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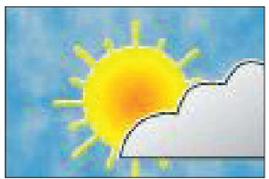


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HIGH BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY

JUNE 9, 2009



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Legislative session to boost HC

SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf will also benefit, Dr. Sparks says

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The recent session of the Texas Legislature was a successful one, as far as Howard College officials are concerned. HC President Dr. Cheryl Sparks said the recently concluded session was economically beneficial to her institu-



Sparks

tion. "We had a very successful session," Sparks said. "Howard College actually ... will see an increase in its appropriation from the state." Legislators decided to include Howard in the Small School Allotment,

which funnels funds toward qualifying smaller community colleges and universities. With that decision, HC will receive a little more than \$1 million extra over the course of the next two years, Sparks said. College officials have not yet decided how to spend the windfall, she added. SouthWest Collegiate Insti-

tute for the Deaf also benefited from the recent legislative session. "SWCID will receive an additional \$732,000 the next two years," Sparks said. "That extra money will allow us to expand our online and distance learning programs. Some of the money will also go to the career center and to enhance our communication system."

The session also continued funding for community college insurance benefits. Texas Gov. Rick Perry vetoed those payments two years ago, although they were eventually restored by the Legislative Budget Board. Another area of encouragement from state officials was

See **COLLEGE**, Page 3A



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Employees and contractors with the city of Big Spring begin demolition work on this building located in the 900 block of Goliad. Formerly the Big Spring Care Center, the building has been the target of numerous arson attacks during the past few years.

Pact to benefit police, SO

County agrees to house prisoners from Martin County

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Law enforcement issues took center stage during Monday morning's meeting of the Howard County commissioners, and in contrast to recent years' jail and fiscal woes, the news was positive.



Chamness

The court — with Precinct 1 Commissioner Emma Brown absent — approved an agreement between the Howard County Sheriff's Office and the Big Spring Police Department to split potential funds from a government grant.

"This resolution is an inter-local agreement," said Lt. Terry Chamness, who handles grant efforts for the BSPD. "It's part of the Recovery Act, which is part of the stimulus money that's still coming down the tubes. This is another grant they are letting the city apply for, and because the county houses our prisoners for Class 1 crimes and felonies, we share with them."

Chamness said the splitting of the grant money will be based on the number of Class 1 crimes reported in the city and county.

"We take that off of the Uniform

See **COUNTY**, Page 3A

Oil rises above \$69

PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press Writer

Oil prices rose to above \$69 a barrel Tuesday as traders brushed off concerns that the doubling of crude prices since March is out of step with a weak global economy.

Prices also benefited from investors looking for a safe haven in commodities as the U.S. dollar lost ground against other major cur-

rencies. Benchmark crude for July delivery was up \$1.23 to \$69.32 a barrel by mid-afternoon in Europe in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Monday, it fell 35 cents to settle at \$68.09.

Oil prices have joined a surge in equity markets on investor optimism that the worst of a global

recession is over. Crude touched above \$70 a barrel last week, the highest since October.

However, crude inventories remain near 19-year highs and demand in the U.S., the world's largest consumer of oil, is sluggish.

"There continues to be some economic optimism out there," said

See **OIL**, Page 3A

Developer of Chili's chain, Brinker, dies

DALLAS (AP) — Norman Brinker, who built a worldwide casual dining empire that includes Chili's Grill & Bar, On the Border and Maggiano's Little Italy, died Tuesday at age 78.

Brinker died at a hospital in Colorado Springs, Colo., said Robin Rymer at the Swan-Law Funeral Home. She did not know the cause of death.

Brinker retired as chairman of Dallas-based Brinker International in 2000 after building the chain of more than 1,000 casual-dining restaurants. The company now has 1,700 restaurants in 27 countries, ac-

cording to its Web site. Brinker got his start with a coffee shop in Dallas in the 1960s and later developed the concept for Steak & Ale restaurants, where he's credited with popularizing the salad bar and casual dining.

He sold Steak & Ale to Pillsbury Co in the early 1970s and went to work for Pillsbury's restaurant division. During his time at Pillsbury's restaurant division, he created the Bennigan's chain and became known for creating a "fern

bar" restaurant chain concept intended to attract single people.

Brinker later purchased Chili's, which had started as a single restaurant in Dallas, and took the chain public in 1983 under the brand Brinker International. Chili's now has about 900 company-owned restaurants and more than 550 franchises.

Among the chains Brinker International has bought and sold are Corner Bakery Cafe, EatZi's Market and Bakery. It now operates Romano's Macaroni Grill in addition to the other notable names.



Brinker

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Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback

Forsan's Miranda Park (left) prepares to throw a runner out during the Lady Buffs' 2-1 win over Alto in the Class A state title game at McCombs Field in Austin Saturday as teammate Ambra Hill moves to back her up. Both Park and Hill were named to the 2-A All-District team Monday.

10 Lady Buffs given 2-A honors

Junior Kelsey Jones named MVP

By **JONATHAN HULL**

Sports Editor

FORSAN — They have a Class A state softball title.

So what more could the Forsan Lady Buffalos want?

How about some District 2-A honors as well?

Ten Lady Buffs were honored by the coaches of District 2-A with awards, including a Most Valuable Player award for Kelsey Jones.

Jones, a junior, batted cleanup in the

Lady Buffs lineup and was one of the team leaders in batting average, home runs and RBI.



Jones

Jones consistently drove the ball over the fence during district play. In an 18-2 win over Eldorado April 10, Jones belted two 3-run homers.

She scored the tying run in the top of the sixth

See **FORSAN**, Page 2B

Lind powers Toronto over Rangers, 6-3

By **DAVID JIMENEZ**

Associated Press Writer

ARLINGTON — Rod Barajas didn't think it would be difficult to catch Rangers center fielder Marlon Byrd from behind on a run-down at third base.

Then the 33-year-old catcher realized something in the middle of the chase.

"I forgot how fast he is and how slow I am," Barajas said.

Barajas powered Toronto's lead with a diving tag on Byrd after Texas failed to put down a squeeze bunt in the sixth, and Adam Lind homered twice and drove in four runs as the Blue Jays snapped a nine-game road losing streak by beating the Rangers 6-3 Monday night.

Texas scored three runs in the sixth to cut Toronto's lead to 4-3 and had runners on first and third with one out. Elvis Andrus didn't make contact on a squeeze bunt, and Byrd was way off third.

After a faking a throw to Scott Rolen, Barajas was committed to running down Byrd himself. The former Rangers catcher lunged toward Byrd and barely clipped him before he slid into the bag.

"I thought it was going to be an easy tag play," Barajas said. "I got lucky and fell on his foot."

Before Barajas' defensive gem, Lind provided the offensive pop.

See **RANGERS**, Page 2B



AP photo/Matt Slocum

Texas Rangers second baseman Ian Kinsler can't reach a single by Toronto's Scott Rolen in the second inning of an AL baseball game Monday in Arlington. Toronto held off the Rangers for a 6-3 win.

Longhorns beat TCU, 5-2, head back to CWS

By **JIM VERTUNO**

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN (AP) — At a place like the University of Texas, four years between trips to the College World Series can feel like forever.

The long wait is over. The Longhorns are going back to Omaha, Neb.

Freshman Taylor Jungmann allowed two hits over six innings Monday night and top-seeded Texas earned its first trip to the College World Series since 2005 with a 5-2 win over TCU.

"The season starts now, man," said Texas coach Augie Garrido, who has won five national titles, including two with Texas in 2002 and 2005. "The race is on."

Texas, which earned its record 33rd trip to the CWS, has won six national championships. With that kind of history, not getting there from 2006-08 was a test of patience for players who understand that anything less is considered a failure.

The last time Texas (46-14-1) went four years between CWS appearances was 1994-99.

Garrido gave the ball to his tall 19-year-old right-hander to steer the return trip. Jungmann struck out five and walked one in picking up his eighth win of the season before being replaced by Austin Wood in the bottom of the seventh.

"No fear," Jungmann said. "You have to go out there with confidence."

Jungmann also had big early run support. For a team built on pitching and defense, Texas showed some surprising power at the plate.

Texas led 3-0 after the first inning behind an RBI triple by Brandon Belt and a solo home run by Kevin Keyes.

Michael Torres opened the first with a single and scored when Belt smashed a long shot to deep center that hit the wall near the 400-foot marker. Belt scored on a fielder's choice before Keyes blasted his seventh home run of the season. Horned Frogs left fielder Jason Coats knew the ball was gone as soon as it left the bat and hardly

See **HORNS**, Page 2B

Rangers lose Hamilton for 4-6 weeks after surgery

ARLINGTON (AP) — Texas Rangers center fielder Josh Hamilton will undergo surgery Tuesday to repair a partial tear in an abdominal muscle and is expected to miss the next 4-6 weeks.

"That's great because we thought it would be longer," manager Ron Washington said Monday. "It looks like we'll have a chance to get him back after the (July) All-Star break. At least it won't be September."

The team had feared that the injury was a hernia similar to the one that shut down second baseman Ian Kinsler for 12 weeks last year.

An MRI exam on Monday confirmed the diagnosis of the partial tear.

