field but didn't actively participate Monday morning or in the only workout Sunday.

"He's a little, not sore, just precautionary," coach Wade Phillips said Monday in his daily briefing between practices.

T.O. came out from the morning practice in white shorts and a long-sleeve shirt, as he had Sunday. Owens stood behind the offense during some drills after going to the edge of the huddle to listen to the plays being called by Romo.

During that workout, which Phillips described as "teaching session," the team wasn't in pads and Romo made only light throws.

"We're trying to rest his arm a little bit," Phillips said.

Phillips is starting to give some veterans a break from practice. The Cowboys have been on the field 11 straight days since opening camp and don't have a day off scheduled until Sunday, the day after their preseason opener.

"It wasn't like I was looking for a day off. ... I'm just doing what the coaches are telling me to do," Owens said after the morning session. "If I was hurt, I'd be in the training room somewhere, or



AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez

Two young fans try to get an autograph from Dallas linebacker Tearrius George (59) following morning practice at the Cowboys' training camp in Oxnard, Calif.

be out working with the trainers. But I feel fine, I feel good."

Flozell Adams, the four-time Pro Bowl left tackle going into his 11th season, also didn't participate in team and position drills Monday morning, but like Owens was back in the afternoon. Adams also got a break from the first of two practices Saturday.

Tight end Jason Witten and linebacker Zach Thomas also got a breather from practice Sunday with Owens. Both were back on the field for both sessions Monday.

The plan for T.O. had initially been to let him take off one of the practices Saturday, but he had already warmed up and was ready to go on the field before coaches told him. He got Sunday off instead.

"I could have gone these days had they not given me a day off. I would have been out there like everybody else," Owens said. "Wade has done this over the years. ... I think it really has shown, not just on the practice field, but even on game day, that everybody's a little bit livelier."

When the Cowboys were last in California for camp two years ago under Bill Parcells, Owens was nursing a sore hamstring and spent most of his time on the sideline pedaling a stationary bicycle.

Phillips gave Owens a few days off last year in training camp to rest sore legs. T.O. then had one of the best seasons in his career, with 81 catches for 1,355 yards and a team-record 15 touchdowns.

"It's just like racing horses, you can't run them every day and expect them to go out there on race day and perform at their best," Owens said. "The same with cars, you run them to a certain point, then you put them in the shop and go through the diagnostics. That's what I'm going through right now."

Theater of the absurd

Opinion

By **JOHN LEICESTER**

AP Olympics Columnist

BEIJING — For their high-security Beijing Olympics, Chinese police have their bomb detectors and metal detectors. They could do with an absurdity detector, too.

Take the example of blacklisted author Yu Jie. Because the games are in town, police are keeping him under close watch at his Beijing home, 24/7, with plainclothes officers stationed outside in three rotating shifts. Yu says that only by police car, under escort, is he allowed to leave the gated middle-class community where he and his wife are raising their 4-month-old boy, Justin, who was born in the United States.

So much for the Olympic spirit. The Beijing Games aren't much fun and games for those rights activists, public critics of the government and outspoken freethinkers like Yu who aren't welcome at the party, are under watch or have been driven out of town.

"I was uncomfortable and I felt unsafe," outspoken AIDS activist Wan Yanhai said, explaining why he has quit the Olympic city for the duration. "I didn't want to see police follow me every day."

Even in authoritarian China, there's no legal grounds for such harassment. But China's police are a law unto themselves, regardless of the eyes of the world turning to Beijing.

In the case of Yu, who met with U.S. President George W. Bush at the White House in 2006, the police agents seem aware that they are on shaky legal ground. He says they told him he should look upon their surveillance as a "service," not as a constraint. With gas prices high and Beijing traffic subjected to Olympic restrictions, it is cheaper and easier to ride in our car, Yu says the officers have told him.

Over the years, Yu has learned that it's sometimes best not to resist. These guys can get nasty. They have previously threatened to kill him and make it look like an accident, he says.

And so, during the games, Yu will ride with the cops when he needs to go out. He doesn't like it but is keeping a brave face.

"It's cheaper than a taxi, I don't have to pay," he said.

Yu says he hasn't been authorized to publish any of his writings in China since 2004. He suspects that's because he was detained by police for one night that year with two other government critics. They were preparing a study about human rights in China and seemingly alerted police monitors by discussing their plans by e-mail.

Yu is also a Christian and prays weekly with friends in an unregistered — and thus technically not legal — congregation. Yet the police still obligingly took him across town this past Sunday for worship. Yu said the two officers waited outside for 3½-hours until he was done and then escorted him home, paying the cab fare both ways. A police escort to an unauthorized gathering: absurd, no?

The real irony is that Yu is the most unlikely of threats to the Olympics: he's totally disinterested in the games, is turned off by doping and the commercialization of sports, and is convinced that the International Olympic Committee is corrupt, and lives way out on Beijing's eastern outskirts, near a drug rehabilitation prison, where any protest would almost certainly go unnoticed. Yu and other activists have said it was never their intention to make trouble during the Aug. 8-24 games.

Perhaps the smarter thing for the communist government, which hopes the Olympics will burnish its image, would have been to leave people like Yu alone. It certainly would have been less of a news story for the thousands of foreign journalists in town, and given the government's foreign critics less ammunition, had Yu and others been able to say

See **ABSURD**, page 2B

USA survives scare from Aussies

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**

AP Basketball Writer

SHANGHAI, China — Undefeated, but no longer unchallenged.

The U.S. Olympic basketball team wrapped up its exhibition schedule with its toughest test, pulling away to beat Australia 87-76 Tuesday night in its final game before heading to Beijing.

The United States led by only four points nearly halfway through the third quarter and was up by seven midway through the fourth against an Australian team that was resting its best player, Milwaukee Bucks center Andrew Bogut.

The Americans relied on an aggressive defensive effort to overcome a horrendous night from 3-point range and the free throw line, the same areas that proved costly in their semifinal loss to Greece in the world championships two years ago.

Dwyane Wade scored 22 points and LeBron James had 16 for the Americans, who finished 3-of-18 from behind the arc and 20-of-33 (61 percent) at the foul line.

Patrick Mills and Chris Anstey, who had a first-half altercation with Wade, each scored 13 points for Australia.

The U.S. team seemed in control after allowing one basket in the final 5½ minutes of the first half to open a 44-29 lead. But the Americans left that defensive intensity in the locker room, allowing a number of open 3-pointers and uncontested drives to the basket.

The Australians outscored the Americans 13-2 to open the third quarter, pulling to 46-42 on David Barlow's layup with 6:52 remaining in the period. The United States regrouped behind Wade and Carmelo Anthony, rebuilding the lead to double digits headed to the fourth.

Michael Redd and Wade had layups to open the scoring in the fourth, pushing the U.S. lead to 69-55. Australia scored



Dwight Howard of the U.S. men's basketball team dunks during a game between the United States and Australia at the USA Basketball International Challenge tournament in Shanghai Tuesday.

AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko

nine of the next 11 points to pull within seven with still half the period left, making the upset seem possible. The crowd even got behind the Australians, loudly booing a call that overruled what seemed to a potential three-point play for them on an offensive rebound.

The Americans got their running game going again, and Wade had some easy baskets as they pulled away for their closest victory. A 21-point win over Russia was the previous closest game for the Americans, who came in averaging 110.8 points and shooting 64.2 percent from

the field.

The United States faces host China on Sunday in its Olympic opener.

Bogut, the No. 1 pick in the 2005 draft, wanted more time to rest a sore right ankle that has been bothering him, but said he expects to be ready by the opener against Croatia.

SLAM

Continued from page 1B

New York threatened in the ninth when Johnny Damon hit a two-out double off Eddie Guardado (3-2). Derek Jeter hit a line drive to center, where Hamilton made a tumbling catch to keep the score tied at 5.

Trailing 5-4 in the eighth, New York tied it against Frank Francisco on Xavier Nady's fourth homer in 30 at-bats since joining the team July 26, but the finish was disappointing for

the Yankees.

"It was a hard one," Girardi said.

Young's three-run shot off Chamberlain in the fifth gave Texas a 5-4 lead.

Byrd hit a two-out single in the fifth and when Chamberlain returned to the mound, assistant trainer Steve Donohue and Girardi ran onto the field to check on the former reliever, who pointed at his right shoulder.

Chamberlain, who gave up five runs and eight hits over 4 2-3 innings in his 12th major league start, walked to the dugout and

was replaced by Edwar Ramirez.

