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G SPRING

TUESDAY

June 16, 2009



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VOLUME 104. NUMBER 166

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Mother of slain boy slams investigation

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

A local woman whose son was slain in a shooting more than two weeks ago says the Big Spring Police Department has botched the investigation and is seeking help from a state law enforcement agency.

Harbour, mother of Nicole 16-year-old Justin Hernandez, who was shot and killed during the early morning hours of May 29, said she has contacted the Texas Rangers to assist in the investigation of her son's death because she feels



Hernandez

picked up," said Harbour. "It just doesn't seem to me that this is of much importance to the police department or the district attorney's office ... It took the police five days before they went back out to the scene and looked for

the investigating agen-

cy — the BSPD — is

mishandling the case.

"We're very angry.

First you're sad and

you're grieving, but

we're not going to have

any type of resolution

until these people are

shell casings and other evidence. And it took longer than it should have for police officers to get on the scene. They are always patrolling that neighborhood closely, but it certainly seemed like it took them longer than it should to get there. I just don't feel like this is very important to them."

Justin Hernandez, 16, was pronounced dead shortly after 10 a.m. May 30 at a Lubbock area hospital, according to Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with

See MURDER, Page 3A

"Never, even once, has the police department called me. From day one, I've always had to contact them to see what's going on. They have never contacted our family, not mine or my



Harbour

ex-husband's family. I feel like if it doesn't just come to the police, they aren't going to seek the information."

Drug charges

Lubbock woman pleads guilty in case that involves Big Spring

LUBBOCK (AP) — The wife of an alleged gang leader pleaded guilty Monday to drug trafficking charges involving cocaine and marijuana brought from Mexico for distribution in Texas.

Federal prosecutors said Marie Chavez, 28, of Lubbock pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine and 100 kilograms or more of marijuana. She also pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine.

Chavez's trial was to have begun Monday. She faces a sentence of 10 years to life in prison. Sentencing has not been scheduled.

Prosecutors said Chavez, a member of the Almighty Latin King and Queen Nation

See **PLEA**, Page 3A



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

Employees with Oncor Electric work on power lines near the rear entrance to the Big Spring VA Medical Center Monday afternoon. Part of the utility work being done in conjunction with road repairs on Gregg Street and expected on Lancaster, traffic had to be detoured around this and a section of Gregg Street to accommodate the repairs.

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Features Obituaries 2A Opinion

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

State Park to host Stargazing Party

By THOMAS JENKINS Staff Writer

Amateur astronomers and local

residents will get a chance to turn their sights toward the heavens Saturday, June 27, as officials with the Big Spring State Park prepare for their annual Stargazing Party atop the local landmark.

"Sunset is approximately 9 p.m., and Gene Hardy will present a program as soon as it gets dark enough to see the projection, which is usu-



9:30 p.m.," said Park Manager Ron Alton. "I'm going to ask the astronomy club members to bone up on their constellations so we can point some of them out.

"The moon should be at just a little less than first quarter. Constella-

tion Sagittarius should be visible, looking through it toward the center of the Milky Way galaxy with lots

ally between 9:20 and of nebulas and star clusters. Also, the Summer Triangle, including the stars Vega, Altair and Denab, with more nebulas and a spectacular double star, Alberio, will be visible."

> Slated for 8:30 p.m. until 11 p.m. near the park office at the top of Scenic Mountain, the program will offer something for everyone in the family, according to Alton. "It's one of the bigger events of the

> year for us," said Alton. "It's a fun See STARS, Page 3A



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SPRING HERALD

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

Page 1B Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Rangers holding on in AL West minus Hamilton

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — That hole in the middle of the Texas lineup is getting harder to ignore, no matter how much the AL West-leading Rangers insist they can win without injured slugger Josh Hamilton.

While the Rangers have reached mid-June as the division leader for the first time in 10 years, their hitters are slumping and their lead shrink-

"It's not that we're downplaying missing Josh. We're a good team without him, we're a good team with him," Ian Kinsler said. "We have won without him and we need to continue doing that until he gets healthy. We can't sit around and blame our offensive woes on that."

But their June swoon does directly correspond with Hamilton's second trip to the disabled list this season. The center fielder who bats third last played May 31. He is recovering from surgery last week to repair a tear in his abdominal muscle and expected to be out another month.

Before a day off Monday, Texas was 2-4 on its current homestand and hit .197 with 14 runs in that stretch against Toronto and the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Rangers (35-27) were held to one run twice and scoreless another game. The Los Angeles Angels have moved within $2\frac{1}{2}$ games, the slimmest margin in three weeks.

"We're not panicking when it comes

to our offense," Michael Young said. "We know we'll make adjustments. ... We'll get there. We're confident. It's a matter of time."

The last time the Rangers led the division in mid-June was 1999, the season they won the last of their three AL West titles. They were 7½ games back by this point a year ago, and a whopping 28 games behind in 2001.

There are 100 regular season games left, and things are out of whack for a team long known for potent offense and miserable pitching.