Dr. William Meyers, who examined Hamilton in Philadelphia, will perform the surgery.

Hamilton was injured May 17 when he crashed into an outfield wall while

making a leaping catch against the Los Angeles Angels. He went on the disabled list last week.

Also Monday, the Rangers said starting pitcher Brandon McCarthy has been diagnosed with a stress fracture in his right shoulder blade and will miss Tuesday's scheduled start against the Toronto Blue Jays. The right-hander was out nearly

See **HAMILTON**, Page 2B

Sports in brief

Big Spring ISD announces sports skills camps

The Big Spring High School Athletic Department will host a variety of sports skills camps during the summer.

Call Kay Cook at the Athletic Training Center with any questions at 264-3662.

Camp of Champs

Camp of Champs is a weight conditioning program geared to helping increase strength, quickness, speed and agility.

The program began today and continues through June 18 at the Athletic Training Center. There are two different sessions for different age groups.

Third through fifth graders attend from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., while sixth and seventh graders work out 11 a.m. to noon.

The camp is held Monday through Thursday during the allotted dates.

Cost is \$25 with an optional \$10 T-shirt fee.

Volleyball Skills Camp

A Volleyball Skills Camp has been scheduled for June 17-19 at the Big Spring Junior High gymnasium.

The camp is for incoming junior high and high school female athletes. Incoming seventh and eighth graders work out from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., while the high school aged girls take the floor from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost is \$25 with an optional \$10 fee for a T-shirt.

Lady Steers Basketball Skills Camp

Lady Steers Head Coach Mike Warren will lend his skills in teaching a basketball camp for girls entering second through eighth grade June 22-25.

The camp will be split into two age groups. Second through fifth graders participate from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. each day at Steer Gym, while sixth through eighth graders take the court every day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$25 with an optional

\$10 T-shirt fee.

Steers Football Skills Camp

A skills camp for first through eighth graders interested in football will be held June 15-18 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. each day at the Athletic Training Center.

Cost is \$25 with an optional T-shirt fee of \$10.

Wayland Baptist University conducting baseball tryouts

The Pioneer baseball coaching staff at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview is conducting a tryout camp for all graduating high school seniors and/or players with college eligibility remaining.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Saturday at Wilder Field on the WBU campus. Tryouts follow at 9 a.m. There is no charge for the camp.

For more information or to make reservations, contact WBU Head Coach Brad Bass at (806) 291-1157 or Assistant Josh Milner at (806) 291-1158.

Police blotter

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

- PAULA SUE BAKER, 50, of 113 E. 16th St., was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- REGINO GARCIA MENDEZ, 30, of 1002 N. Main St. Apt. 7, was arrested Monday on local warrants, Midland County warrants and Howard County warrants.
- SALVADOR GUTIERREZ PEREZ, 38, of 1513 Scurry, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.
- RICARDO DELOSRIOS ORTIZ, 48, of 707 Lorilla, was arrested Tuesday on 11 local warrants and a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- THEFT OF A FIREARM was reported in the 1700 block of Yale.
- THEFT was reported:
 - in the 200 block of FM 700.
 - in the 900 block of Willia.
- TERRORISTIC THREAT was reported in the 1900 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.
- DEADLY CONDUCT was reported in the 800 block of Cherry.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
 - in the 100 block of Third Street.
 - in the 1500 block of 17th Street.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported:
 - in the 1700 block of Yale.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1100 block of Sycamore.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1400 block of Sixth Street.
- ASSAULT BY THREATS was reported in the 1400 block of Sixth Street.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT-FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 800 block of FM 700.

Take Note

• An account to defray funeral costs for the family of Justin Hernandez has been set up at Western Bank — formerly known as First Bank of West Texas — located on FM 700. Hernandez was killed in a shooting May 29. For more information, contact the bank at 267-1113.

• Chorus rehearsals for Pops in the Park are from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. June 9, 16, 23 and 30 at the First United Methodist Church. Parking is on the corner of Fifth and Gregg streets. Pops in the Park, Big Spring's annual symphony and fireworks show, will be held July 3 in the Comanche Trail Park amphitheater.

• Area residents are invited to participate in Vacation Bible School events being offered by the Southern Baptist Churches of Big Spring. Listed are the churches, dates, times and ages included:

- Baptist Temple, July 20-24, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., ages 4 through sixth grade.
- Berea Baptist, June 22-26, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Central Baptist Elbow, July 12-16, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., ages kindergarten through adult.
- E. Fourth St. Baptist, June 29-July 1, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., ages first grade through sixth grade.
- Coahoma First Baptist, July 6-10, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., ages pre-kindergarten through sixth grade.
- Forsan Baptist, June 22-26, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.k, ages 4 through sixth grade.
- Gateway Baptist, July 6-10, 9 a.m. to noon, ages 4 through sixth grade.
- Hillcrest Baptist, July 26-30, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., ages kindergarten through sixth grade.
- Midway Baptist, June 8-12, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (VBS camp with breakfast, lunch and snacks).

• Road to Recovery, a free service for those in the Big Spring area taking cancer treatments at Allison Cancer in Midland, is still in operation. The coordinator and phone number to call have changed. To get a ride to cancer treatment in Midland, please call Amy Carnes at (432) 334-6121, which is the American Cancer Society office in Odessa. If Amy is out of the office, you may leave your information with Melissa. An alternate number to call is 1-800-ACS-2345, which is the regional patient services offices; they will relay your information to Amy for the local drivers.

• The Big Spring High School class of 1979 is seeking classmates to attend our 30-year reunion Sept. 18-19. Please contact Debbye Salazar ValVerde at debbyeval@bigspringchamber.com or Cheryl Carter Joy at joycheryl79@hotmail.com with any contact information, be it an e-mail address or physical address.

• A benefit account has been established at Woodforest National Bank (Account 1652331339) for John Allison and Jacoby Rivera, who lost their belongings in a residential fire on Runnels. Donations can also be made by calling (432) 213-4091.

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Sheriff

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

- Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 87 inmates at the time of this report.
- SERGIO ARREOLA, 35, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.
 - PAULA SUE BAKER, 50, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
 - REGINO GARCIA MENDEZ, 30, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on charges of filing a false report with a police officer or law enforcement employee, no seat belt and violation of a promise to appear.
 - ADAM MARCUS ORRANTIA, 21, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of revocation of probation for assault causing bodily injury.
 - RICARDO DELORIOS ORTIZ, 48, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance, driving while license invalid, speeding, failure to appear (five counts) and four local warrants.
 - SALVADOR GUTIERREZ PEREZ, 38, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.
 - GERARDO RIVERA, 21, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of E. 24th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of W. Highway 80. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 100 block of W. 16th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2900 block of W. Highway 80. Service refused.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of N. First Street in Coahoma. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

• Grief share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599.

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St. Tuesday, Jan. 6, Teen Challenge will be held at The Path. They will present a Rally for Jesus.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting: 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

FRIDAY

• 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 615 Settles 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 meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

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Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

TODAY

• The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.

• Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.

• Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.

• Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.

• Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.

• Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.

• League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.

• American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.

• The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340.

• Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 1 - 9 - 12 - 18. Bonus Ball: 4.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 8 - 12 - 29 - 36 - 37.
Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9 - 3 - 6. Sum It Up: 18.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0 - 2 - 9 - 3. Sum It Up: 14.

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FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

inning in the state semifinal game against Iola Thursday and drove in a run in the championship vs. Alto Saturday.

Being named to first-team All-District was Jones' twin sister Shelby, freshman Ambra Hill and sophomore Miranda Park.

Shelby Jones was also one of the top hitters for the Lady Buffs this season. She was named to the All-Tournament team at state after knocking in a run in both the semifinal and final.

Her RBI in the semis came in the top of the seventh inning and put the Lady Buffs ahead 2-1, which was the

final margin.

Hill, a freshman, was named the MVP of the Class A championship game. She opened the game with a double and eventually came around to score the first run of the contest.

Hill played most of the season at second base, but moved to shortstop late in the postseason.

Park, a sophomore, was named as the league's top third baseman. As a freshman, she played second, but emerged as the Lady Buffs' everyday player at third this season.

In a 13-5 win over Eldorado in the regional quarterfinals of the Class A playoffs, Park was a catalyst at the plate for the Lady Buffs. She had two doubles and a triple for four RBI.

Senior Sandi Golleher, junior Amanda Longorio and freshman Ashley Buzbee were given second-

team All-District honors.

Golleher has been a four-year member of the Lady Buffs varsity team, playing on the squad since its inception in 2006.

She scored what turned out to be the winning run of the game in the top of the seventh inning against Iola in the state semifinal game.

Buzbee was the Lady Buffs' pitcher for most of the season, leading Forsan to a strong start in district play.

However, a broken collarbone cut her season short.

On the other hand, Longorio, who had been voted District MVP the last two years, started the season on the injury list after breaking her foot late in basketball season.

She got back on the field just as Buzbee was injured and took over as the Lady Buffs' primary pitcher, pick-

ing up both wins at the state tournament.

Receiving honorable mention from the 2-A coaches were seniors Alyx Pappajohn and Haylie Burleson and sophomore Keyv O'Brien.

Pappajohn and Burleson have been with the team since it was first formed four seasons ago and started in the outfield at the state tournament.