Jason Giambi homered and had three hits. Robinson Cano also homered for the Yankees, who had won 14 of 16 in Texas.

Giambi's RBI single in the first gave New York the lead. Giambi led off the fourth with his 21st homer for a 2-0 advantage and, one out later, Cano went deep for the 10th time to make it 3-0.

Murphy's two-run shot off Chamberlain in the fourth — his 15th — pulled Texas to 3-2.

Rangers starter Vicente

Padilla gave up four runs and six hits in six innings. Texas manager Ron Washington was ejected for protesting two balk calls.

Notes: Girardi started rookie Justin Christian in CF for Melky Cabrera, who came in for defense in the ninth. Girardi said Cabrera — hitless in his last 12 at-bats — could use a few days off. ... Chamberlain gave up three runs or fewer in each of his first 11 big league starts. ... Bradley missed his sixth straight start due to a strained left quadriceps.

ABSURD

Continued from page 1B

that they were being allowed to simply live their lives as the world's athletes compete.

At the U.N. General Assembly, China has helped push through a resolution which urged all nations to observe a truce during the Beijing Games. Could it not have called an Olympic truce

with its domestic critics, too?

To be fair, China is freer in many ways than it was when Beijing was picked as the Olympic host in 2001, sending jubilant crowds out onto Beijing's now tidied-up and rebuilt streets.

Some of that progress is Olympic-related: Eased restrictions on foreign reporters meant there were no problems chatting with Yu for an hour, in a bookshop within the

limits of the neighborhood where he's confined. Under IOC pressure, Chinese organizers have also unblocked some Internet sites at the main press center and Olympic venues, although others remain censored.

Although public critics like Yu are still only a tiny and mostly unheard minority in China, they are like the birds that coal miners used to carry with them to test for bad air down the pit. Despite the

hype from Chinese authorities and the IOC that the games will help make for a more progressive China, more at ease in the world, the harassment of activists campaigning for better human rights and peaceful political change shows there's still a long way to go.

John Leicester is an Olympics columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at [jleicester\(at\)ap.org](mailto:jleicester(at)ap.org)

Smith contrite after camp fight

By **MIKE CRANSTON**

AP Sports Writer

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Steve Smith apologized and talked about winning back the respect of his teammates, coaches and fans. A battered Ken Lucas accepted Smith's apology and discussed his impending surgery.

And the Carolina Panthers' coaching staff tried to keep the team together after an ugly incident involving two of the team's highest-paid players.

A subdued, apologetic Smith returned to practice Monday, three days after the three-time Pro Bowl receiver punched Lucas in the face at practice, and two days after he was suspended without pay for the first two regular-season games.

"I'm completely wrong," Smith said in a rambling, four-minute meeting with reporters that ended with him declining to answer questions. "It was an asinine decision. And I'll move forward better than I probably have ever had to. It's the first time in my life that I really haven't forgiven myself."

Lucas also appeared on the field for the first time since Smith slugged him while he was on one knee and not wearing a helmet. The starting cornerback, with a black left eye and swelling near his nose,

rode a stationary bike while the team worked out, thanks to the broken nose that will sideline him two to three weeks.

"Depending on the surgery," Lucas said. "We're still waiting on the doctors to give us the timetable on when we're going to have this procedure done."

Smith never mentioned Lucas by name. Nor did he explain the incident. During a break in Friday morning's practice, the 5-foot-9 Smith hit Lucas after a heated discussion over a previous play.

"I will not put myself into a position where I have to defend myself, to state my side of the story. There's no side," Smith said. "There's only one side, a lack of judgment on my part."

"I have no excuse. All I have is the opportunity to gain the respect of my fans, to gain the respect of my family, gain the respect of my co-workers and gain the respect of the organization."

Smith was sent home from training camp after the incident, and did not practice Friday night or Saturday morning. He rejoined the team Sunday night and apologized in a team meeting.

"He was very remorseful, and we accepted it," safety Chris Harris said. "We're moving on. We've got our eyes looking forward."

Astros survive weather, Cubs

By **RICK GANO**

AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO — Lance Berkman ducked off the field and into the dugout a first time before reluctantly returning to his position at first base.

When a thunderous boom accompanied a long series of lightning strikes around Wrigley Field, Berkman rushed off again and was not about to return under those conditions.

Seconds later, the umpires waved his Houston teammates off as well.

"Let me say this: I've never been more nervous on the field in my life," Berkman said after the Astros withstood a wild night of weather featuring two powerful storms and two delays to beat the Chicago Cubs 2-0 in a game called in the eighth inning.

"Growing up in Texas, you see those kinds of storms all the time. You learn that lightning is nothing to fool around with," Berkman said. "I'll stand out there in the rain-storm all day long. But thunder and lightning, in that kind of proximity, it's definitely a hazard. You have to get the fans out of there. We have to be out there, but if you give those fans a reason to hang around they will."

The first delay came in the top of the sixth and lasted 2 hours, 45 minutes. As the initial storm hit the Chicago area, fans at Wrigley were advised to take cover on the concourse. A tornado warning was issued for downtown Chicago.

After going back out on the soggy field, the teams were able to play for only 50 minutes before Berkman led the charge off the field. Then, after a 39-minute delay, the game was finally called with one out in

the bottom of the eighth.

"If they had continued the game, I wouldn't have gone back out there. Not for a while," Berkman said. "Like I said before the inning, you have to be an idiot to stand outside during a lightning storm. That's just common sense."

Berkman said he didn't blame the umpires because they are under pressure to get the game in.

"When the last one hit, it was too close, even for us, and I pulled them off. I would never put any team or player or umpire in harm's way," crew chief Wally Bell said.

Bell said it was his responsibility to do everything possible to play all nine innings.

"This time of year with the playoffs and teams in contention, we know it's tough," he said. "I don't really want to be here at midnight, but that's our job, that's what you do. When the second rain came, it just wasn't going to happen. We talked to everybody and then called the game."

After the first delay, the bleachers emptied and so did much of the lower and upper grandstands, although some fans stood under the overhang and rode out the storm that featured earsplitting thunder and spectacular lightning. When the brunt of the storm first hit with high winds and torrential rain, visibility at the second-oldest ballpark in the major leagues was reduced to zero.

But when the grounds crew got the field ready to resume play after the initial delay, thousands of fans returned to their seats.

Brian Moehler (7-4) allowed four hits in five shutout innings before the first delay and got the win.

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ONE-VEHICLE ROLLOVER



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

A Department of Public Safety Trooper and several other individuals pick up debris following a one-vehicle rollover approximately 12 miles from Big Spring on Highway 87 Monday afternoon. According to witnesses at the scene, the driver escaped with non life-threatening injuries and was transported to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The driver is believed to have been traveling north on the roadway when he overcorrected, flipping the vehicle.

CRASH

Continued from Page 1A

Gliding Competition have been using the aircrafts to take off from the Big Spring Airport — when his craft experienced some form of mechanical failure.

“I was watching him practice from up near the hangar (located adjacent to the airport office),” said Terry Wofford, a volunteer assisting with the annual hang gliding competition. “He had made four or five touch-and-go landings and went back to do another, but when I looked for him, I

couldn't see him anymore. That's when I headed that way.”

Wofford said he found the ultralight crashed just west of the runway's chain link fence, with Collard trapped in the wreckage.

“His legs were all twisted up in it,” said Wofford. “He had several broken fingers and a compound fracture in his arm, and possibly some broken ribs. He also said his back was hurt. I was amazed he was still conscious and talking to me.

“He (Collard) told me as he came in for the landing his ultralight simply wouldn't turn the way he needed it to, that something mechanical had failed. He had spiraled down and

that's when he hit the ground. There wasn't anything he could do to stop it.”

Wofford said he helped the man free himself from the crashed aircraft and took him to a nearby pickup truck after he became light-headed.

“He was afraid he was going into shock,” said Wofford.

Collard is one of several ultralight pilots participating in the hang gliding competition, where the small aircraft are used to tow the gliders up into the sky before being released.

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

GLIDERS

Continued from Page 1A

had a great time so far. The town has really been wonderful. We've had incredible support from the city council, the Conventions and Visitor's Bureau and a lot of different people in town, which has really made our stay a great one.

“We keep coming back because of the great people in Big Spring and the wonderful airport facilities. However, we have to admit it's especially the hang gliding weather conditions we love here.”

And while the weather in Big Spring may not be perfect, Glover said it's still the best around.

“Consistently, Big Spring has the best hang gliding weather conditions

year after year,” said Glover. “We'd like perfect conditions, but it's really been great this year. It's looking like it will be a good week for us. We made it an eight-day competition to increase the chances we'll have a lot of good flying (weather).”