Rangers pitchers had a string of 24 consecutive scoreless innings last week, including back-to-back shutout victories at home for the first time in 29 seasons. But they won one of those by the smallest possible margin, 1-0 when they scored on a sacrifice fly.

Texas is hitting only .223 with 39 runs and a 5-7 record so far in June.

"Everybody kind of needs to take it upon themselves to try to be a leader and make something happen," outfielder David Murphy said.

That has been a struggle lately for several of the everyday players.

Kinsler, the leadoff hitter whose torrid start included a 6-for-6 game with a cycle April 15 that had him third in the majors with a .474 batting average, has dipped all the way to .260. He was 4 for 33 the last eight

Young was in an 0-for-17 slump, two at-bats short of the longest drought

See **RANGERS**, Page 2B

BSHS 7-on-7 team state bound



The Big Spring Steers 7-on-7 football team recently placed second in a tournament at Frenship High School in Wolfforth, winning its pool and qualifying for the state tournament in the process. The state tourney is set for July 11 at Jones Stadium in Lubbock. The Steers play in a league every Monday in Midland and are currently 4-0. Their next games are at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Monday. Sonic owner Mike Abusaab (standing center) sponsors the team. The players are (kneeling, left to right): Austin Sanchez, Monte Anderson, Ben Merworth, Robert Parra, Tracey Russell, (back row) Mike Menefield, Thaddeus Straughter, Matt Ritchey, Devonte Lloyd, Tyler Tannehill and Pavel Plakhotny.

Grossman looking to impress

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Former Chicago Bears quarterback Rex Grossman wants to be a starter again.

First, he'll have to make the roster with his new team, the Houston Texans.

Grossman, who signed with the Texans as a free agent last week, joined the team on the opening day of a three-day minicamp to compete for the third quarterback spot behind starter Matt Schaub and Dan Orlovsky.

"It's just an opportunity for me to be in this league and get to where I want to be," Grossman said after the more than hourlong workout. "I'm going to work as hard

as I can." Grossman led the Bears to the Super Bowl in 2006 but has worked mostly as a backup.

He'll compete with Alex Brink for the third quarterback spot. But coach Gary Kubiak isn't sure if he'll carry three quarterbacks into the season, so the 2003 firstround pick will have to impress to earn a spot on the roster.

Kubiak played in a two-quarterback system in Denver and prefers carrying

See GROSSMAN, Page 2B

No contract, no problem, Ware says

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

CARROLLTON DeMarcus Ware was almost to the bus and out of the heat when one of the Dallas Cowboys equipment guys stopped him to retrieve his No. 94 jersey.

"Oh, this is where I want to be, America's Team, nowhere else," Ware said Monday, while stripping off the sweat-soaked jersey after the first practice of the team's minicamp.

While Ware is already under contract through the upcoming season, the Cowboys have been working on an extension for the NFL sacks leader (20 last season) to keep that jersey and the star on his helmet for a long time.

It will be a big payday for the linebacker who has already been in three Pro Bowls and has 53½ sacks in four sea-

Still, those contract

See WARE, Page 2B



Photo/The Dallas Morning News, Vernon Bryant

Dallas defensive lineman DeMarcus Ware (94) works on pass rushing technique during the team's football minicamp in Carrollton Monday.

Sports in brief

Big Spring baseball and softball boosters hosting ragball tourney

The Big Spring High School baseball and softball boosters are teaming to host a ragball tournament Friday and Saturday at Lady Steer Park.

Registration is at 5:30 p.m. June 19 with games starting at 7 p.m. that same day. Cost is \$10 per player with each team needing to contain five boys and five girls.

For more information, call John Sparks at 270-

Volleyball Skills Camp A Volleyball Skills Camp has been scheduled for

Wednesday through Friday at the Big Spring

Call Kay Cook at the Athletic Training Center

The Big Spring High School Athletic Department

will host a variety of sports skills camps during the

Big Spring ISD announces

sports skills camps

with any questions at 264-3662.

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.

Highs in the mid 90s and

Obituaries

Rhonda J. Lamb

Services for Rhonda J. Lamb. 35, of Forsan will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 17, 2009, at Maranatha Assembly of God Church with the Rev. Dean Williamson officiating. Burial will follow in the Andrews Old Cemetery under the direction of McNett Funeral Home.

Rhonda passed away Friday, June 12, 2009. She was born Feb. 28, 1974 in Andrews. Rhonda was a nurse for a nursing home in Big Spring.