Pappajohn played a variety of positions in her four years at Forsan, including first base, second base, third base and pitcher.

Burleson picked up the game-tying RBI in Forsan's 2-1 win over Iola in the state semifinals.

O'Brien played some in the outfield, but spent most of her second year with the Lady Buffs at first base. She was named to the All-Tournament team at state.

HORNS

Continued from Page 1B

moved from his spot as he watched it clear the wall.

"I know if I hit it hard, it's going to go," Keyes said.

The Longhorns scored two more in the fourth with a double by Keyes and another by Cameron Rupp off Horned Frogs reliever Eric Marshall.

Wood, who pitched 12 1/3 scoreless innings in relief in Texas' 25-inning 3-2 win over Boston College a week earlier, came in with a 5-0 lead and gave up two

runs before he was pulled for Chance Ruffin with one out in the ninth.

After allowing a two-out walk in the first, Jungmann retired the next nine TCU batters. He got himself out of his only jam in the sixth inning.

A single and hit batter put two runners on with no outs. But Jungmann got the next two hitters to ground back to the mound. The first he threw to third for the first out of the inning. The second started a double play that ended it.

"He threw all his pitches for strikes," said TCU third baseman Matt Carpenter, who went 0 for 3. "To be able to handle that situation with a chance to go to Omaha in an elimination game and to

get that kind of performance out of a freshman is pretty unbelievable."

Tyler Lockwood took the loss for TCU (40-18), which had forced a third game of the Austin Super Regional with a 3-2 win Sunday.

Garrido, who also won three College World Series titles with Cal-State Fullerton before coming to Texas, is the career wins leader in NCAA Division I history. He now leads a team to Omaha that doesn't have any players with CWS experience.

The Longhorns play Southern Mississippi (40-24) on Sunday night.

"We know where the restaurants are," Garrido said. "We'll deal with everything else later."

HAMILTON

Continued from Page 1B

four weeks because of a similar injury in 2007.

McCarthy is tied for his career high and the team lead with five wins.

The Rangers said Doug Mathis would make Tuesday's start, unless he was needed to pitch in relief Monday. The 26-year-old right-hander has pitched only one inning for Texas since being promoted from Triple-A Oklahoma City.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

Lind, who is 18 for 40 his last 10 games, hit two-run shots in the second and fourth innings off Rangers starter Scott Feldman for the first multi-homer game of his career.

"The kid had a great night," Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston said. "He's getting better all the time."

Casey Janssen (2-2) gave up three runs, six hits and struck out six in 5 1-3 innings. The right-hander made his fourth start after missing 2008 with a torn labrum.

Scott Downs got the final out in the eighth and pitched the ninth to earn his eighth save in nine chances.

Rolen and Marco Scutaro each had three hits for Toronto, which had not

won away from home since beating Oakland on May 10.

Toronto has won six of 10 since going 0-9 on a road trip May 19-27.

"That road trip was two weeks ago," Lind said. "It's not even in our memory anymore."

Feldman (5-1) lost for the first time in nine starts. He allowed four runs and seven hits in six innings.

The first-place Rangers, who announced before the game that outfielder Josh Hamilton will undergo surgery Tuesday to repair a partial tear in an abdominal muscle and is expected to miss 4-6 weeks, lost for only the fourth time in their last 16 home games.

"I didn't feel like it was one of my better games," Feldman said. "I tried to hang in there as long as I could."

Janssen took a four-hit shutout into the sixth before Texas loaded the

bases with no outs.

Byrd drove in a run with an infield single, Nelson Cruz scored on a wild pitch and Jarrod Saltalamacchia hit an RBI single to cut Toronto's lead to 4-3.

Rangers manager Ron Washington called for a squeeze bunt, the first time this season he's called for one.

"I felt I had the right guy at the plate to get the squeeze down and tie the game," said Washington, who had his option for 2010 picked up by Texas earlier Monday.

Frasor retired Andrus on a flyout to preserve Toronto's one-run lead in the sixth.

"We had a lot of opportunities," Washington said. "We just couldn't get any two-out hits."

Vernon Wells drew a leadoff walk before Lind's first homer gave the Blue Jays a 2-0 lead in the second.

Wells walked again in the fourth, and Lind made it 4-0 with his shot to left-center.

Scutaro had an RBI single and Aaron Hill added a sacrifice fly in the ninth to widen Toronto's advantage to 6-3.

Notes: Washington said after the game that Rangers closer Frank Francisco was not available for a fourth straight game because of shoulder inflammation. ... Rolen returned to the lineup after missing the previous two games because of a sore back. ... Rangers LHP Matt Harrison (shoulder) could return from the disabled list to start Thursday against Toronto. He threw in the bullpen Monday. If Harrison is not ready to return, LHP Derek Holland would start Thursday. ... Blue Jays 1B Lyle Overbay singled in the second to extend his hitting streak to 14 games.

Road Construction Blues

At the Big Spring Herald we are suffering through the same road construction problems as everyone else. Over the last 2 weeks the front of our building has had no parking and it has been very hard for our customers to get to us. It is now available for parking and our newspaper racks that are out front are again available. We also realize that it is not easy to get to places on Gregg St. to get your copy of the paper. We would like to make everyone aware of all the different locations the Big Spring Herald is sold at for your convenience.

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76TH BIG SPRING COWBOY REUNION RODEO PARADE

5 p.m. — Thursday, June 18

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Return entries to the Big Spring Herald, 710 Scurry, no later than noon on Monday, June 15, then get your boots, hat and western wear ready to join us in the celebration!

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World War II vet extends search for fliers

DARREN MERITZ

El Paso Times
EL PASO — At 91, retired Army intelligence officer Albert Rosenberg is still haunted by the list of airmen he found at the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany near the end of World War II.

Now he is looking to the White House for help in what may be the last mission of his life.

In April 1945, Rosenberg was a lieutenant in a special unit that Gen. Dwight Eisenhower ordered to collect evidence at Buchenwald, which had recently been liberated by Allied soldiers.

When Rosenberg learned that President Barack Obama would visit the site of the concentration camp, he remembered recovering a list of 323 airmen with the U.S. Army Air Forces and the British Royal Air Force men captured by the Nazis and held at Buchenwald.

With these fliers still on his mind, Rosenberg

on May 21 sent a copy of the list to White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel. He included a handwritten note of explanation and a copy of his military identification.

“What became of these fliers, we could not determine in 1945,” Rosenberg wrote to Emanuel. “It can be assumed that many may have perished or moved in death transports to the interior of Nazi-held territory.” Rosenberg was a commanding officer of Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, an intelligence unit that reported to Eisenhower.

On April 11, 1945, U.S. forces discovered the Buchenwald concentration camp, which had been abandoned by Nazi guards in the waning days of the war in Europe.

Soon after, Eisenhower dispatched Rosenberg to the camp to gather evidence and to take testimonies from

“... I do not know, have the families of those prisoners, American fliers, ever been identified? Did they survive? I don't know.”

20,000 former prisoners who remained there. An estimated 250,000 people were thought to have been held captive at Buchenwald during its existence.

“Our orders were because of General Eisenhower's firsthand encounter with what those places looked like to investigate what really happened in that particular camp,” Rosenberg said Thursday in an interview at his El Paso apartment. “The allied governments wanted to know what happened in those camps.” Rosenberg and his unit took written testimonies from hundreds of con-

centration camp survivors. They found that prisoners from about a dozen countries some high-ranking government officials, others soldiers were dehydrated, starving and suffering from disease.

Though the Nazis bombed the concentration camp's administrative building as they abandoned Buchenwald, Rosenberg's unit was able to recover documents unintentionally left behind, he said.

“Among my papers that I have kept, I came across typewritten pages that were part of our original report, which lists the name, rank and

serial numbers of American pilots who had been shot down during the war by the Nazis and who had been prisoners at the concentration camp,” Rosenberg said. “They no longer were at the camp. I have no idea what happened to them.” Rosenberg said he hoped that Obama's visit to the old concentration camp would refocus some attention on the list he found.

The findings of the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force unit were presented to the U.S. government in a report in 1945.

The report was quickly classified because many of the surviving prisoners were communist government officials from Italy and France. If publicized, the report could have stymied U.S. cooperation with those countries, Rosenberg said.

Rosenberg never learned whether the Buchenwald report was de-

classified. But he learned that the original copy of the report was kept at a National Archives depository in Virginia, in box 149, before a fire in the 1970s destroyed it.

All copies of the report were thought to have disappeared until Rosenberg resurfaced with his.

In 1995, the testimonies and evidence he collected were translated from German to English and published in a book, “The Buchenwald Report,” by David Hackett.

“For decades people had been looking for that report,” Rosenberg said.

For Rosenberg, who taught at UTEP after his military career, Buchenwald represents a painful gap in his knowledge.

“... I do not know, have the families of those prisoners, American fliers, ever been identified? Did they survive? I don't know.”

FAA to inspect pilot training at regional airlines

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal officials said Tuesday they will beef up inspection of pilot training programs at regional airlines in response to safety concerns raised by the crash of a regional airliner in New York in February.

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and Federal Aviation Administrator Randy Babbitt said in a statement they will also hold a

meeting with the airline industry — both regional and major carriers — next week to seek better pilot training, cockpit discipline and other safety improvements.