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

EDOUARD

Continued from Page 1A

en later in the day as it moves west-northwest over Texas.

Strong winds and horizontal rain were hitting the Bolivar Peninsula, a thin strip of land northeast of Galveston that separates Galveston Bay from the Gulf of Mexico. The area is dotted with beach houses and patches of trees.

Some homes and businesses in the small peninsula town of Crystal Beach were boarded up early Tuesday and some street lights were out, but there were no apparent signs of serious damage.

In Galveston, a few surfers were in the water and some people were riding bikes alongside the beach as the heavy rains approached.

“We are just out here enjoying it, trying to feel that good breeze that's coming in,” said Robert Lemon, 45, of Sweeny, who said he was hoping the storm passed quickly so he could

do some fishing.

The storm hit at the height of tourist season in Galveston, but tourism officials said many vacationers had planned to stay in hopes that the area would not be hit as hard as South Padre Island was by Hurricane Dolly on July 23.

Galveston, scene of a 1900 hurricane that killed about 8,000 people, did not order any evacuations ahead of Edouard.

Still, officials in Texas and Louisiana had prepared in advance in case Edouard grew into a hurricane.

Both states mobilized emergency teams, including 1,200 Texas National Guard troops. Texas Gov. Rick Perry issued a disaster declaration for 17 Texas counties and Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal declared a statewide emergency.

Edouard skirted the Louisiana coast, making for a blustery day in New Orleans but otherwise causing no problems in the hurricane-weary city. The storm raised tides along the coast, pushing water

into bayous and some low-lying yards in the Terrebonne Parish communities of Dulac and Chauvin. Terrebonne emergency preparedness director Jerry Richard said only minor damage was reported and no homes were flooded.

In Cameron Parish, bordering Texas, emergency management officials reported some power lines down and minor damage as squall lines passed through. Residents of low-lying areas south of the Intracoastal Waterway in Cameron were ordered to evacuate Monday. It was unclear how soon they would be allowed to return.

Hurricane Audrey killed about 500 people when it struck Cameron in 1957. Since then, parish officials are quick to order evacuations when tropical weather threatens.

Edouard did not bring the 100-mph winds that punished the Texas tourist hotspot of South Padre Island when Hurricane Dolly tore off roofs and knocked down signs last month.

Since Dolly, South Padre has regained electric power but its four biggest full-service hotels remain closed as well as the convention center in the community about 260 miles down the coast from Galveston.

The Texas coast counts on tourism this time of year. About 50 million visitors to the Texas coast spent about \$15 billion in 2006.

Edouard did force oil and gas companies in the Gulf to evacuate workers from 23 production platforms and six rigs, according to the U.S. Minerals Management Service. The service said there are 717 manned platforms and 125 operating rigs in the Gulf.

Marathon Oil Corp. temporarily shut down a refinery that processes about 76,000 barrels of crude per day in Texas City, about 10 miles north of Galveston.

The Louisiana Offshore Oil Port temporarily suspended the offloading of tankers in the Gulf but said customers weren't affected because of pipeline deliveries.

LOCAL CONNECTION

Mock accident used to hone skills of first responders in Southwest Asia

by Master Sgt. Jeff Loftin
379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA — Members from nearly every unit on base participated in a major accident response exercise here July 28.

The goals of the exercise were to hone the skills of first responders and to practice incident command and control. About 500 people from organizations across the base were involved in the exercise which simulated an aircraft mishap resulting in one Airman “killed” and 24 “injured.”

“One of the goals was to overload the medical system, and to force them to triage their patients and set priorities,” said Maj. Johnny Helm, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing deputy chief of wing plans, deployed here from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

The medical group rose to the challenge, according to Lt. Col. Herbert Scott, 379th Expeditionary Medical Group deputy commander.

“Medical personnel responded quickly to triage the patients and determine who needed care most urgently,” he said. “All patients were transported to the right level of care which included the 379th EMDG as well as host nation facilities. In particular, this exercise showed for the first time ever how all the various means of transportation, including civilian and military air evacuation, could be used here.”

Colonel Scott said he was pleased with the medical group's response to the challenges of the mass casualty exercise.

“The greatest benefit of the exercise was to allow the entire staff of the 379 EMDG to work together to handle a mass casualty,” said the Shalimar, Fla., native. “Considering the number of home base units represented within the hospital, practicing as one team ensures everyone will always exceed expectations in the preservation of life and limb if a real world event occurs.”

“The exercise did show a few areas to improve communication and tracking of patients through the continuum of care,” he said. “The events provided valuable insight as we consider the various means of patient transport used to

deliver patients to multiple facilities.”

The exercise was also valuable practice for the command and control structure.

“One challenge we faced was to complete the process of changing from the old Disaster Control Group, Survival Recovery Center and Battle Staff roles we previously held,” said Master Sgt. James Martin, 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron readiness and emergency management flight chief, deployed from Yokota Air Base, Japan. “We are now implementing the Air Force Incident Management System throughout the Air Force and this is a big change for us.”

Sergeant Martin is in charge of the emergency managers, which played a large role in the exercise.

“Our leadership gave us some new direction to improve our response,” said the New York City, N.Y., native. “This was an excellent opportunity for us to practice communicating with units, accounting for our personnel and assets and working together as a team. As we say in emergency management, the last thing you want to be doing is exchanging business cards at the scene of a disaster.”

Overall, the exercise proved a success, said Major Helm.

“I think the exercise went very well,” he said. “We definitely learned some lessons, which was the goal. Overall I think we're well prepared to handle any accident that might happen on the base.”

Major Helm said these types of exercises are conducted periodically with varying scenarios.

“I think it was good training for all the people involved from all the different groups,” said the Coahoma, Texas, native. “They got the training they wanted. We will use it to improve our response and make this base a safer place.”

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-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OTHER VIEWS

Neglectful parenting makes kids fat

Not long ago, an editorial board member overheard a conversation in a doctor's office between a physician and a sales rep for Lipitor, used to treat high cholesterol. The doctor said she'd had great success treating her obese patients with the drug. The doctor is a pediatric cardiologist. She later explained that she sees many obese children these days at such acute risk that they need medication.

It's not an isolated phenomenon. Recently, The New York Times, citing drug company data, said hundreds of thousands of American children are now taking drugs to treat high cholesterol, Type 2 diabetes and other conditions associated with obesity. These were unknown in children as recently as 20 years ago.

There's concern, of course, that some doctors are too quick to seek a chemical fix for a problem best treated with diet and exercise. Physicians prescribing the medications, however, counter that when children and their parents cannot or will not implement lifestyle changes to lose weight, drugs are the only option.

The obesity crisis is going to cost the nation plenty in personal suffering, lost productivity and high health care costs. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the percentage of obese children and adolescents has roughly tripled since the mid-1970s, to 16 percent. About one-third of all U.S. children and adolescents are obese or overweight, though researchers expressed guarded optimism when recent studies indicated that number has hit a plateau.

Neglectful adults are setting these kids up for a lifetime of struggling with illness, emotional problems and doctor's bills — and perhaps early death. Overweight children are far more likely to become overweight adults, in part because eating habits learned in childhood — including indulging in processed foods, supersized proportions and frequent snacking — are hard to shake.

Children depend on adults to make responsible choices for them. A child who has to take statin drugs because of her obesity cannot be blamed for her condition. The adults in charge of her care and feeding? That's another story.

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

How To CONTACT Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
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- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SHORT PRAYER

Lord, give us the patience and the peace to work with others rather than to judge them negatively.
Amen

No credit where credit is due

Here's a question: Which U.S. president has done the most in history to help Africa? President Clinton, you say?

Remember his much ballyhooed six-country tour in 1998, a trip in which President Clinton came close to apologizing for America's role in slavery? Of course, the most memorable picture to emerge from that visit was a glimpse of the president in his Dakar hotel room banging on a conga drum, a fat cigar in his mouth, apparently celebrating the news that a judge had dismissed Paula Jones' lawsuit accusing him of sexual harassment.

No, President Clinton may have been the first black president, as novelist Toni Morrison dubbed him, but aid to the continent during his tenure didn't come close to the mark hit by Africa's true champion — President George W. Bush. When President Bush took office in 2001, U.S. aid to Africa was less than \$1.5 billion a year. By 2006, the Bush administration was spending more than \$4 billion a year, and that aid will more than double under President Bush's initiatives by 2010.