Survivors include a son, Caleb Lamb of Forsan: daughters, Brittany Lamb and Courtney Frisby. both of Forsan; parents, Pam and Gary Stevens of Midland: brothers, Eddie Lamb of Euless and Toby Nock of Midland; sisters, Chevonna Patterson and Elizabeth Hayes, both of Big Spring and Melissa Stevens, of Seattle, Wash.; grandparents, Faye Southern and R.L. and Uvonne Stevens, all of

Bob Cox

Bob Cox of Stanton, died Tuesday, June 16, 2009, at his residence. His services are pending with Monday on a charge of disorderly conduct. Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 95 inmates at the time of this

- SIMON JACOB ARENVIAZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on two local warrants and a charge of minor in possession of • JOHN ALLEN AVANT, 22, was arrested Monday
- by the HCSO on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. • WENDELL CAMPBELL, 48, was transferred to
- the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and issuance of a
- REBECCA LYNN COMSTOCK, 25, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. • WESLEY ALLAN EDMONDSON, 21, was trans-
- ferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana – two ounces or
- ROBERT EARL GREEN, 34, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of theft by check.
- TOM GUTIERREZ, 48, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of
- ISABEL LOMAS, 52, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a local war-
- LONNELL LOTT, 49, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.
- TYRONE MANLEY, 45, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while intoxi-
- COREY ERIK RAMEY, 22, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. • JAIME RENTERIA, 46, was transferred to the
- county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication. • JOSEPH DEWAYNE RICHTER, 22, was arrested
- Monday by the HCSO on a charge of evading arrest/ • RICKY WINTERS, 56, was transferred to the
- county jail Monday by the BSPD on a probation violation for driving while license invalid.
- ROCKY ROBLES YANEZ, 27, was arrested Monday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated – open container, second

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity: • MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of

- Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC. • TRAUMA was reported in the 2300 block of
- Gregg. One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Ave.
- C. One person was transported to SMMC. • MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of
- Lynn. One person was transported to SMMC. MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main. Service was refused.
- \bullet MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of $11^{\rm th}$ Place. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1500 block of Sunset. One person was transported to SMMC.
- FALSE CALL was reported in the 700 block of E. 11th.

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Police blotter

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

- ANTHONY WILSON, 21, of Weatherford, was arrested Monday on a warrant.
- TOM GUTIERREZ JR., 48, of 1207 Sycamore, was arrested Monday on a charge of murder.
- LONNEL LOTT, 49, of 2911 W. Highway 80 Apt. 153, was arrested Monday on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and possession of drug paraphernalia.
- SIMON ARENIVAZ, 18, of 2603 Ent, was arrested Monday on three local warrants.
- WESLEY EDMONDSON, 21, of 403 S. Fifth St. in Coahoma, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of marijuana. REBECCA COMSTOCK, 25, of 1700 Runnels,
- was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. WENDELL CAMPBELL, 48, of 2911 W. Highway
- 80 Apt. 240, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. HENRY RAYMOND, 35, transient, was arrested
- JOHN AVANT, 22, of 2008 Johnson, was arrest-
- ed Monday on a charge of possession of a controlled • COREY RAMEY, 22, of 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 1704, was arrested Monday on a charge of posses-
- sion of a controlled substance. • RICKY WINTERS, 56, of 309 N.W. Ninth St., was arrested Monday on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- DEANGELO GRAY, 24, of 1311 Mulberry, was arrested Monday on a charge of possession of mari-
- ISABEL LOMAS, 52, of 806 N. Goliad, was arrested Monday on a local warrant.
- JAIME RENTERIA, 46, of 1009 N. Bell, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxica-
- DAVID GONZALES, 38, of 404 N.E. 10th St., was arrested Monday on local warrants.
 - THEFT was reported:
 - in the 1100 block of Lloyd.
 - in the 2100 block of Grace.
 - in the 1500 block of FM 700. in the 900 block of Willia.
- POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA was reported in the 1000 block of Fifth Street, in the south alley.
- POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE was reported in the 700 block of 14th Street.
- MURDER was reported in the 1200 block of Sycamore.
- FRAUDULENT USE/POSSESSION IDENTIFYING INFORMATION was reported in the 400 block of Fourth Street.
- CRIMINAL TRESPASS was reported in the 1700 block of State.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 1800 block of Hamilton.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT was reported in the 900 block of Third Street.

Take Note

- · The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities funds through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. West Texas Opportunities will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.
- · 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 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.
- 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 the American Cancer Society office in Odessa, (432) 334-6121.

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Your Local Weather

Wed 6/19 96/72 A few passing clouds, More sun than clouds. Mix of sun and clouds.

Bulletin Board

Highs in the mid 90s and

the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com **TODAY**

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact

• Big Spring Band Boosters meets at 5:30 p.m.

otherwise generally

sunny. High 97F.

- in the high school band hall. All band parents are invited to attend. Howard County Master Gardeners meet at 5:30
- p.m. in the basement of the county courthouse. The public is invited. • Big Spring Art Association meets at 7 p.m. in
- the Howard County Library. All working artists and those interested in art are invited to attend. • Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30
- p.m. at 221 Main. 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, 1001 Birdwell • Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge, 703 W. Third St.

Big Spring Country Club.

- 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. Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association
- meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring City Council Chambers, 307 E. Fourth. 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 American Legion Post 506 meets at 6 p.m. Call
- Rackley-Swords 379, Vietnam Veterans of America meets at 7 p.m. in the Sparenburg Building, 309 S. Main St.

263-2084 for more information.

• Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Call 267-
- 1037 or 267-7281 for more information · AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restau-
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon
- at the Howard College Cactus Room. • Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Lottery

Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday

Winning numbers drawn: 7 - 9 - 27 - 30. Bonus Ball:

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: \$525,000.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 8 - 9 - 26 - 27 - 34. Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$24,362. The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Monday

night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9 - 8 - 3 - 6. Sum It Up: 26.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0 - 6 - 2. Sum It Up: 8.

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Ex-Cowboys DE Ellis signs with Raiders

signed defensive end Greg Ellis on Monday night, acquiring a veteran presence as they work to upgrade their defense.

The 6-foot-6, 262-pound Ellis, who turns 34 on Aug. 14, was released earlier this month by the Dallas Cowboys — his team for all 11 of his NFL seasons. The sides completed the deal late Monday

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP) — The Oakland Raiders when he signed the contract, Raiders CEO Amy Trask said.

Ellis has also played linebacker but will be a defensive end in the Raiders' 4-3 system. Oakland's defense struggled in the pass rush and to generate sacks last season. Training camp opens next month in nearby Napa.

Raiders coach Tom Cable has acknowledged the

team might trade former Pro Bowler Derrick Burgess, who is unhappy with his contract, if Oakland gets adequate compensation.

Ellis has 77 career sacks, including a career-best $12\frac{1}{2}$ in 2007 for the Cowboys. He's had 30 or more tackles in eight of his professional seasons.

Burgess heads into the final year of a deal that pays him a \$2 million base salary this season.

WARE

Continued from Page 1B

talks haven't been a distraction for Ware or kept him off the field.

While this week's three-day minicamp is mandatory, and the last organized team workouts until training camp opens next month, he has already been a regular participant in offseason workouts.

"He's that kind of guy. He kind of lives in the moment and is happy to be doing what he's doing all the time,' coach Wade Phillips said. "When he's on the field, he's playing football. That's a good thing, and in the classroom he does well.'

Ware doesn't even want to talk about the contract.

"No comment about that," he said. "I let my agent and Jerry (Jones)

This will be the final season of the five-year deal Ware signed after being the 11th overall pick in the 2005 draft. His base salary for this season is just over \$1 million.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones has indicated several times recently that a deal will get done.

That leaves the questions of when and for how much.

"These things take time, and we obviously want DeMarcus to be a Cowboy for his career. That is our goal," Stephen Jones, the team's vice president and owner's son, said last month. "We've made offers. We made an offer a while back." Considering what some of other top

NFL defenders got paid this offseason, Ware will getting a significant

The Washington Redskins gave free agent defensive tackle Albert

Haynesworth a seven-year, \$100 million contract that included an NFL record \$41 million guaranteed. Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh gave outside linebacker James Harrison, the NFL defensive player of the year, a \$51.75 million, six-year deal with \$20 million guaranteed.

Ware possesses a unique blend of strength, agility and quickness that allows him to be a dominating force all over the field. His sack total has increased every season — from eight as a rookie in 2005, to $11\frac{1}{2}$, 14 and

"When you get 14 sacks, you're kind of numbered, they know who you are. And then to get 20," Phillips said. "They know where you are. It was pretty amazing last year, in that he had so many sacks the year before then upped that. Of course, he's got the bar that's higher than everybody else as far as trying to high jump every year. But he's the kind of guy that can do it.'

Ware, who turns 27 next month, is only the fourth player in Cowbovs history with three consecutive 10-sack seasons. The last Dallas player with more than Ware in a single season

was Hall of Fame defensive tackle Randy White with 16 in 1978. There was also his NFL record-

matching streak of 10 consecutive games with a sack, the longest in the NFL in 15 years even though it is not recognized as the Cowboys record. Harvey Martin had sacks in 11 consecutive games from 1976-77 before the NFL considered sacks as an official stat.

But what still stands out from last season for Ware is that Cowboys went from Super Bowl expectations to missing the playoffs after losing their final game.

"It feels really good to be back and sort of try to get that bad taste out of your mouth from last season," Ware said. "We've got a lot of guys coming in here that are going to contribute to the team. You just want to see how it's all going to unfold."

Both on and off the field in Ware's

Notes: RB Felix Jones didn't participate in the second practice Monday because of a bruised calf sustained in the morning session. ... WRs Miles Austin (hamstring) and Sam Hurd (quad) were already out.



Road Construction Blues

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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.

All the 7-11 Stores Park's Convenience All the Star Stops Wes-T-Go Zooom Grocery H-E-B D's One Stop Fast Stop Wasson Rd. Wal*Mart Fast Stop East 4th Gold Rush Travel Centers of America Buffalo Country Fina Travel Mart Kate's Fina Mart

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Town & Country (Coahoma) Little Sooper (Coahoma)

Uncles (Sand Springs) Lakeway Grocery (Sand Springs)

Big Spring Dairy Queens

We have now added Newspaper Racks at both **Big Spring Dairy Queens locations for your** convenience.



GROSSMAN

Continued from Page 1B

two. He may carry three this season because Schaub missed five games in each of the last two years and the team was forced to scramble to add one midseason.