Babbitt said it was clear from the crash of a regional airliner near Buffalo, N.Y., on Feb. 12 that safety needs to be improved.

Testimony at a National Transportation Safety Board hearing last month revealed

that a series of critical errors by the captain and co-pilot preceded the crash of Continental Express Flight 3407 as it neared Buffalo Niagara International Airport on Feb. 12. The plane experienced an aerodynamic stall before plunging to the ground, killing all 49 aboard and one man in a house on the ground.

The flight was operated for Houston-based Continental by Colgan

Air Inc. of Manassas, Va. Testimony at the hearing indicated the flight's captain may not have had hands-on training on a critical cockpit safety system. The cockpit voice recorder showed the co-pilot describing her lack of experience flying in icy weather not long before the crash.

The NTSB investigation has also raised concern that pilot fatigue may have been a factor

in the crash. The co-pilot, Rebecca Shaw, lived near Seattle with her parents and had commuted all-night to get to Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey, where Flight 3407 originated. The captain, Marvin Renslow, commuted to work from his home in Tampa, Fla. It's not clear where either of them slept the night before the crash or how much sleep they received.

Testimony indicated they may have tried to snatch sleep in a crew lounge at the airport in violation of company policy. The pair were chit-chatting just before the crash, which may have prevented them from realizing the airspeed of the twin-engine turboprop had dropped dangerously low.

COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1

a growing support for increased vocation-

al training.

Sparks said Howard College will be eligible for grants through Jobs and Education for Texas, which provides money for community colleges to establish or enhance their vocation training programs.

Sparks said this was an area local officials were examining very closely.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@big-springherald.com

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

Crime Reporting stats and split the money from there,” said Chamness. “I talked to the sheriff and he was in agreement with the money his agency is getting, and he doesn't have to do anything except receive a check. We take care of all the grant work for them.

But this will be another grant we'll be going after on the Recovery Act. The total grant is for \$16,700, and the county will receive \$1,200 of it.”

Commissioners approved the agreement by a unanimous vote.

Also during Monday's meeting, the commissioners court approved a contract between the county jail and Martin County that will allow the new

jail facility to house the neighboring county's inmates at a cost of \$45 a day.

“This contract is basically the same as the one we have with Glasscock County,” said Parker. “They generally only have about four or five inmates at a time in Martin County and most of them are misdemeanor offenders. They have already sent their murder suspect over to us. He's a high profile pris-

oner, and he's, well he's different. So our facility is a better place to house him.

“With the combination of him and Glasscock County's (inmate) we're pretty much paying our electric bill (by housing these prisoners).”

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

OIL

Continued from Page 1

Victor Shum, an energy analyst at consultancy Purvin & Gertz in Singapore. “Investors have brushed aside any near-term concerns about the weak oil market fundamentals.”

Wednesday's release of petroleum inventory data from the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration could provide some insight about crude demand. Analysts expect a rise of 800,000 barrels, according to a survey by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos. Stocks unexpectedly rose last week after dropping the previous three weeks.

“If the oil inventory report shows a crude draw, we're likely to test \$70 again,” Shum said.

Traders were also eyeing the U.S. dollar, as a weaker American currency would bolster prices and investors often look to commodities

such as crude as a hedge against inflation.

The euro was up to \$1.3960 on Tuesday from \$1.3927 on Monday, while the dollar was worth 97.97 Japanese yen, from 98.40 yen.

Olivier Jakob of PetroMatrix in Switzerland noted that oil prices had been unusually stable so far in June, with daily closing prices mostly within a narrow range around \$68.50.

“Such extreme stabil-

ity never stays for an extended period of time and is usually concluded by a volatility breakout from the range,” Jakob said. “That would be either below \$66 or above \$70 a barrel ... and given the latest market dynamics we will have a bias towards the upside breakout.”

In other Nymex trading, gasoline for July delivery was up 1.94 cents to \$1.9554 a gallon and heating oil rose

2.81 cents to \$1.7960. Natural gas for July delivery was up 3.2 cents at \$3.763 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, Brent prices gained \$1.24 to \$69.12 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OTHER VIEWS

It's just wrong

One man shoots another man dead at church because of a vehement disagreement with the victim over an issue with deep political, ideological and moral implications.

That's just wrong.

But it's more than that. When one American takes the life of another in the nation's heartland over an issue with deep political, ideological and moral implications, that's domestic terrorism.

And regardless of anyone's perspective on abortion, such violence is unacceptable as a tool for changing the way society or any individuals treat that difficult and divisive issue.

As a legal matter, Scott P. Roeder, 51, who is facing a charge of first-degree murder, is presumed innocent until and unless the government proves him guilty of killing Dr. George Tiller.

News reports have depicted Roeder as someone who stopped paying his taxes; who was in league with fringe groups that resisted federal authority; and who equated Tiller with a Nazi concentration camp doctor. Holding extreme beliefs isn't a crime in this country but acting on them with violence, or inciting others to do so, most certainly is.

Tiller had gained fame and notoriety for running a clinic where he performed abortions on women whose pregnancies were in the second and third trimesters, the time at which a fetus usually can survive outside the womb.

Tiller was ushering May 31 at his Lutheran church in Wichita, Kan., when he was gunned down by an assailant who then drove off.

Whether a late-term abortion is a tragically necessary option or a murder itself is a question that arouses passions, and reasonable people can disagree about the morality of Tiller's practice.

But killing an unarmed man in a sacred place, without warning or clear and overwhelming justification, isn't right. It isn't acceptable in the United States and never should be. Otherwise, none of us are safe.

—THE FORT WORTH STAR TELEGRAM

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
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- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
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- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

Meet the new stimulus, same as the old

By **BRETT J. BLACKLEDGE**
and **MATT APUZZO**

Associated Press Writers

President Barack Obama is promising some exciting coming attractions for his stimulus plan. But it turns out they're just summer reruns.

Obama promised Monday to ramp up spending from the \$787 billion stimulus fund and create or save 600,000 jobs by the end of the summer. It was an effort to shift the focus away from persistently rising unemployment and beat back criticism that the money isn't flowing quickly enough.

Those promises aren't new. Stimulus spending had always been expected to rise sharply this summer, and the White House has been predicting that 600,000 job total for about a month.

Obama faces souring public opinion over his handling of the economy, which has shed 1.6 million jobs since the stimulus was signed in February. That total has far overshadowed White House announcements estimating the effort has saved 150,000 jobs, a figure that is so murky it can never be verified.

Monday's announcement sought to reposition Obama in the driver's seat of America's recovery. It portrayed the president as revving up the engine of the stimulus, but it was something federal agencies were already planning to do anyway.

Obama spoke about "modest progress" in the economy, citing fewer jobs lost last month

than expected. He said he hopes to build on that in the months ahead with stimulus programs.

"We've done more than ever, faster than ever, more responsibly than ever, to get the gears of the economy moving again," he said.

But he acknowledged: "I'm not satisfied. We've got more work to do."

And for the first time, the administration admitted the economic forecasts it used to sell the stimulus were overly optimistic.

"At the time, our forecast seemed reasonable," said Vice President Joe Biden's top economic adviser, Jared Bernstein, explaining that the White House underestimated the scope of the recession. "Now, looking back, it was clearly too optimistic."

By this point, according to earlier White House economic models, the nation's unemployment rate should be on the decline. The forecasts White House advisers used to drum up support for the plan projected today's unemployment rate would be about 8 percent. Instead, it sits at 9.4 percent, the highest in more than 25 years.

By any measure, spending \$44 billion in four months — and with unprecedented transparency — is an uncharacteristic feat in Washington. But the expectations have been even higher, and restoring the economy has proven tougher than the administration expected.

Several economists said Monday the economy is unlikely to see any boost from the stimulus before next year.

"It takes time to organize projects, to get the bids in, the funds out and the work started," said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight.

Obama's disappointing rating on the economy has risen from 30 percent in February to 42 percent, according to a Gallup poll completed May 31. Sensing weakness on a signature issue of Obama's presidency, congressional Republicans are renewing their criticisms that the stimulus plan has not shown results, only mounting debt.

"This is President Obama's economy, and his administration must provide results and specifics rather than vague descriptions of success that seem to change by the week," said House Republican Whip Eric Cantor of Virginia. "The administration looks dramatically out of touch as they highlight the creation of temporary summer employment in the face of job losses unseen in decades, record unemployment and massive deficits."

Obama shot back at skeptics during Monday's Cabinet meeting.

"Now, I know that there's some who, despite all evidence to the contrary, still don't believe in the necessity and promise of this recovery act," he said.

"And I would suggest to them that they talk to the companies who, because of this plan, scrapped the idea of laying off employees and, in fact, decided to hire employees. Tell that to the Americans who received that unexpected call saying, 'Come back to work.'"

ADDRESSES

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Judging judges: Activism in high court

Since I first began to represent the people of Texas in the U.S. Senate, I have been privileged to participate in the confirmation of four Supreme Court Justices, including that of Chief Justice John Roberts. To "advise" the President on who will best uphold our Constitution in the nation's highest court and to provide "consent" to the candidates who take the bench is one of the Senate's most consequential duties. This responsibility requires our diligent scrutiny as we consider those who are nominated for this lifetime appointment.