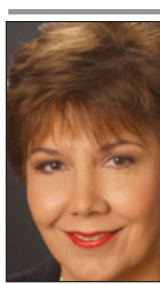
Most of the money has been directed at fighting diseases: HIV/AIDS, which has devastated a continent where one third of the population of some countries is affected; tuberculosis, which remains a killer in Africa; and malaria, with more than 25 million Africans receiving prevention and treatment for this

life-threatening disease. And the president has also increased trade with Africa, which has doubled during his tenure. Yet you don't hear much about President Bush's African legacy.

President Bush came into office promising he would govern with his own style of compassionate conservatism. And he's largely lived up to that promise, but he gets little or no credit. Aid to Africa is only one aspect of that compassion. This week, an annual report to Congress on homelessness in the United States reports a historic drop in the number of chronically homeless people over a two-year period: a 30 percent decline between 2005 and 2007.

The study, which is mandated by Congress, was conducted by researchers from Abt Associates and the University of Pennsylvania Center for Mental Health Services and Research. It showed that a new policy enacted to promote "housing first" for chronically homeless people — most of whom are either mentally ill or substance abusers — actually works. Instead of allowing these individuals to shuttle between the streets, shelters, and hospitals in a vicious cycle, the new policy called for intervention to get them into permanent housing. The Department of Housing and Urban Development has financed 10,000-12,000 additional permanent housing units every year for the past four years — which may explain the more than 50,000 fewer chronically homeless persons detailed in the report.

But don't expect President Bush to get any credit for shifting priorities in this arena either. Bush isn't likely to get an award from the Na-



LINDA CHAVEZ

tional Coalition for the Homeless or other liberal advocacy groups. And Bush's lack of recognition isn't confined to liberals. Many fiscal conservatives grouse that Bush's emphasis on beefing up foreign aid and financing expensive new social programs makes him one of the biggest spenders in history. Indeed, federal aid to education increased 58 percent in the first three years of the Bush administration — more than in all eight years of the Clinton administration, according to the nonpartisan Annenberg Political Fact Check. But the teachers unions still detest Bush for pushing tougher standards for students and teachers.

Bush's true legacy won't be known until he's been out of office for a number of years. So much depends on progress in Iraq that all else may be obscured. Just as Watergate defined President Nixon's legacy and the Vietnam War largely determined the way President Johnson was regarded by history, Iraq will be the defining issue that establishes President Bush's place in history. But no matter what happens in Iraq (and signs are certainly encouraging since the surge in U.S. troops has helped secure stability there), President Bush has left a positive mark in other areas as well. In time, he'll get the credit he deserves.

Linda Chavez is the author of "An Unlikely Conservative: The Transformation of an Ex-Liberal." To find out more about Linda Chavez, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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• **GEORGE W. BUSH**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-5922

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
517 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4305
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Phone: (512) 463-2000

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Texas 85th District
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Austin, 78768
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Respect out the window

What does Barack Obama have to do with Britney Spears and Paris Hilton?

Absolutely nothing, as far as I can tell. A mentally unstable party girl and an heiress/party girl? Did I miss the part where Obama's father was a hotel magnate, where he couldn't be trusted to take care of his children, where he literally partied till he dropped?

Yet that is the connection the McCain campaign is trying to make in its latest attack ad. Sen. McCain says he's "proud" of the ad. With all due respect (if any is left), what is there to be proud of? "I'm John McCain and I approved this ad." Why?

There's no honor in the latest McCain ad. It has nothing to do with issues, legitimate differences, or the strengths or weaknesses of the candidates. It's nothing more than a cheap shot at guilt by association or, worse yet, non-association, playing to people's ignorance instead of their intelligence.

I'd like to believe it won't work. I'd like to believe that people will judge McCain and Obama on their qualifications, their visions, their positions, their experience — not on the basis of silly attack ads trying to tie them to people they've never met.

If McCain wants to claim he's more experienced, fair enough. If he wants to argue that his policies will be better, that he'll do more to bring gas prices down and home prices up, even better.

But even Obama's most ardent detractors should be willing to admit he is a man of enormous intelligence, a guy with a vision and a gift. I don't know Paris Hilton; she's not a friend of mine. Neither is Britney. But I do know this: Barack Obama is no Paris Hilton. And no Britney Spears.

I'm not naive. I understand that negative ads work. I have no doubt that McCain, walking a tightrope between the conservatives, whose support he needs and who could wreak havoc at his Convention, and the independents he used to appeal to, would rather turn this election into a referendum on Obama than an up-or-down vote on a third Republican term in the White House. I understand that he'd rather focus attention on Obama the celebrity

than on McCain the professional politician, the Bush supporter, the Washington insider, the friend of lobbyists.

If he wants to run an ad attacking Obama for the church he attended and the pastor he defended, so it goes. If he wants to claim Obama was too recently a member of the State Senate in Illinois to be moving to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., so be it. But Britney and Paris? Have you no shame, senator? How dumb do you think Americans are?

So why is McCain doing this? Why is a man who promised to run a "respectful campaign," a guy who was himself the victim of a pretty ugly campaign that left him bruised and angry eight years ago, instead running a ridiculous and shameful one — and with months to go before Election Day?

Presumably, it's because he thinks it will work, and that's all he cares about. Shame on all of us if he's right.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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Bird Poop: Owl's encounter with a fence

After fluffing his feathers and wiggling his tail, the large bird leapt from atop a mesquite tree to begin his nightly hunt. Effortlessly, his powerful wings soon attained the height he needed. Gliding between the rising giants, he sailed over the escarpment. Descending toward a building in the distance, he sought the food source attracted by its outdoor lighting.



BEBE MCCASLAND

Hatched on a rocky ledge over which he had just flown, he had grown from a downy chick in January to a sizeable bird of prey by June. Having wings and a tail developed enough for flight, he began the adventures of locating and recognizing his nightly quest for food. With his parents' guidance, he had mastered the most essential element of his behavior.

When rabbits were scarce, the juvenile had learned through the summer months and into September that small rodents and beetles were available near the dumpster behind the building. Gliding toward that area, he was startled by the opening of a door. Silently veering away from the man disposing of trash, the bird chose a different approach to the area he sought.

With his exceptional vision, he soon noticed the movement of a creature scurrying toward the receptacle. Intent upon clasp the animal in his talons, he slammed into a barrier he had not seen.

As the rat hurried away from his near death, the bird tried to regain his composure. In spite of his throbbing left wing, he



Courtesy photo

The largest owl in Texas, the great horned owl, is notable with its large head, yellow eyes and long ear tufts. Close to three pounds, the owl demonstrates its strength in being able to lift more than its own weight.

was determined to take flight. Starting forward and flapping his wings, he could not lift his heavy body from the ground. Having fallen after the impact, he shook his dusty feathers. He could only stand and await what might happen next.

"Wind plant," said the manager when he called. "Looks like a great horned owl. It hit the chain link fence," he continued. With his directions, we drove east, then south, to the turn-off. Waiting at the locked gate for the man to arrive, we enjoyed the arid beauty of this desert scrub land.

Following the manager's pickup, we traveled on a recently built caliche road. As we skirted the southern end of the Flanigan, a catch-basin for the water district, we could see the building and the wind mills in the distance.

Huddled against the steel links of the fence, the owl hissed and popped his bill as we approached. Trying to keep his distance from us, he followed the fence line with a hurried walk. We hoped the extent of his injury was bruising

rather than a fracture as he held his wings equally to his body. With Art's and the manager's assistance in corralling the bird, I was able to place a net over the owl as he continued to protest.

Feeling no breaks, we could tell the juvenile had adequate body fat by feeling of the areas adjacent to his breast bone, or keel. His development of winter plumage was nearly complete. Resembling an adult great horned, he had a white throat patch, barred wings and tail.

After we delivered the owl to the wildlife center in Lubbock, news came that the great horned owl had suffered a soft tissue injury. With time, he would recover.

Weeks later, we brought the bird back for release. Since we arrived home late in the evening, we placed the great horned in a larger and more comfortable cage than his carrier. The owl dined on mice during the night. The next evening the manager had arranged for us to release the bird on the wind farm lease.

Ready to load the juve-

nile, I was greeted by the most hostile and aggressive great horned owl I was ever to handle. As I opened the door, the bird lunged at my head and shoulders with talons extended. Not in the mood for another trip, the bird of prey attacked several times. Only a thick towel thrown over his head and leather gloves for protection helped me capture his legs and bring him out of the enclosure. The strength of his protesting legs was matched by the strong flapping of his wings. He was ready.