Grossman appeared in four games with one start last season for the Bears with Kyle Orton in the starting spot. He spent his six-year career in Chicago, where he had 33 touchdowns and 35 interceptions.

His best season came in 2006 when he threw for 3,193 yards and 23 touchdowns in guiding the Bears to the Super Bowl.

"I'm a 28-year-old, I've got a lot left," Grossman said. "I'm hungry to get back to start at some point in my career, get back to the Super Bowl. I'm extremely motivated."

Grossman was excited to get back on the field Monday after sitting around for the past few months hoping he'd get another shot. Most of Houston's starters didn't work on the field Monday, so Grossman got acquainted with Kubiak's offense with the help of rookies and other young players.

Kubiak isn't worried about Grossman's recent struggles and hopes he can regain his old form in Houston.

"A lot of times in this game you are a high draft choice, you get your opportunity somewhere and some

things go great for you," Kubiak said. "Then all the sudden you don't have a good year or the team starts going a different direction and it's a struggle. I think guys that keep their head up and fall in the right place have an excellent chance to revive their careers and we're going to do our part with him."

Grossman remains upbeat despite his current position.

"This league is about adversity," he said. "Everyone faces adversity at some point. I've had my fair share already and I feel like I'm experienced

... this is just another situation that I'm going to have to somehow get to the other side of."

Also on Monday, tight end Owen Daniels did not report to the stadium for the mandatory minicamp despite signing his restricted free agent tender. Daniels missed last week's organized team activities because he is unhappy with his contract status.

"We're happy he elected to come in and sign his tender and be part of this football team again," Texans general manager Rick Smith said. "I'm a little disappointed he's not here today but ... we talked about how it's a process and how complicated it is."

Because Daniels signed the tender he could be fined.

"This is a mandatory minicamp, so there are ramifications for him not being here," Smith said.

Smith said the team will work on a long-term deal with Daniels, who had 70 receptions for 862 yards last sea-

RANGERS

Continued from Page 1B

in his career that includes five 200-hit seasons, before an RBI single on Friday night. While still hitting .316 overall, he is 3 for 24 (.125) during the homestand.

Andruw Jones, whose playing time has increased with Hamilton out, also had an 0-for-17 skid before hitting two home runs this weekend against the Los Angeles Dodgers. (Add a homer Jones hit in a spring training game against the Dodgers and he has three in three games against them this year, after three homers in 75 games for them last season.) Since nine homers in a 15-game

stretch, Nelson Cruz is 6 for 33 with one homer the past nine games. He had three of those hits in one game.

Chris Davis has hit .303 (10 of 33) the past 10 games, but the 23-year-old first baseman is hitting .208 overall and on a record strikeout pace. His majorshigh 92 strikeouts in 59 games includes

22 Ks his last 13 home games. "We're all confident," insists. "We know we're capable.

We've just got to move on.' The Rangers did go 9-4 when Hamilton missed 13 games earlier this season with a strained ribcage muscle after crashing into an outfield wall while making a catch. He got hurt again when he ran into another wall making another catch less than a week after returning from the first

Hamilton, who hit .304 with 32 homers and an AL-high 130 RBIs last season, was hitting .240 with six homers and 24 RBIs in 35 games when he got hurt again. But the Rangers depend on him for more than just his bat.

"There are some intangibles that come with him being on the field, whether it's leadership or defense, base running," Murphy said. "He brings so much to our team and so much to the game that we're easily a better team with him on the field and with him in the lineup."



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News in Brief

South Korea's Lee and Obama to discuss North Korean nuclear standoff in White House meeting WASHINGTON (AP) — As North Korea threatens

nuclear war, President Barack Obama and South Korean President Lee Myung-bak will be eager to show the North the unity of their alliance and a determination not to back down. North Korea's pledge to expand its nuclear pro-

grams gives their meeting Tuesday at the White House a sense of urgency. The presidents probably will express their refusal to accept the North as a nuclear weapons state and condemn recent missile and nuclear tests.

Before leaving Seoul, Lee said he supported Obama's appeal for a world without nuclear weapons. However, he told The Wall Street Journal, "we are faced with North Korea trying to become a nuclear power, and this really is a question we must deal with now."

The United States, during Lee's visit, is likely to pledge its continued commitment to use its military muscle to protect the South should the North attack. Such comments are welcome in Seoul and Tokyo, no matter how many times U.S. officials re-

Lee's talks with Obama come on the second day of a three-day visit also scheduled to include meetings with U.S. trade envoy Ron Kirk, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton welcomed Lee to Washington on Monday, the same day tens of thousands rallied in Pyongyang to condemn sanctions imposed by the United Nations after the country's latest nuclear test.

Iran's Guardian Council agrees to limited ballot recount

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's powerful Guardian Council is ready to recount specific ballot boxes in last week's disputed presidential elections, a council spokesman said Tuesday, another twist in an election that has touched off widespread protests. State television quoted Abbas Ali Kadkhodaei as

saying that the recount would be limited to voting sites where candidates claim irregularities took place. It was not clear which or how many voting sites would be affected. The results from last Friday's election showing

a landslide victory for President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad sparked Tehran's worst violence in 10 years — including seven reportedly killed Monday

during clashes.