U.S. SEN.
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

This year, Senators will pore over thousands of documents and analyze more than 3,000 decisions that comprise the experience of our newest Supreme Court nominee, Judge Sonia Sotomayor.

There are some facts we already know about Judge Sotomayor. Through personal tenacity and hard work, undergirded by the loving support of her mother, Sotomayor overcame the challenges of a low-income, single-parent household. She went on to study at some of the nation's finest institutions, and embarked on a successful career as a district attorney, private practice attorney, and finally a federal Judge. Her life story is a shining example of equal opportunity for Americans, and it reminds all of us that for those who work hard, no obstacle is insurmountable and no aspira-

tion is too grand.

There is no question that Judge Sotomayor brings a wealth of judicial experience to this process. We would be doing the American public and Judge Sotomayor a disservice if we did not take the time necessary to conduct a thorough review of her record. I will be looking for evidence of impartiality as well as legal expertise, a demonstrated commitment to the rule of law, insights into her personal integrity and temperament, and, most importantly, her judicial philosophy.

As I review Judge Sotomayor's record, one of the issues I will consider is her demonstrated stance on the Second Amendment.

I am a staunch supporter of the right to keep and bear arms, and I firmly believe that the framers intended this right for the individual. This opinion was upheld by the Supreme Court last year in the case of District of Columbia v. Heller. It is critical that the Second Amendment continue to be protected as an individual right so that no state, city, or the federal government, may ever infringe on this liberty.

We must also examine statements she has made that may give us a glimpse into her legal values. Sonia Sotomayor made a particularly troubling remark when she was addressing a forum at Duke University Law School in 2005, suggesting that the court of appeals is where policy is made in America. Whether or not this comment was made flippantly, we must take it very seriously because it cuts to the very quick of the balance of powers carefully outlined in our

Constitution.

As a Senator, I do make policy. But I am also accountable to the voters. If the American people are displeased with the decision of a Supreme Court Justice, they have no redress.

That's why the framers of the Constitution wisely set forth a system of checks and balances that has sustained our democracy for over 200 years.

And that is why the Senate's duty to advise and consent on Supreme Court Justices is so important: the confirmation of a Supreme Court Justice is the check the American public has on the Judiciary.

When Judge Sotomayor was nominated to the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in 1998, I voted against her because I had concerns about judicial activism. While I have not yet determined whether I will support her nomination to the Supreme Court, those concerns remain today and I will want to hear her explanation of her judicial philosophy. Nearly 11 years have elapsed since that first vote, and she deserves a fair hearing and debate. I will base my decision on a thorough review of her record, which I believe will give us a better indication of how she will view the role of a judge and will show whether troublesome statements actually reflect what she has done on the bench.

As the Senate examines Sonia Sotomayor's record — and gives her ample opportunity to address our concerns — I expect a respectful, dignified, and above all, fair process that befits our Constitutional responsibility.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas.

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Drop off your completed entry form at the Big Spring Herald, 710 Scurry, or mail it to us at PO Box 1431, to be received by **Monday, June 15, 2009** by 5 p.m. Late entries will be disqualified.

The winners of each category will be revealed to the public in our upcoming special section

"The Reader's Choice" to be published on Sunday, June 28, 2009.

Thank you for your participation, but please hurry! The deadline is coming soon! Only ballots clipped from the newspaper will be accepted.

YOU MAY VOTE FOR 10 PER PAGE

(MORE THAN 10 SUBMITTED WILL BE DISQUALIFIED)



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- Barbecue _____
- Burritos _____
- Chicken _____
- Chinese _____
- Coldest Beer _____
- Donuts _____
- Fish _____
- French Fries _____
- Hamburgers _____
- Margaritas _____
- Mexican Food _____
- Pizza _____
- Sandwiches _____
- Steaks _____

Grocery Stores

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- Meats _____
- Produce _____

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- Cellular Dealer _____
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Businesses

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- Teller _____
at _____
- Chiropractor _____
- City Employee _____
- Customer Service _____
- CNA _____
at _____
- Dentist _____
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- Financial Advisor _____
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at _____
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- Pharmacist _____
at _____
- Physical Therapist _____
at _____
- Police Officer _____
- Real Estate Agent _____
- RN _____
at _____

THANKS FOR VOTING!

Tomorrow's Horoscope

Do you feel yourself getting serious about something that is certain to affect your life on a large scale? With the current dynamic between Venus and Pluto, you may feel ready to take on the larger decisions such as whom you'll marry, what kind of work you'll do or where you'll live. The Capricorn moon weighs in with some practical inspiration.



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are so accustomed to certain liberties that you do not even know you are free. Increase your awareness of the many ways in which you unbound, uncontrolled and unregulated. Celebrate the many possibilities open to you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You may be going through a slight burnout at work, ques-

tioning your career choices and perhaps your line of work altogether. Blow off some of the grunt work to focus on the thing about your job you love.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're in the thick of an important decision. Make a list of pros and cons — not because one side will outweigh the other, but because it's eye-opening and will get you centered on what matters to you. Take your time on this.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll get an insight into the part of a relationship that is not working for you. It's great news because this is probably a minor issue that can be easily handled with few choice words and the right attitude.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Too much of the same thing is mind numbing. Doing different kinds of work will keep you engaged in life. When you get discouraged with one task or person, move around to reinvigorate yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.

22). The project you're into now is not the kind of thing that provides an immediate payoff. Your dreams and visions of the glory days ahead of you will be a reward in the short term, so take pleasure in these fantasies.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When faced with the choice of being a skeptic or a believer, you are wise to choose the latter. At least right now, there is no harm in it. Consider this: The placebo, if it works, is real medicine.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). An interesting challenge might be called an "issue" or a "problem" — but not by you. You're more likely to name this complicated little puzzle something grand like, "my greatest adventure to date."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Gently address those who hold a viewpoint that opposes your own. Your earnest, well-phrased argument might have an impact. If you can sway even one person, you've

done something remarkable.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There is something you know you can accomplish, even though there is not a shred of evidence to support you. Never surrender to doubt. Only you know what is true about yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Use your "no, thank you's" often today. If you are offered sweets, and you're not in the mood, don't take the sweets just because you don't want to offend the giver. Furthermore, walk away from all unwanted influences.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Someone who comes across as supportive and involved may also be more controlling than you'd like. Lay boundaries. Be secure in your own power and do not lean emotionally on this person now.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm an Aries who has been through a long, long, long dry spell as far as romance goes. Finally, I

met someone and we've been dating for three months. But I'm starting to realize that the guy I'm dating has issues. He likes to tell me what to do — nothing big, like little house-keeping tips, what I should wear and he likes to order for me in restaurants because he wants me to try certain menu items. Well, call me old-fashioned, but I like to make my own order. But I'll just go along mostly because I want to make him happy and it's nice to have boyfriend for a change. Should I consider his behavior to be a red flag?"

Yes. As an independent Aries, it must bother you immensely being told what to do, even on the small matters. He really doesn't have the right. On a related matter, it's not your job to make other people happy. It's also not possible. Happiness is a personal choice and each person is in charge of his or her own. Get back to making yourself happy and stop spend-

ing your time with someone you know isn't right for you.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Johnny Depp certainly has the pluck and confidence Gemini is known for. He dropped out of high school in hopes of being a rock musician and wound up one of the most esteemed movie stars of his time, earning three Academy Award nominations and more than \$4 billion in box office revenue for the films he's appeared in. His Mercury and Venus in Taurus show a knack for bringing in the bucks.

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

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Annie's Mailbox



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: I am a 15-year-old boy and an only child. I get good grades and my social life is somewhat fair. I have no drama except for one thing — my mom.

Mom is 40 years old and has a full-time job. But she can't speak to me in a soft tone. Every time she talks to me, she yells. No one can tell her that she needs help — she gets angry. She cooks, but rarely cleans. I do most of the chores in the house. She is stingy when it comes to money and won't even give her spare change to charity. She rarely listens to me unless I say something about my dad. My parents had some trouble not long ago and contemplated divorce, but they are now back together. But she still is mad at him for cheating on her.

I've suggested we go to counseling, but she refuses. Every day I try to put up with her, and I know my dad does, too. Is it too much to ask that she be more polite and friendly? It hurts me to know I

can't make her happy. I can't take it anymore. I want her to understand and listen to me more often. — *Misunderstood Boy in Guam*

Dear Misunderstood: It sounds as if your mother has been going through some rough times and she is angry and frustrated. You are right that counseling would be good, but you can't force her to go. You, however, should talk to someone who can help you deal with this situation better. Does your school have a counselor? If not, do you have a favorite teacher or relative who might be able to offer useful advice and a shoulder to lean on? You seem like a terrific and caring son. Please try to give your mother a hug once in a while and tell her you love her. She needs to hear it.

Dear Annie: May I use your column to defend our beautiful state of West Virginia? For the umpteenth time, I've heard someone comment that people here have no teeth and marry their siblings. While most of us take this with a smile and a shrug, I want to tell people that if you think our governor wears bib overalls and smokes a corn cob pipe, then you are showing YOUR ignorance.

West Virginians are wonderful, smart, decent, hardworking people with a great sense of humor. We invite everyone to come see our beautiful seasons, and our mountains, parks, forests, rivers and streams — but most of all, to experience our small-town hospitality. Thanks for letting me vent. —

Grammie in Fairmont, W. Va.