When we arrived at the release site, a number of employees and their families greeted us. To see a great horned owl from a close perspective had been promised. With this bird I could not chance a mishap. One wrong move on my part could enable the bird a chance to fly and inflict cuts on someone else.

Choosing safety over a display of such an unruly bird of prey, we had our audience stand aside while we opened the carrier. Bursting away from us and toward open country, the owl flew over the greasewood and cactus. Landing among the native plants several hundred feet away, the bird was hidden from view.

"What's it doing now?" asked a young boy. Telling the families the bird was "getting its bearings," Art stressed that it would take some time for it to become familiar with its surroundings. "Won't a coyote or fox get it?" Informing them that very few animals would approach such a formidable opponent, we felt confident in its abilities to protect itself.

When a rather tall man said he couldn't see it anymore, we stressed that was the importance of its coloration. Blending into its surroundings was part of its defense. As we

left the area, neither of us could see the owl even though we knew where it had landed. Its disappearance into the wild was reassuring.

Extending an invitation to learn about the wind farm and ride the elevator to the top of a wind mill, the manager later took each of us on a tour inside the tower. After lifting a floor hatch, he noted I was 275 feet above the ground. Then climbing a short way, he opened a door to the top. With head and shoulders above the sleek,

white skin of the bus-sized housing for the generator, I could see to the east the picturesque hills that led to Signal Peak. At last I felt akin to the owl that had brought me to this locale. Understanding the beauty of the terrain the owl traversed nightly in his flights over the bluffs, I realized the depth of his untamable spirit.

Bebe McCasland is federally and state licensed to rehabilitate wild birds.

sudoku

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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Necessary Assumptions

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ J 7 4 3
♥ Q 10 5
♦ A K Q
♣ J 6 2

WEST
♠ A K 8 2
♥ 6
♦ 9 7 4
♣ A Q 10 9 3

EAST
♠ Q 10 9 5
♥ 9 7 4 3
♦ 6 2
♣ 8 5 4

SOUTH
♠ 6
♥ A K J 8 2
♦ J 10 8 5 3
♣ K 7

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Dble Redble 1♠
2♦ 2♠ 4♥

Opening lead — king of spades.
A recurrent theme of many deals is that declarer must assume that the adverse cards are divided in a specific way because if they are not, he cannot make the contract.

Consider this hand where West leads the A-K of spades. South ruffs, and there seems to be little to the play, since he can count 10 tricks in hearts and diamonds. However, a complication arises when he leads a heart to the ten and a heart back to the king, and West shows out.

If South extracts East's two remaining trumps at this point, he will be unable to collect five dia-

mond tricks, since he won't be able to get back to his hand after cashing the three high diamonds in dummy.

If he delays the extraction of trumps and instead attempts to cash the A-K-Q of diamonds first, he runs the risk that East will ruff and defeat him.

What does declarer do in such a situation? First, he makes an assumption that the adverse cards are divided in such a way that the contract can be made. To play on any other basis would be a form of defeatism.

In the present case, South dismisses from consideration hands where East has no diamonds or only one. He cannot make four hearts if either of these conditions exists.

He next turns to cases where East has two, three, four or five diamonds. In all of these cases, he can make the contract by proper play. South therefore stops drawing trumps and cashes the A-K of diamonds, noting with satisfaction that both opponents follow suit.

Since it would be dangerous to cash the queen at this point — East can ruff if he started with only two diamonds — South resumes drawing trumps. He plays the A-J, being careful to discard the queen of diamonds from dummy on the fourth heart. With the queen out of the way, declarer is then able to cash the J-10-8 of diamonds to make the contract.

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Who do they think they're fooling?

I received a letter the other day the other day that really got me to thinking and at the same time I have to admit I had to laugh.

It went like this: This is happening right here in our own country and we must stop it immediately. Have you noticed that stairs are getting steeper. Groceries are heavier. And, everything is farther away.



DARRELL RYAN

Yesterday, I walked to the corner and I was dumbfounded to discover how long our street had become! And, you know, people are less considerate now, especially the young ones. They speak in whispers all the time! If you ask them to speak up they just keep repeating themselves, endlessly mouthing the same silent message until they're red in the face! What do they think I am, a lip reader?

I also think they are much younger than I was at the same age. On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am. I ran into an old friend the other day

and she has aged so much that she didn't even recognize me.

I got to thinking about the poor dear while I was combing my hair this morning, and in doing so, I glanced at my own reflection well, REALLY NOW — even mirrors are not made the way they used to be!

Another thing, everyone drives so fast these days! You're risking life and limb if you happen to pull onto the freeway in front of them. All I can say is that their brakes must wear out awfully fast, the way I see them screech and swerve in my rear view mirror.

Clothing manufacturers are less civilized these days too. Why else would they suddenly start labeling a size 12 dress as 18 or 20? Do they think no one notices?

The people who make bathroom scales are pulling the same prank. Do

Parent's Corner

they think I actually "believe" the number I see on that dial? HA! I would never let myself weigh that much! Just who do these people think they're fooling?

I'd like to call up someone in authority to report what's going on — but the telephone company is in on the conspiracy, too. They've printed the phone books in such small type that no one could ever find a number in there!

All I can do is pass along this warning: WE ARE UNDER ATTACK! Unless something drastic happens pretty soon everyone will have to suffer these awful indignities. Signed, Your Aunt!

As I read this letter I had

to admit to the truthful nature it portrays but I also had to admit that I felt helpless in doing anything about it except to do as she suggested and pass along the warning.

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

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► News in Brief

Source: Gotti arrested on murder conspiracy charge

NEW YORK (AP) — John A. "Junior" Gotti has been arrested on charges linking him to three New York murders, a law enforcement official said Tuesday.

Gotti, 44, was arrested by the FBI at his Long Island home. Federal authorities in Tampa, Florida, are expected to announce a racketeering indictment, charging Gotti with murder conspiracy in connection with killings in the late 1980s and early 1990s, according to the official, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because a formal announcement had not yet been made.

A separate indictment charges five other men with racketeering. It alleges some of them were involved with Gotti in one of the three New York murders, according to the official. It also alleges a fourth killing in New York, not linked to Gotti.

Gotti and two other suspects arrested in New York are expected to appear in Manhattan federal court on Tuesday for a removal hearing. At least one other man has been arrested in Florida.

A call to Gotti's attorney was not immediately returned.

Gotti is the son of "Dapper Don" John Gotti, the late Gambino family boss.

In 1999, Junior Gotti pleaded guilty to racketeering crimes including bribery, extortion, gambling and fraud. He was sentenced to 77 months in prison and was released in 2005.

Police fire water cannon at Bush protesters

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Police fired water cannons at thousands of protesters Tuesday as President Bush got a volatile reception in South Korea at the start of his three-nation Asian trip.

Dueling demonstrations reflected mixed sentiments in this U.S. ally, where public opinion surveys remain generally positive about America, though many people decry Washington for a variety of issues. Bush will meet Wednesday with President Lee Myung-bak for the third time since the conservative, pro-American leader took office in February.

Some 18,300 police were on high alert with riot gear and bomb-sniffing dogs to maintain order during Bush's brief visit, the National Police Agency said.

About 30,000 people gathered in front of Seoul City Hall for an afternoon Christian prayer service supporting Bush's trip. Large South Korean and U.S. flags were held aloft by balloons overhead along with a banner reading, "Welcome President Bush."

"The United States made sacrifices for South Korea during the Korean War and helped us live well," said Kim Jung-kwang, a 67-year-old retired air force colonel who wore his military uniform to the rally. "The United States is not our enemy. Without the U.S., we will die."

As evening approached, an estimated

20,000 anti-Bush protesters gathered nearby. Police turned water cannons on them as they tried to move onto the main central downtown boulevard, telling the crowd that the liquid contained markers to tag them so they could be identified later.

"I don't have anti-U.S. sentiment. I'm just anti-Bush and anti-Lee Myung-bak," said Uhm Ki-woong, 36, a businessman who was wearing a mask and hat like other demonstrators in an apparent attempt to conceal his identity.

Twelve demonstrators were arrested, along with another 12 at an earlier attempted demonstration near the military airport where Bush landed, police said.

Bush held off on visiting Seoul earlier this year when protesters staged nightly candlelight vigils and repeatedly clashed with riot police over imports of American beef, saying Lee ignored public health concerns over the possibility of mad cow disease and failed to consult with citizens. Lee has promised to patch up relations with Washington that became strained under Seoul's previous decade of liberal governments.