Supporters of reformist candidate Mir Hossein Mousavi claim the vote was rigged to re-elect the hardline president.

The 12-member Guardian Council includes clerics and experts in Islamic law. It's role includes certifying election results, and it is closely allied to Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Russia pushes for new reserve currencies at international summits

YEKATERINBURG, Russia (AP) — China and Russia sought greater international clout at a summit Tuesday, with China promising a \$10 billion loan to Central Asian countries, while Russia challenged the dominance of the U.S. dollar as a global reserve currency. Russia also gave a prominent platform to Iranian

protests in Iran over his bitterly disputed re-election and questions in the West about the vote. Chinese leader Hu Jintao said China will extend

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad amid massive

a \$10 billion loan to a regional group that also includes Russia and four Central Asian states.

The move adds muscle to China's role in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

MURDER

Continued from Page 1A

the BSPD. According to police records, Hernandez and a second victim, later identified as 17-year-old Richard Pineda of Big Spring, were shot at a residence in the 1600 block of Cardinal shortly after midnight. Harbour said she has

contacted the Texas Rangers and is in the process of setting up a meeting with the agency in hopes of moving the case forward.

"Apparently, everyone in town knows who did this," said Harbour. "All of Justin's friends, just about everyone knows who did this. I know the police have typed up a warrant ... but my understanding is the district attorney's office is not cooperating with them. Hardy (Wilkerson, district attorney) deems it insufficient evidence to move the case along. And here it's been two weeks and they have 34 statements and witnesses, and they (law enforcement) still haven't done anything.

"It's a lot like the murder that happened Monday. That guy is already locked up and in jail. Why? Because he turned himself in and they (the police) didn't have to go and do any work. Never, even once, has the police department called me. From day one, I've always had to contact them to see what's going on. They have never contacted our family, not mine or my ex-husband's family. I feel like if it doesn't just come to the police, they aren't going to seek the information.'

Wilkerson would not comment directly on Harbour's allegations.

"The investigation has limited the number of suspects, but it's not at the point that it's ready to be presented to the grand jury," Wilkerson said. "I feel that good work has been done by the police so far, but there's still significant work yet to be done."

Preliminary investigation into the shooting revealed that a fight involving the two teenaghad occurred earlier ing to police officials. surrounding the inves-

Harbour said Hernandez was not directly involved in the fight police described.

"There were several fights that night, one between some females who later brought back some male friends," said Harbour. "When they brought them, there was another fight, and not everyone that was at the party was involved in the fight. My son wasn't involved in the fight. After that, the people that came back to the party left again.

"The kids were playing football in the street and someone drove by and swerved at them like they were going to run them over. The vehicle took off, and not more than five minutes later it came back and did the same thing. This time, though, it stopped at the end of the road. The kids in the street thought they had come back to fight again, and that's when this person got out (of the car) and started shooting."

Police have not identified a suspect in reports ers and several others to the media, and ac- that got shot. This is cording to BSPD Chief in the evening, accord- Lonnie Smith, details

tigation will not be discussed at this time. "I will not discuss

this," said Smith firmly. "We will continue to investigate this case." Smith declined to

comment on Harbour's allegations the police department was slow to respond to the scene of the shooting and waited several days to investigate the crime scene. Harbour said she feels

like the police department is treating the death of her son as just "another Mexican kid that got shot.' "I read the paper on-

line, and there are people who are posting comments asking where the parents of the 16-yearold were, and why was a kid his age there that late," said Harbour. "My son hung out with that family almost every weekend. This isn't just some thug off the street that got shot. This kid had a family that loved him. He was very loved. They are just treating it like they were a bunch of thugs, and he's just another Mexican kid how I feel.

"People are trying to trivialize this like these kids were a bunch of gang-bangers. kids didn't carry weapons. Sure, they got into a lot of fights, but it was because my son was a protector. He was the kind of kid that if you couldn't fight a fight and someone is going to mess with you, let's take care of this. He never had a gun. He didn't even carry a pocketknife. "The only way this

is going to be resolved is if people who know something come in and give a statement," she added. "That's the only way they are going to arrest the person who did this."

Anyone with information regarding this crime is encouraged to contact Big Spring Area Crimestoppers at 264-TIPS (8477), 263- TIPS (8477), or the BSPD at 264-2550.

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

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288 Bill Gilbert, 73, of Big Spring died Friday, June 12, 2009, in Stanton. Funeral Mass was at 11 a.m. Tuesday Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. Juan Dominic Salazar,

infant, of Garden City died Saturday, June 13, 2009, in Odessa. Funeral Mass will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday at St. Lawrence Catholic Church with burial at Garden City Cemetery. Nathan Mikial Burch,

10, of Big Spring died Sunday, June 14, 2009, at his residence. Memorial Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church.

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EXP. 12/31/09

PLEA

Continued from Page 1A

gang, was one of 17 co-defendants named in an indictment that

alleged they brought the drugs from Mexico to South Texas for packaging and storage before being taken on to Big Spring, Lubbock and Midland for distribution.