Dear Grammie: Feeling better? We're happy to give tourism a boost. As anyone who has visited knows, West Virginia is a beautiful state with lovely scenery and a gracious population. All stereotypes show the speaker's ignorance, but they are hard to eradicate, so it's a good thing you also have such a great sense of humor.

Dear Annie: I'm a member of a family that has dealt with mental illness for years. I would like to pass on some good information for "Total Loss," whose son may be suffering from mental illness.

Getting an adult son to a doctor may be impossible (if he doesn't think he is ill), but she can call 911 and ask the police to take him to the local psychiatric emergency room for an evaluation. She also can check with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (nami.org) at 1-800-950-NAMI (1-800-950-6264) for a family support group near her. Mom should also know that she is not responsible for his medical expenses since he is over 18. That is what Social Security is for. The hospital will help them with this. My heart goes out to her, as my family has seen this happen too many times. — *California*

Dear California: Thank you for the expert advice from one who has been there and gone through that. Mental illness is a devastating blow to a family, but there is help and support available.

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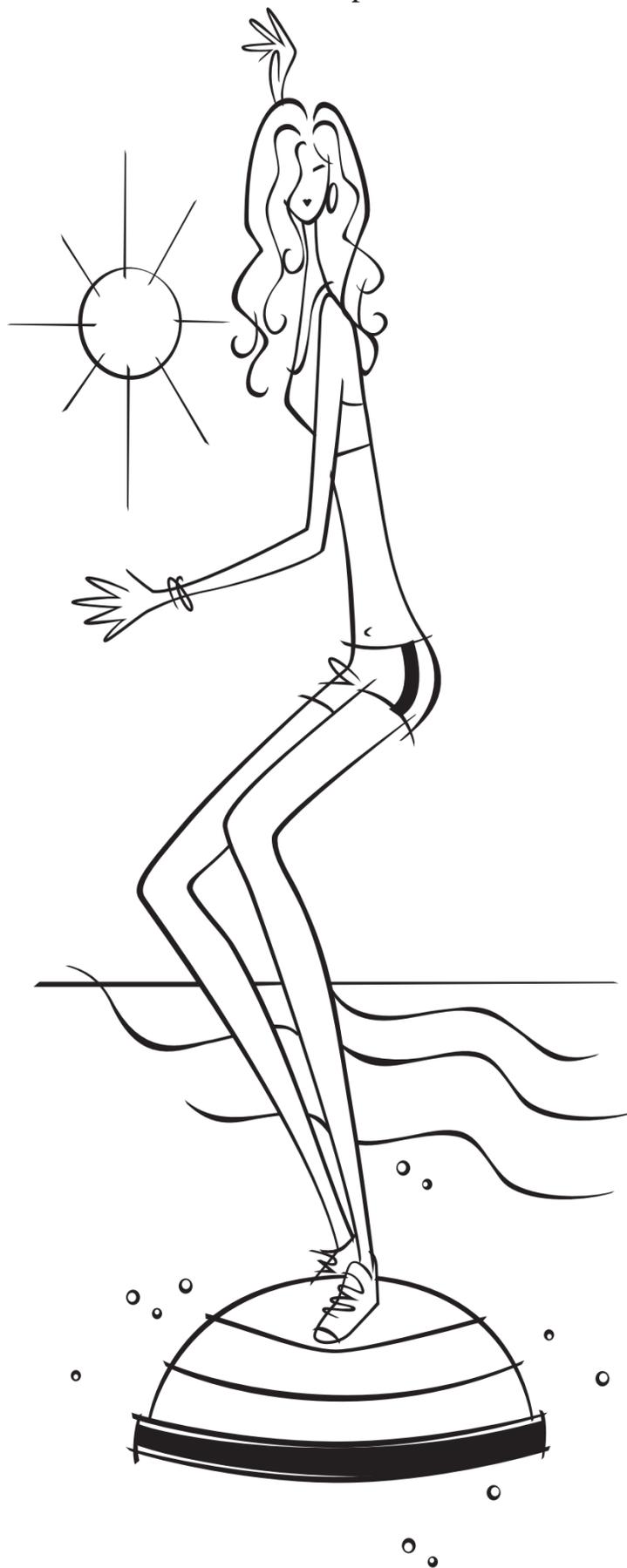
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THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1880: A PERFECT GAME WAS PITCHED BY JOHN LEE RICHMOND.
- 1939: THE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME OPENED IN COOPERSTOWN, NY.
- 1942: ANNE FRANK RECEIVED A DIARY FOR HER BIRTHDAY.

**BODY
FACT:**

WHAT IS THE MOST SERIOUS
TYPE OF SKIN CANCER?

ANSWER: MELANOMA

**New
Word**

CANCER

disease caused by
uncontrolled division
of abnormal cells

**How they
SAY that in...**

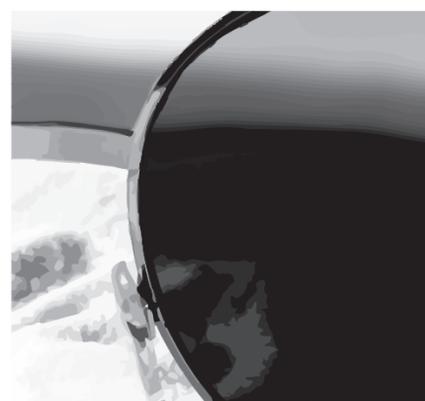
- ENGLISH:** Skin
- SPANISH:** Piel
- ITALIAN:** Pelle
- FRENCH:** Peau
- GERMAN:** Haut

**Did you
KNOW!**

THE SKIN IS THE LARGEST ORGAN
OF THE BODY AND NEEDS TO
BE PROTECTED FROM THE
SUN BY USING AN SPF
PRODUCT.



**GET THE
PICTURE?**



Can you guess what
the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SUNGLASSES

	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News NBC	Raymond	Scrivner	BBC	Cash Cab	Movie: Com-mando, Dan Hedaya	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas	Horn	SportsCenter
6:PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer	Deadliest Catch	CSI: Crime Scn	Bones		Montana	WNBA	Interrupt	
7:PM :30	Entertain Kimmel	Fortune	Cuidado-Angel	House	Entertain NCIS	Más Sabe el Diabolo	NHL Hockey: Stanley Cup -- Red Wings at Penguins	Seinfeld	Hagee		Deadliest Catch	Movie: True Lies, Tom Arnold	CSI: Crime Scn	The Closer	Movie: Scary Movie, Cheri Oteri	Beethoven's 3rd	Storm at Fever	NFL Live
8:PM :30	NBA	NBA	Mañana es	Mental	The Mental-ist	El Rostro de Analia		Fam. Guy	Victory	Light of the Southwest	Deadliest Catch	UFC Un-leashed	Law & Order	Jesse James	College Dream	Wizards	Billiards: WPBA	SportsCenter
9:PM :30	NBA Basketball: Finals Game 3 -- Lakers at Magic	NBA Basketball: Finals Game 3 -- Lakers at Magic	Aquí y Ahora	TMZ	48 Hours	Mystery		Fam. Guy	Office	Office	Out of the Wild	Ind Lens	Law & Order	College Dream	Wizards	Billiards: WPBA	Baseball Tonight	
10:PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Noticiero	King-Hill	Late Show	Decisiones de	News Tonight Show	Seinfeld	Israel	Charlie Rose	Deadliest Catch	Movie: Starsky & Hutch	UFC Countdn	Saving Grace	Movie: Scary Movie, Cheri Oteri	Suite Life So Raven	Billiards: WPBA	SportsCenter
11:PM :30	Nightline	Nightline	La Casa de la Risa	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Decisiones de	Late Night-Jim	Sex & Sex &	Ministerio-Vida	Smiley	Deadliest Catch	CSI: Crime Scn	Saving Grace	Cory	NFL Live	NASCAR		
12:AM :30	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Jimmy Kim-mel Live	Contra Viento	RENO 911	Insider	Pagado	News	Movie: Without a Paddle	Israel	Church	Out of the Wild	Movie: Stir Crazy	CSI: Crime Scn	Cold Case	College Dream	Replace Kim	Fastbreak Baseball	SportsCenter
1:AM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Mujer...	Friends	Entertain Detox	Pagado	Poker After Dark	Light of the Southwest	Light of the Southwest	Light of the Southwest	Bone Detectives	Shocking Mom.	Cold Case	The Deal	Emperor Dragon	NHRA Drag Racing		SportsCenter

DENNIS THE MENACE



"JUST WHEN THE STORY WAS GETTIN' GOOD, DAD STARTED SNORIN'."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Somebody better help me. My fingers are just holdin' on by their tippy-toes."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



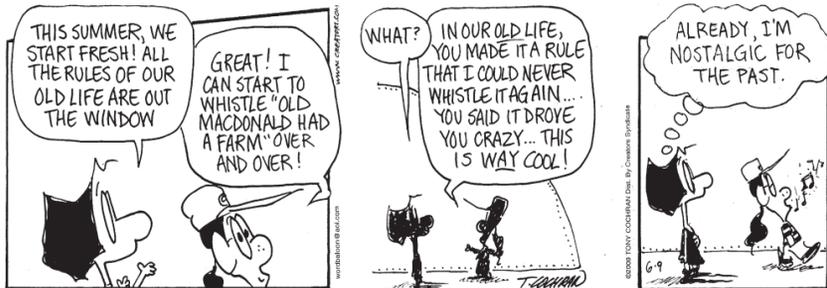
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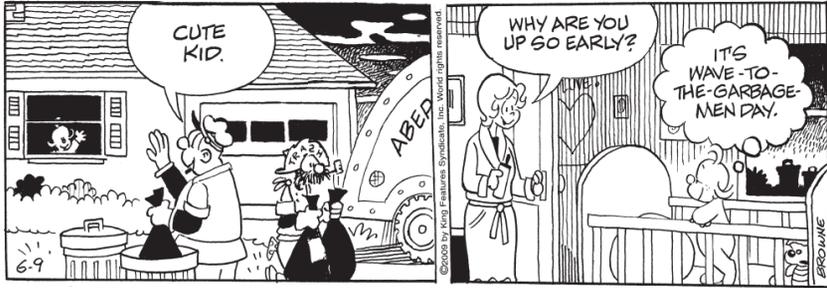
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, June 9, the 160th day of 2009. There are 205 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 9, A.D. 68, the Roman Emperor Nero committed suicide.