Security tightens in western China following attack, Olympic organizers offer reassurances

KASHGAR, China (AP) — Police tightened security in China's western Xinjiang region Tuesday and Olympic organizers sought to reassure residents and visitors after a deadly attack on police heightened jitters just days ahead of the games' opening ceremony.

China's official Xinhua News Agency reported that authorities reinforced police checkpoints at roads leading into Kashgar, the scene of Monday's attack, with police boarding buses to search passengers' bags. A full security alert has been issued in public places, including government office buildings, schools and hospitals, the agency said.

In Xinjiang's capital of Urumqi, police used handheld devices to check residents' security cards in routine street patrols.

Sixteen officers were killed and another 16 were injured when two assailants rammed a dump truck and hurled explosives at a group of jogging policemen in Kashgar.

The attack in the city near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border brought an immediate response from China's Olympic organizers, who said security precautions are in place to ensure safety in Beijing and other Olympic venues when the games open Friday.

Pentagon orders about 1,250 Marine trainers to stay in Afghanistan for an extra 30 days

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon has ordered roughly 1,250 Marines serving as trainers for the Afghan security forces to stay on the warfront almost a

month longer to continue a mission that military leaders say is a top priority, according to a senior military official.

In addition, Defense Secretary Robert Gates has authorized the deployment of up to 200 other troops to Afghanistan to support the Marines. That includes eight helicopter crews that could be shifted from Iraq if commanders decide.

The senior military official spoke to The Associated Press on Monday on condition of anonymity because the formal announcement has not yet been made.

The decision to extend the tour of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment in Afghanistan comes just a month after defense officials told the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit that it would stay an extra month in Afghanistan.

According to the official, the decision to hold the battalion there longer is part of an effort to capitalize on the gains the Marines have made in the training mission. The extension means that the battalion would return home in late November.

Authorities say suspect's obsession with sorority provided clues to anthrax mystery

WASHINGTON (AP) — One of the biggest mysteries surrounding the anthrax scare of 2001 — why the anthrax-laced letters were dropped off at a mailbox in New Jersey — may be connected to a sorority chapter at Princeton University.

Bruce Ivins' decades-long obsession with the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority could link the former Army biowarfare scientist to the four anthrax-laced letters, authorities said Monday.

Still, authorities acknowledge they cannot place Ivins in Princeton the day the anthrax was mailed. And the curious explanation connecting the scientist and a sorority is unlikely to satisfy his friends and former co-workers who question what motive the married father of two might have had for unleashing the attack.

Ivins, 62, killed himself last week as the Justice Department prepared to indict him on capital murder charges for the deaths of five people who were poisoned by the anthrax in the weeks following 9/11. His attorney maintains he would have been proven innocent were he still alive.

The mailbox just off the campus of Princeton University where the letters were mailed sits about 100 yards away from where the college's Kappa Kappa Gamma chapter stores its rush materials, initiation robes and other property. Sorority members do not live there, and the Kappa chapter at Princeton does not provide a house for the women.

Obama, McCain campaigns engage in hard-hitting politics, but show differences in style, tone

WASHINGTON (AP) — For all the talk about John McCain's hard-hitting politics, Barack Obama is hardly innocent.

Both candidates and their allies are fully engaged in creating unflattering caricatures of each other that they hope will stick in voters' minds for the next three months.

Obama and his Democratic allies argue that the Republican is negative and offers nothing new, while McCain and his Republicans claim the Democrat is presumptuous and ill-prepared.

"They're cynical," Obama recently charged of McCain and his followers, adding: "They want to distract people from talking about the real issues." One day earlier, the Democrat issued a fundraising appeal accusing McCain of taking "the low road" and stooping to "the same old smears" by launching "a desperate new set of attacks" each day.

McCain disputed that. "This is a very respectful campaign. I don't think our campaign is negative in the slightest," he said. His comments came the same week he agreed with a top aide's charge that Obama had "played the race card" and rolled out a TV commercial that mocking Obama as "the biggest celebrity in the world" and asking: "Is he ready to lead?"

U.S. panel urges doctors to quit routine prostate cancer screening in men over 75

NEW YORK (AP) — Doctors should stop routine prostate cancer screening of men over 75 because there is more evidence of harm than benefit, a federal task force advised Monday in a new blow to a much scrutinized medical test.

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, which made the recommendation, reported finding evidence that the benefits of treatment based on routine screening of this age group "are small to none." However, treatment often causes "moderate-to-substantial harms," including erectile dysfunction and bladder control and bowel problems, the task force said.

The new guidance is the first update by the task force on prostate cancer screening since 2002. The last report on the subject from this panel of experts, which sets the nation's primary care standards, concluded there was insufficient evidence to recommend prostate screening for men of all ages.

In recent years, there has been a growing debate about the value of the somewhat imprecise PSA test to detect cancer, as well as the value of treating most prostate cancers. A number of experts contend patients are being overtreated.

Most major U.S. medical groups recommend doctors discuss the potential benefits and known harms of prostate screening with their patients and make individual decisions. And most agree such testing shouldn't occur before age 50.

Morgan Freeman hospitalized after car crash in Mississippi

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Oscar-winning actor Morgan Freeman was hospitalized Monday after the car he was driving left a rural road in the Mississippi Delta and flipped several times.

Freeman, 71, was airlifted to the Regional Medical Center in Memphis, Tenn., about 90 miles north of the accident in rural Tallahatchie County.

The actor "has a broken arm, broken elbow and minor shoulder damage, but is in good spirits," according to a statement from Donna Lee, Freeman's publicist. A hospital spokeswoman said Freeman was in serious condition but would not discuss his injuries.

"He is having a little bit of surgery this afternoon or tomorrow to help correct the damage," Lee's statement said. "He says he'll be OK and is looking forward to a full recovery."

Freeman, who won an Oscar for his role in "Million Dollar Baby," is among the stars in "The Dark Knight," now in theaters. His screen credits also include "Driving Miss Daisy."

Federal Reserve expected to leave interest rates alone as powerful forces buffet the economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve, caught between mounting job losses and rising inflation, is likely to sit tight and hope that the interest rate cuts it has already provided will be enough to heal a sick economy.

Private economists believe that when the central bank concludes its one-day meeting on Tuesday, it will announce that its target for the federal funds rate, the interest that banks charge each other, will remain at 2 percent.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues are being forced to navigate treacherous waters, trying to keep the economy from plunging into a deep recession while worrying about keeping interest rates so low that they could trigger a dangerous inflation spiral.

"The Fed is really locked in right now. They can't go forward or backward," said Sung Won Sohn, an economics professor at the Smith School of Business at California State University Channel Islands.

Many economists believe the funds rate will remain at 2 percent not only in August but for the rest of this year.