Chavez admitted distributing

cocaine and marijuana throughout North Texas. She said she participated in the drug operation from 2001 until her arrest in December.

She is the tenth person to plead guilty in the case.



STARS

Continued from Page 1A

and educational way to spend a Saturday night outdoors with your family. You can take a tour of the night sky with area amateur astronomy clubs. "It's a great chance for

families to spend some quality time together, as well. It doesn't matter how old you are, seeing the stars and the different heavenly bodies through a telescope is just amazing." Alton said the West

Texas Amateur Astronomy Club from Midland will provide several high-powered telescopes for those attending to get a better look at the heavens.

"They've been really great in helping us put the stargazing event on each year," said Alton. "They really love doing this. Most people who are into astronomy love to teach others about it, so there will be plenty of knowledgeable people to

answer questions dur-

ing the presentation." Alton said the Star-

gazing Party is a great chance for area residents to learn about astronomy, but it also serves a very important purpose when the state of Texas begins looking at the park's budget. "We invite everyone

to come out," said Alton. "These events keep the state park finances going, especially in these times when budgets are being even more closely examined than in pre-

vious times. The state looks at attendance at these types of events when they decide how much to allocate, so participating is very important.

"If the weather doesn't cooperate with us — we have too many clouds or it rains — we'll reschedule the Stargazing for July 25," he added. Admission to the park

is \$2 for those age 13 and over. There is no charge for children 12 and under. The facility is located at No. 1 Scenic Drive, just off FM 700 near Wasson Road. For more information about the stargazing event, contact Alton at 263-4931.

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





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HERALD

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."

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

Our View

Pops still needs donations with little time left

nother week has gone by, so the annual "Pops in the Park" concert and fireworks display at Comanche Trail Park is now a little more than two weeks away. Unfortunately members of the Big Spring Fourth of July Foundation say they're still short of their fundraising goal.

As of the committee's last meeting Thursday, a little less than half of the \$40,000 needed to stage the show had been received. While the total had virtually doubled, the organizing committee is a long way from where it needs to be financially.

That means it's time for all of us to do our part and make sure "Pops in the Park" remains one of the mainstays of our community's July 4 holiday celebration.

A huge crowd packs the park and amphitheater every year to be a part of the celebration.

As we have noted before, donations making the concert and fireworks show possible come from local businesses and individuals, as well as corporate sponsorships. They also make it possible to open the gates to the public free of charge.

Final touches for this year's July 3 show that will feature the Big Spring Symphony and Chorus, a choreographed fireworks show and performances by two warm-up acts — young country singersongwriter Maren Morris and her band and the bluegrass music provided by Jim Kay and the Kay

However, the committee still needs to raise more than \$w0,000 to make sure "Pops in the Park" con-

So again, regardless of whether you or your business has been contacted or not concerning a donation, we hope you'll pitch in and help make sure this year's concert and show is a success

Remember, donations of \$500 or \$1,000 from businesses aren't the only help the committee is seeking. Anything anyone can do to help would be appreciated, even just a few dollars.

Those wishing to make a donation can contact Debbye ValVerde at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce office or mail them to the chamber high or low, it could be said we office at P.O. Box 1391, Big Spring 79721.

Once again, we think it's important that we all have a stake in making sure this is our community's best and most patriotic Fourth of July holiday celebration ever.

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor. Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.

- Sign your letter.
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- per 30-day period per author. · Letters that are unsigned or do not include a tele-
- phone 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 A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we adhere to Your high ideals, Lord. Amen ability to achieve success. "Yes,

Deadline arrives, many unprepared

mericans from coast to coast witnessed the first nationwide colorcast Jan. 1, 1954. when the Tournament of Roses Parade was aired in vivid Technicolor. This broadcast marked

the arrival of the color television, something Americans have now enjoyed for over half a century. Not since that undertaking have the U.S. broadcasting industry and the federal government endeavored to roll out a technology upgrade that impacts every American household. Until now.



BAILEY **H**utchison

After years of planning and preparation, the digital television, or DTV, transition took place June 12. At midnight, all of the nation's full power broadcasters, large TV stations covering multiple cities, switched from an analog to a digital broadcasting format. Prior to this date, about 40

percent of broadcasters had transitioned to digital, but the remaining 60 percent were required by law to changeover and discontinue broadcasting in analog format. For those who were not ready

for the transition, you may have turned on your TV set the day of the transition and found you had no access to basic television programming, public emergency broadcasts, such as AMBER Alerts, severe weather warnings and other important safety messages. You can still take modest measures to continue to receive television broadcasts.

The Texas households at risk of being unprepared are ones with older television sets and they receive over-the-air programming using roof top antennas or "rabbit ears." These TVs require a converter box to translate the digital broadcast signal into an analog signal that an older television can display. Each television that is neither outfitted with a digital tuner nor connected to a cable or satellite service requires an independent converter box. Consumers can still purchase converter boxes at retail locations across the country, including many electronics chains throughout Texas. Consumers who still need coupons to offset the cost of a converter box may contact the U.S. Department of Commerce at 1-888-388-2009 or visit www.dtv2009.gov.