On this date: In 1870, author Charles Dickens died in Gad's Hill Place, England.

In 1940, during World War II, Norway decided to surrender to the Nazis, effective at midnight.

In 1953, 94 people died when a tornado struck Worcester, Mass.

In 1954, during the Senate-Army Hearings, Army special counsel Joseph N. Welch berated Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, asking: "Have you no sense of decency, sir?"

In 1969, the Senate confirmed Warren Burger to be the new chief justice of the United States, succeeding Earl Warren.

In 1973, Secretariat became horse racing's first Triple Crown winner in 25 years by winning the Belmont Stakes.

In 1978, leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints struck down a 148-year-old policy of excluding black men from the Mormon priesthood.

In 1980, comedian Richard Pryor suffered almost fatal burns at his San Fernando Valley, Calif., home when a mixture of "free-base" cocaine exploded.

In 1985, American educator Thomas Sutherland was kidnapped in Lebanon; he was released in November 1991 along with fellow hostage Terry Waite.

In 1986, the Rogers Commission released its report on the Challenger disaster, criticizing NASA and rocket-builder Morton Thiokol for management problems leading to the explosion that claimed the lives of seven astronauts.

Today's Birthdays: Guitarist-inventor Les Paul is 94. Former World Bank president and former defense secretary Robert S. McNamara is 93. Actress Mona Freeman is 83. Media analyst Marvin Kalb is 79.

Sports commentator Dick Vitale is 70. Author Letty Cottin Pogrebin is 70. Rock musician Jon Lord is 68. Mystery author Patricia Cornwell is 53. Actor Michael J. Fox is 48. Writer-producer Aaron Sorkin is 48. Actor Johnny Depp is 46. Actress Gloria Reuben is 45. Rock musician Dean Felber (Hootie & the Blowfish) is 42. Rock musician Dean Dinning is 42. Musician Ed Simons is 39. Country musician Shade Deggs (Cole Deggs and the Lonesome) is 35. Bluegrass singer-musician Jamie Dailey (Dailey & Vincent) is 34. Actress Michaela Conlin ("Bones") is 31. Actress Natalie Portman is 28. Cleveland Browns wide receiver Josh Cribbs is 26.

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Answer to previous puzzle

PATS	LAST	MAIZE
ALIT	ONCE	ATRIA
TOTO	ATAN	DEANS
CHAR	FIRST	DANCE
HANKIE	HEM	
	DRAGS	IN RUM
TEASE	RULE	HARE
EXCHANGE	OF	FRINGS
SPRY	OUST	EDGES
TOE	STETSON	
	TIE	MOVERS
TIERED	CAKE	AREA
BOXES	ORAL	POPS
SWEAT	DINE	ODES
PASTA	EAST	RELY

Newsday Crossword

THE FINE PRINT by Gail Grabowski

Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Municipal ___ (tax-free investment)
- 5 Glasgow natives
- 10 Words of understanding
- 14 Follow orders
- 15 Fire-hydrant attachments
- 16 University sports org.
- 17 Library transaction
- 18 Talk-show host
- 19 Close tightly
- 20 Handler of intricate procedures
- 22 In addition
- 23 Grinding tooth
- 24 Aviator
- 26 Yellow citrus fruits
- 29 Fido's front limb
- 31 Historical times
- 32 Argentina neighbor
- 34 Paving material
- 35 Prefix for cycle
- 36 Became inedible
- 38 Clean-air org.
- 39 Grain container
- 40 High-calorie cake
- 41 Stage accessory
- 42 Fence off
- 44 Toasty feeling
- 46 Harsh light
- 47 Salary increase
- 49 "Are there ___ questions?"
- 50 Ignite
- 54 Potato, slangily
- 56 Give the go-ahead
- 57 Paradise
- 58 Make simpler
- 59 Liable (to)
- 60 Sit down with a book
- 61 Really impressed
- 62 "Li'l" guy of the comics
- 63 Maple-syrup ingredients
- DOWN**
- 1 Not timid
- 2 Woodwind instrument
- 3 Uncluttered
- 4 Real go-getters
- 5 Beach-comber's finds
- 6 List-separating punctuation
- 7 Hollywood award
- 8 Adolescent
- 9 U-turn from NNW
- 10 Shoe padding
- 11 Spring semester, for example
- 12 ___ de Cologne
- 13 Have a snack
- 21 Charged atom
- 22 Eager to rest
- 24 Flag holder
- 25 Pekoe vessel
- 26 Leave alone
- 27 Making a mistake
- 28 Primary part of a sentence
- 29 Manicurist's tool
- 30 Sales-meeting diagram
- 32 Apple leftover
- 33 Best-seller
- 36 "Bedtime" tale
- 37 Model's stance
- 41 Likes better
- 43 Touched down
- 44 Outdoor-chair material
- 45 Campfire residue
- 47 Silklike synthetic fiber
- 48 Make amends
- 50 Low-___ diet
- 51 Inventive thought
- 52 Gather, as crops
- 53 Brings to a halt
- 54 Salty body of water
- 55 Feline foot
- 56 Relaxing resort

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15							16		
17				18							19		
20				21					22				
				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		

News in brief

Families of U.S. journalists jailed in North Korea plead for clemency

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The families of two American journalists sentenced to 12 years in a North Korean labor prison urged its hard-line government to grant them clemency, amid hopes the U.S. government would send an envoy to negotiate their release.

The sentencing of Laura Ling and Euna Lee on Monday is a new challenge for President Barack Obama who last week pledged to take a "very hard look" at tougher measures against North Korea for failing to end its nuclear program and testing a second atomic device on May 25.

"We remain hopeful that the governments of the United States and North Korea can come to an agreement that will result in the release of the (women)," said a joint statement by their families received Tuesday.

"We ask the government of North Korea to show compassion and grant Laura and Euna clemency and allow them to return home to their families."

The statement expressed concern about the women's health, noting that Ling, 32, has a serious medical condition, a reference to her ulcer, and that Lee's 4-year-old daughter is showing "signs of anguish over the absence of her mother."

Justice's order knocks Chrysler's speedy bankruptcy process into uncertainty

NEW YORK (AP) — The Obama administration had expected Chrysler's sale to Italy's Fiat to close more than a week ago, and perhaps to have seen the automaker already emerge from bankruptcy protection. But the Supreme Court's decision to delay the sale while it studies an appeal now threatens to derail Chrysler's restructuring plans.

Meanwhile, dealers opposing the termination of 789 Chrysler franchises return to court Tuesday.

Chrysler is working to reduce its dealer ranks by about 25 percent as part of its cost-cutting actions. But the move, which still needs bankruptcy court approval, is being challenged by a group representing more than 300 dealers, as well as individual dealers.

A hearing on the motion that began Thursday with the testimony of about a dozen dealers is scheduled to continue Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. EDT with arguments. U.S. Judge Arthur Gonzalez is expected to rule after arguments conclude.

Chrysler LLC flew through five weeks of bankruptcy proceedings and appeared all but certain to be able to complete the sale of its assets to Fiat Group SpA before a June 15 deadline. But Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg issued a stay Monday in order to review an appeal by a trio of Indiana pension and construction funds which own a small part of Chrysler's secured debt and are opposed to the sale. It is not clear how long the stay will last or if the high court will take up the case.

House Democrats considering tax health benefits to pay for legislation, sources say

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite a less-than-rousing reaction from the Obama administration, House Democrats are considering a new tax on employer-provided health benefits to help pay for expanding coverage to the uninsured.

Several officials also said an outline of emerging legislation envisions a requirement for all individuals to purchase affordable coverage, with an unspecified penalty for those who refuse and a waiver for those who cannot cover the cost.

"There's no sense having a mandate unless you have a contribution," Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, said Monday. He referred to the suggestion as "play or pay."

Rangel and other senior Democrats arranged to bring members of the party's rank and file up to date at a midday session Tuesday on the effort to draft health care legislation at the top of President Barack Obama's agenda.