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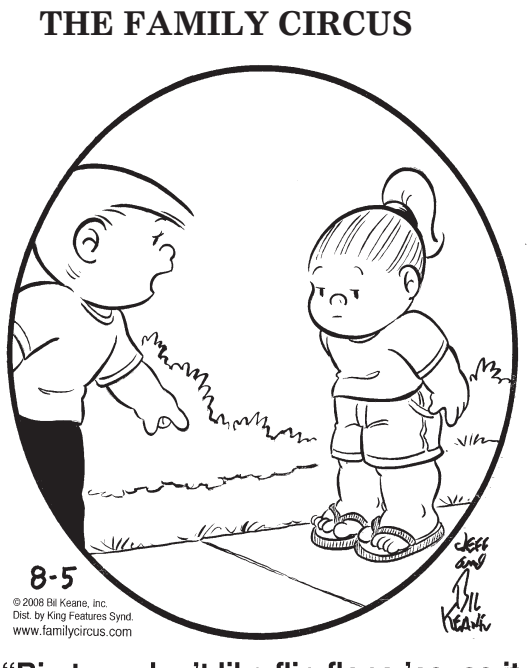
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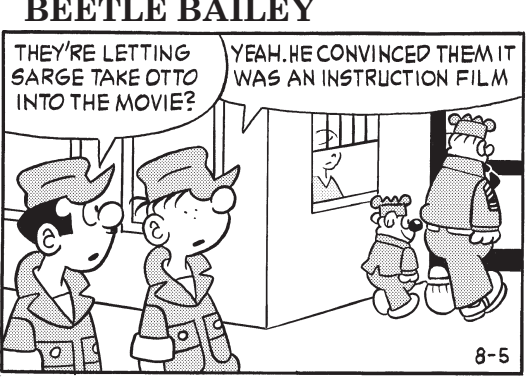
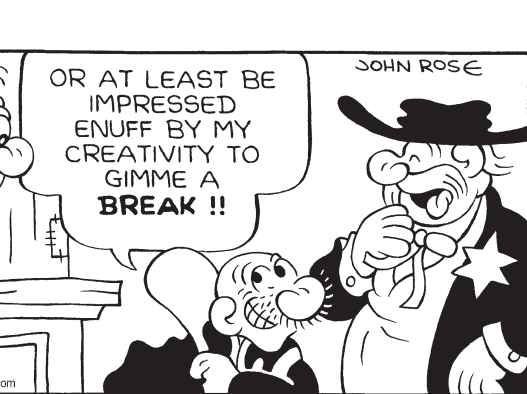
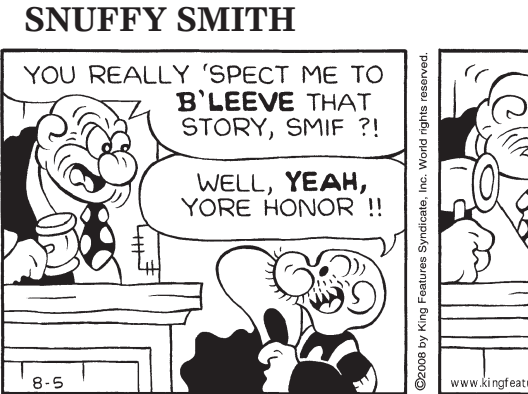
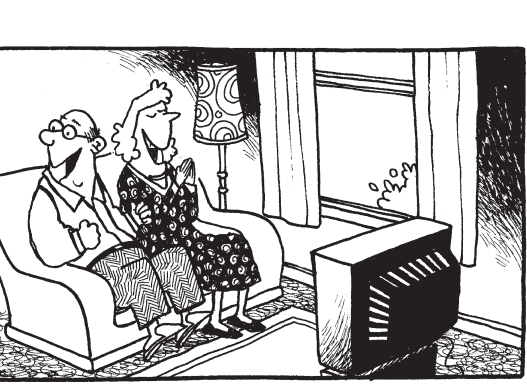
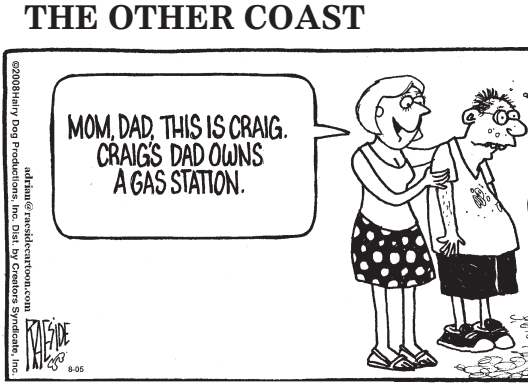
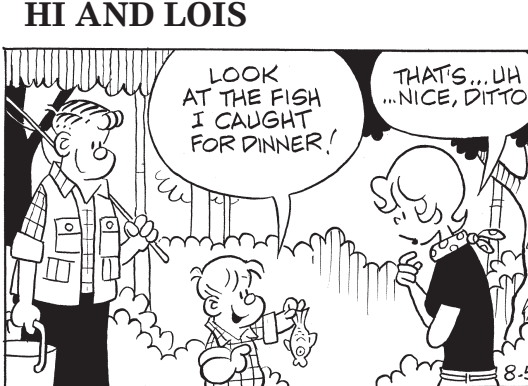
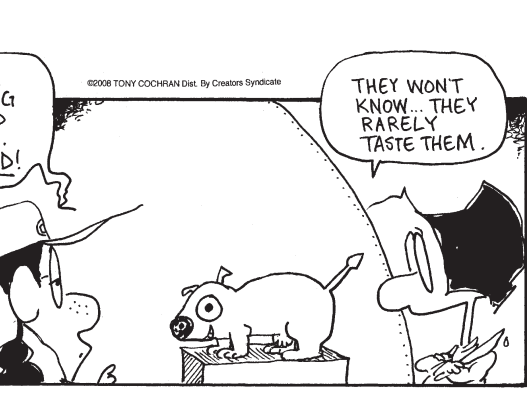
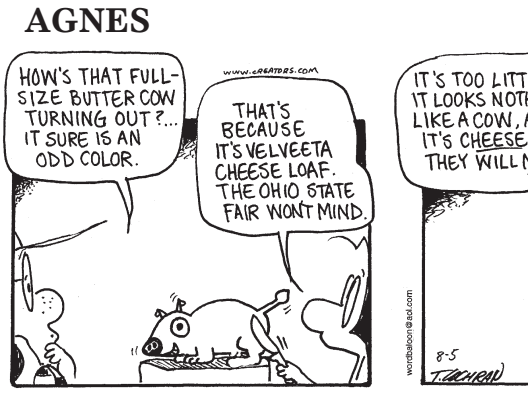
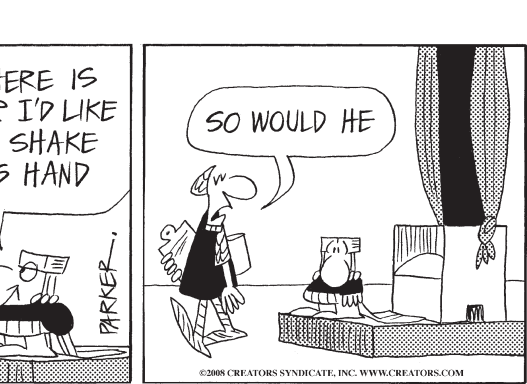
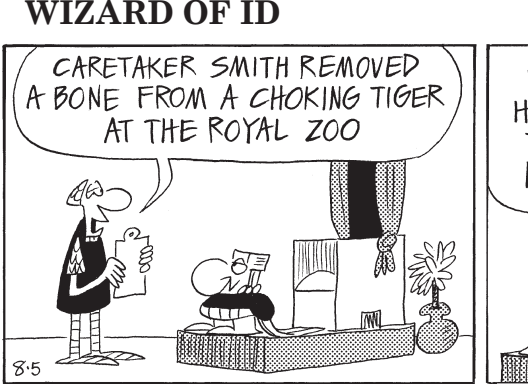
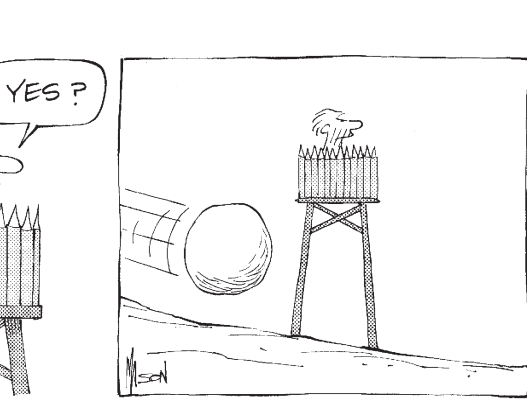
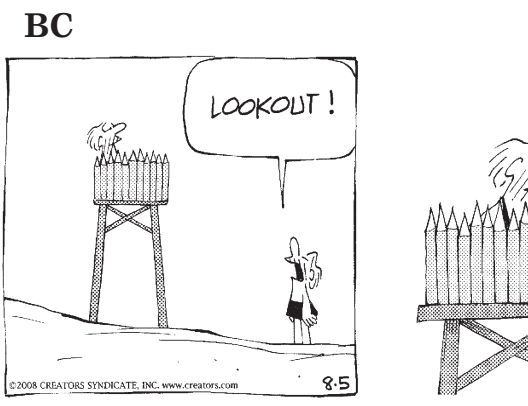
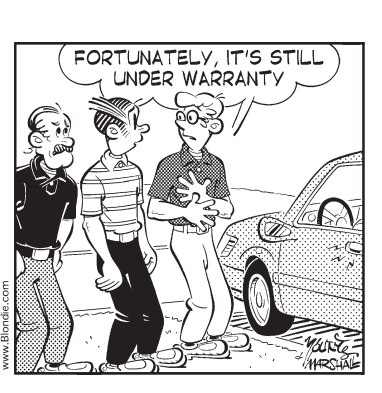
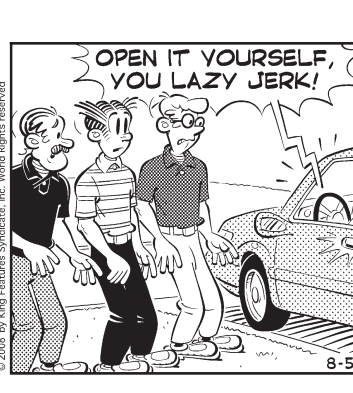
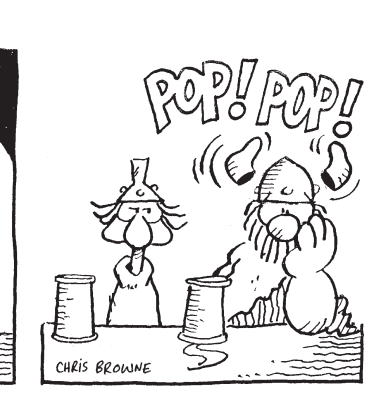
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6 :PM	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Querida Enemiga	Simpsons Two Men	News CBS	12 Corazones Entertain	News NBC	Raymond Raymond	Dr. Young Hagee	News-Lehrer Made	Cash Cab Cash Cab	Nelson	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Hell Date	Movie: The Cheetah Girls 2	Basket	NFL Live
7 :PM	Wipeout	Wipeout	Diablo-Guapopos	Kitchen Nightmares	House	NCIS El Juramento	Millionaire	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy	Israel Victory	Nova (DVS) Dirty Jobs	Movie: Honda, Ward Bond	Movie: The Searchers, Natalie Wood	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Movie: Nora's Hair Salon 2: A Cut Above	Montana Suite Life	Basketball: Australia vs. United States	Series of Poker
8 :PM	(01) I Survived a Japanese Game Show	(01) I Survived a Japanese Game Show	Fuego en la Sangre	Big Brother 10	Without a Trace	Doña Barbara	America's Got Talent	Fam. Guy Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	Wide Angle Dirty Jobs	Movie: The Searchers, Natalie Wood	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	Baldwin Hell Date	Wizards Life De	Tape	Baseball Tonight	
9 :PM	News ABC	News ABC	Impacto	Two Men	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	My Boys Israel	Israel Miller	Remem Made	Movie: The Searchers, Natalie Wood	CSI: NY	Saving Grace	Hell Date	Suite Life	Montana Tape	SportsCenter	
10 :PM	Nightline	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Late Show	Titulares	Tonight Show	Sex & Ministerio-Vida	Ministerio-Vida	Smiley Smiley	Movie: The Searchers, Natalie Wood	CSI: Crime Scn	Without a Trace	Movie: Nora's Hair Salon 2: A Cut Above	Games	NASCAR	Baseball	
11 :PM	Insider Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	La Hora de la Risita	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones	Late Night	Movie: Ace Ventura: Pet Detective	Israel Church	(Off Air)	Movie: The Searchers, Natalie Wood	CSI: Crime Scn	Without a Trace	Movie: Kim	Replace	Series of Poker	NFL Live	
12 :AM	News ABC	News ABC	Niña Amada Mia	RENO 911 Lopez	Insider	Programa Pagado	News	News ABC	Light of the Southwest	Smash Lab	Movie: The Searchers, Natalie Wood	CSI: Crime Scn	Without a Trace	Movie: Kim	Emperor Dragon	Series of Poker	SportsCenter	
1 :AM	Paid	Paid	Clasicos	RENO 911 King-Hill	Paid	Pelicula: La	Poker After Dark	American										