U.N. war crimes investigators face obstacles, Israeli refusal to cooperate

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — A veteran U.N. war crimes investigator acknowledged his probe of possible war crimes by Israel and Hamas — which included interviewing dozens of victims and poring through the files of human rights groups — is

unlikely to lead to prosecutions.

Israel has refused to cooperate, depriving his team access to military sources and victims of Hamas rockets. And Hamas security often accompanied his team during their five-day trip to Gaza last week, raising questions about the ability of witnesses to freely describe the militant group's actions.

But the chief barrier remains the lack of a court with jurisdiction to hear any resulting cases stemming from the investigation into Israel's three-week offensive in Gaza which ended in January and was designed to stop years of Hamas rocket fire into southern Israel.

"From a practical political point of view, I wish I could be optimistic," Judge Richard Goldstone said, citing the legal and political barriers to war crimes trials.

Still, Goldstone hopes his group's report — due in September — will spur action by other U.N. bodies and foreign governments.

Efforts to impeach federal judge convicted of lying about assaults move quickly

WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of Congress are moving quickly to force a convicted federal judge from Texas out of office so they can avoid paying his annual salary while he serves time in prison.

A task force formed by the House Judiciary Committee scheduled a meeting for Tuesday morning to begin considering what articles of impeachment — essentially charges — they want to recommend against U.S. District Judge Samuel Kent.

Kent, the first sitting judge to face sex crime charges, is headed to federal prison in a week to serve a 33-month sentence for lying to prosecutors about sexually abusing two female employees. Both women told their stories to the task force last week, saying they were cornered and forced to engage in sexual acts against their will.

Kent pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice charges last month. As part of the plea deal, he admitted he tried to force Cathy McBroom, his former case manager, into unwanted sex acts in 2003 and 2007.

Recovered tail piece may provide clues to Air France 447 crash in Atlantic

RECIFE, Brazil (AP) — The recovery of Air France Flight 447's tail section could provide key clues as to why the airliner with 228 people on board went down in the Atlantic and where best to search for the black boxes, experts said.

The tail section includes the vertical stabilizer — which keeps the plane's nose from swinging back and forth — and the rudder, which generates and controls the side-to-side motion of an aircraft.

The data and voice recorders are located in the fuselage near the tail.

In a video posted Monday on a Web site, Brazil's air force revealed that search crews had recovered the vertical stabilizer from the tail section of the plane. Brazilian military officials have refused to detail the large pieces of the plane they have found.

U.S., Europeans consider partnership to explore Mars in coming decade

LOS ANGELES (AP) — For almost half a century, the United States has dominated the exploration of Mars from the first grainy black-and-white pictures of the craggy surface to the more recent discovery of ice.

Now, budget woes are pushing NASA toward a joint exploration venture with Europe. By 2016, the U.S. may unite with the European Space Agency for future Mars trips — a move that would mark a significant shift for NASA.

Details of such a union could come by the end of this month.

In May, NASA's space sciences chief Ed Weiler said he believed a partnership was the best avenue to pursue shared science goals.

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.

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The Unkindest Cut of All

East dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ Q 6 5 4 2

♥ A 4

♦ Q 6 5

♣ A 7 3

WEST

♠ 9 3

♥ K 9 7

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ J 8 6 5

EAST

♠ A K J 8 7

♥ 8 5 2

♦ J 10

♣ 9 4 2

SOUTH

♠ 10

♥ Q J 10 6 3

♦ A K 7 4

♣ K Q 10

The bidding:

East South West North

Pass 1♥ Pass 1♠

Pass 2♦ Pass 3♣

Pass 3NT Pass Pass

Dble

Opening lead — nine of spades.

Relying on the defenders' bidding is often the best guide to how to play a hand. For an excellent illustration of this principle, consider this deal from *The Bridge World* magazine, where South got to three notrump as shown and East doubled.

The surprise double, after East had passed throughout, was clearly lead-directing and asked West to lead the first suit bid by dummy. From East's standpoint, an opening spade lead offered by far the best chance of stopping the contract.

West duly led the nine of spades, East winning the trick with the jack as declarer followed with the ten. East returned the jack of diamonds, taken by South with the ace. Declarer then played the queen of hearts, which won, and now had to decide what to do next.

It was at this point that South invoked the principle mentioned above. He led a club to the ace and returned a low spade from dummy!

As a result, East found himself between a rock and a hard place. He won the spade lead with the seven but was then helpless. If he cashed the A-K of spades, dummy's queen would become declarer's ninth trick; if he abandoned the suit or cashed only one high spade, declarer would later concede a heart to West's king and again wind up making the contract. Either way, East was a dead duck.

It is true that South's lead of a low spade from dummy, which superficially seems suicidal, is a mighty hard play to think of. But if declarer gives full weight to the bidding — especially the highly significant double by East — it is not at all a far-fetched play.

To make the contract, South must first sever the communication between East and West. The low-spade play at trick five does exactly that, leaving the defenders with no recourse.

Tomorrow: Bridge is a psychological game.



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Jury selection starts for ex-congressman

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — Jury selection for former Congressman William Jefferson's corruption trial is starting in suburban Washington.

Jefferson is a Louisiana Democrat who represented parts of New Orleans until losing his re-election bid last year. He was charged in 2005 after federal agents found \$90,000 in cash stashed in the freezer at his Washington home.

He is going on trial in U.S. District Court in Alexandria on charges including bribery and racketeering. Jefferson is accused of receiving more than \$400,000 in bribes.

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Bird Poop: The mallard's painful march

Struggling out of the water, she began the long trek through the park. After wandering among the trees and underbrush, she passed the silent baseball field illuminated by the moon. Each step was an effort.

As the pavement dipped downward for the low water crossing, she welcomed a sip of water from a remaining puddle. Once on the golf course, she stopped for a brief rest on a manicured green. By placing most of her weight on one side as she lowered her body, she was able to lessen the pain in her other leg.

By early light, she had reached the western

edge of the public facility. Sore from the pebbles and rough surface of the fairways, her webbed feet, in



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addition to her leg, were limited in how much further they could carry her. Half waddling and limping into the roadway, she was

nearly hit by a motorist heading to work.

"Spilled my coffee but I caught her," the man said as he shared his experience. After suddenly stopping, then watching the errant duck, he realized

the bird, in addition to having an injured leg, was snarled in monofilament line. "There's no way she could have flown the distance from the lake to Parkway."

Exhausted from her stroll through the park, the duck had little stamina to outrun the determined man. Once captured, she was placed in his pickup's toolbox for a ride south of town. Not wanting to be late to work, the man arrived at the Conoco area near Forsan with five minutes to spare.

Leaving my work with an "on call" friend to baby-sit my desk, I soon arrived at the well-marked logo for the company on US 87. Glancing in the cardboard box provided by a company employee and making a decision based on size and coloration, I agreed with the man that he had rescued a female mallard.

Free of the entrapping fishing line, the duck flapped one of its wings as I raised her from the box. Having the colored wing patch called a speculum, the bird's blue insignia with white bars on each side left no doubt. Nor did her orange bill heightened with a blackish marking.

While buff, brown, and white mottling graced her back, sides and chest, she had a dark crown in comparison



Courtesy photo

Although vastly different in attire during the breeding season, mallards do share some common attributes. Both sexes have white wing linings, blue wing patches, orange feet, and the ability to fly straight up from water on land.

to the paler parts of her head and neck. A dark stripe through each eye was distinct. Barely noticeable were whitish, outer tail feathers.

After laying her on her back and covering her head with a towel, I began to examine her orange-colored feet and legs. Although the man and other employees had removed some of the line, it was obvious that in her struggle to come ashore, the synthetic string had become deeply imbedded in her leg. Touching her foot and the swollen tissue beneath the area, I was relieved to feel the warmth that indicated she still had adequate circulation.

That afternoon we delivered the mallard to the Eos Wildlife Sanctuary in Midland. During the drive home, Art mentioned the contrast in plumage between the female and a drake.

With its yellow bill, green head and neck, thin white neckband,

brown breast, grayish body, black rump and white tail topped with black feathers curled upward, the male was a handsome suitor. Reminding Art that during summer, however, the drake would wear a non-breeding outfit as plain as the lady he had courted, I felt nature at least had a sense of humor.

Our next quandary was if she left behind any ducklings. After a courtship of being chased in flight and on the water by amorous admirers, the female made the ultimate choice by either touching her intended with her bill or bowing.

Selecting and decorating a nest site, as well as incubating, were her sole responsibilities. Once most of her eggs had hatched, she would wait until the newborns' downy coats had dried. With her young strong enough to walk, she would encourage them to follow her to the nearest water. As

their only defender, the female mallard would care for and raise her family alone. Thankfully, no reports from citizens regarding abandoned ducklings were voiced.

In a few days we learned that a veterinarian had removed the monofilament line from the duck's leg. With antibiotics and anti-inflammatory medications, she had a chance for recovery.

The mallard's dilemma some 21 years ago came to mind recently during the last of May. Featured on national news networks, a story highlighted the efforts of a banker who helped a female mallard and her brood leave a dangerous ledge and reach the closest body of water. Years apart, both stories show the commonality of compassion.

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



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*A resource for newcomers to
Big Spring and Howard County*

Publication Date: July 26, 2009

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