"DON'T BELIEVE ANY OF THAT STUFF. MY MOM BOUGHT IT AND MADE ME BRING IT."



"Big toes don't like flip-flops 'cause it separates them from their friends."



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, Aug. 5, the 218th day of 2008. There are 148 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Aug. 5, 1858, the first trans-Atlantic telegraph cable, the dreamchild of American businessman Cyrus Field, was laid between Newfoundland and Ireland. (However, after several weeks of use, the cable burned out.)

On this date:
In 1864, during the Civil War, Union Adm. David G. Farragut led his fleet to victory in the Battle of Mobile Bay, Ala.
In 1884, the cornerstone for the Statue of Liberty's pedestal was laid on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor.
In 1914, one of the first, if not the first, electric traffic light systems was installed in Cleveland, Ohio, at the intersection of 105th Street and Euclid Avenue.
In 1924, the comic strip "Little Orphan Annie," by Harold Gray, made its debut.
In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the National Labor Board, which was later replaced with the National Labor Relations Board.
In 1953, Operation Big Switch began as prisoners taken during the Korean conflict were exchanged at Panmunjom.
In 1962, actress Marilyn Monroe, 36, was found dead in her Los Angeles home; her death was ruled a probable suicide from an overdose of sleeping pills.
In 1963, the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union signed a treaty in Moscow banning nuclear tests in the atmosphere, in space and underwater.
In 1968, the Republican national convention convened in Miami Beach.
In 1981, the federal government began firing air traffic controllers who had gone out on strike.
One year ago: President Bush and Afghan President Hamid Karzai began meeting at Camp David to discuss security issues in Afghanistan. Lorena Ochoa won the Women's British Open — the first women's professional tournament played at venerable St. Andrews — for her first major title.

Today's Birthdays: Former astronaut Neil A. Armstrong is 78. Country singer Vern Gosdin is 74. Actress Cammie King ("Gone with the Wind") is 74. Actor John Saxon

is 73. Actor Zakes Mokae is 73. Country songwriter Bobby Braddock is 68. Rock musician Rick Huxley (The Dave Clark Five) is 66. Actress Loni Anderson is 62. Actress Erika Szlezak is 62. Rock singer Rick Derringer is 61. Actress Holly Palance is 58. Singer Samantha Sang is 55. Actress-singer Maureen McCormick is 52. Rock musician Pat Smear is 49. Actress Tawney Kitaen is 47. Country musician Mark O'Connor is 47. Rapper MCA (The Beastie Boys) is 44. Actor Jonathan Silverman is 42. Country singer Terri Clark is 40. Actor Brendon Ryan Barrett is 22.

Thought for Today: "I slept, and dreamed that life was Beauty; I woke, and found that life was Duty." — Ellen Sturgis Hooper, American poet (1816-1841).

Answer to previous puzzle

SLEW	STAG	BIRDS
TAXI	COVE	EMAIL
OMIT	RUIN	HAIKU
LPS	SET	DESIGNER
ESTATES	ANNE	
SEN	SLED	JAB
ALOHA	SHOE	IOWA
CINEMA	TOG	GRAPHER
TEEN	NAVY	LANDS
IDS	OGRE	PTS
POET	ERASERS	
HAIRDRESSER	LEA	
ENROL	DOSE	GANG
ATONE	OMEN	ETTE
RINGS	NESS	MESS

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lasting mark
 - 5 One getting out of bed
 - 10 At a distance
 - 14 Boxcar rider
 - 15 Wear down
 - 16 Mexican money
 - 17 Actor Baldwin
 - 18 Oregon's capital
 - 19 Hawaiian garlands
 - 20 Leave high and dry
 - 22 At the present time
 - 23 Runs in neutral
 - 24 Upper limbs
 - 25 Sugary
 - 27 Was uncertain of
 - 30 Windowpane material
 - 31 Airborne vehicle
 - 33 Carry a balance
 - 34 "Absolutely!"
 - 35 Turned to ice
 - 36 Sales agent, briefly
 - 37 Speedometer letters
 - 38 Incline
 - 39 Like a sentry
 - 41 Sports arena
 - 43 Use a steam iron on
 - 44 Location
 - 45 Piece of land
 - 47 Feels sore
 - 49 Minor blaze
 - 53 Ink smudge
 - 54 Nickels and dimes
- DOWN**
- 1 Playwright George Bernard
 - 2 Soft drink
 - 3 Brother of Cain
 - 4 Colorado mountains
 - 5 Outcome
 - 6 Really angry
 - 7 Songs for one
 - 8 Biblical paradise
 - 9 Sleep phase, for short
 - 10 Poise
 - 11 Suppliers of farm fare
 - 12 Largest continent
 - 13 Optimistic
 - 21 Poems of praise
 - 22 Factual
 - 24 Top-notch
 - 25 Got some shuteye
 - 26 Be carried in by the tide
 - 27 Flabbergast
 - 28 Wide-mouthed pitchers
 - 29 Government div.
 - 30 Workout places
 - 31 High-school dance
 - 32 Chop off, as branches
 - 35 Chimney duct
 - 38 Plops into a chair
 - 39 Part of a foot
 - 40 Allow to drop
 - 42 Counted calories
 - 43 Quarterback's throws
 - 45 Overused
 - 46 Disagreeable encounter
 - 47 Grade-school basics
 - 48 Applaud
 - 49 Skeleton part
 - 50 "Now it's clear!"
 - 51 Football officials
 - 52 Has a snack
 - 54 Use scissors

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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