Many Texans faced with preparations and costs may be wondering why this transition was so important — or even necessary at all.

Although it may not be as dramatic as shifting from black and white to color TV, the transition will significantly enhance the clarity of television broadcasts, resulting in less interference, sharper pictures and better sound quality. The efficiency of digital broadcasting will also allow for new and diverse television programming.

Most importantly, transitioning to digital television, or DTV, will free up important radio frequencies, which can be reused for new communications services and safety activities that will

increase the nation's ability to respond to terrorist attacks and national disasters. Digital broadcasting will continue to transmit emergency messages, like AMBER Alerts, but some of the spectrum space will be reallocated to implement a nationwide interoperable public safety communication system to support police, fire departments, rescue squads and other first responders. The challenges facing first responders Sept. 11, 2001, and during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita illustrate how badly this capability is needed, and the 9/11 Commission recommended a nationwide public safety system in its final report to Congress.

I have worked hard to spread the word to all Texans through brochures, educational outreach programs and public service announcements. Even though the changeover date has come and gone, large numbers of Texans may not have been able to prepare; including many elderly and disabled individuals as well as those facing language barri-

Though you may have prepared and your household's DTV transition went smoothly, please take time to assist others particularly friends, family and neighbors who may be unable to obtain a converter box or need assistance installing one.

This technological change is an important development, but it need not be overwhelming.

Kay Bailey Hutchison is the senior U.S. Senator from Texas and is the ranking Republican on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.





Try raising your bar a little

ome say we generally meet our own expectations. In fact, whether our expectations are will rise or fall to the occasion. This is how we live self-fulfilling prophecies.

We become either our own worst enemy or our own best ally. Whose side are you on?

When confronted by a challenge, do you meet it headon or run away? Do you try extra hard, or do you give up easily or not even try at all? Do you resolve to do what is needed,



ANNETTE **B**RIDGES

or do you make excuses and do nothing?

If low morale has taken hold of your outlook and attitude, then you have boarded a sinking ship known as self defeat. Any ship will sink if enough water leaks into it. And nothing will take you down faster than the negativity and pessimism that self defeat incites.

A self-defeated person can only see the worst side. He will say what he is not rather than what he could be. He has little or no hope that change is possible. He gripes, complains, compares and criticizes. He thinks trying something new is pointless since he will fail or be disappointed. So either he condemns himself to be nothing, or he settles for anything but what he really

Consequently, the self-defeated person gets no joy out of his life and is even more depressed about his future. He has nothing

good to say about himself or his

but..." is his usual response when someone suggests he consider alternative solutions to his problems.

The bottom line is that despair and discouragement will hinder us from becoming all that we truly can be. The good news is, my friends, we're not without help and we're never without hope. It is only bewilderment that has caused us to be mistaken in our conclusions. But a fresh and inspired viewpoint can correct our faulty and flawed notions and propel us forward!

Maybe you're tired of shooting too low for yourself — and having others who expect little of you or for you. Why not raise your bar as high as God has raised it!

God sees only the infinite potential of His creation — which of course includes you and me. His expectation has no limitations or boundaries. His desire for us is good. He envisions infinite possibilities. So why should our bar be lower than His?

What if there are circumstances that would bring us down, that would stop us from reaching for our dreams, that would have us feel lonely, abandoned, isolated, worthless, incompetent, useless, cheated, defenseless or

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:21) Did you know this means the kingdom of God — His power, strength, knowledge — is within your reach, is a present possibility? Truly, we are instilled,

equipped and furnished with everything we need to conquer any foe and accomplish our goals. We are not struggling, weak and weary mortals but rather spiritual warriors who are con-

fident, strong and determined.

Our life has reason and purpose.

We need only recognize, admit and embrace our God-given determination, resolve, ambition, diligence, tenacity and zeal to not only raise our bar but reach

our potential. I love the story of Jesus' healing of the crippled man by the pool of Bethesda. Apparently, this poor man had been in his condition for 38 years — so perhaps it was no wonder he wasn't very hopeful when Jesus asked him, "Wilt thou be made whole?" I think it is worth noting that the man responded with a narration of reasons why he had not been healed in all of those years. (John 5:1-9)

I've often thought how good I am at reciting all the reasons why I can't do something or why I haven't — instead of just doing whatever I needed to do to fix the problem, to accomplish my goal, to improve the situation. There is always an answer even if it is different from what we first thought was the right one. Jesus did heal the man. But it was in a way the man didn't expect or probably considered possible. All the more reason for you and I to keep our mind open for the unexpected and unplanned!

Don't let negativity — pessimism, cynicism, skepticism sink your ship. My friends, you can raise your bar and set your sights on all the good God intends for you. You can be your own best ally. And you can aspire to practice your spiritual prowess which enables you to pursue the infinite possibilities of your infinite potential.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives in North Texas. Her columns are published weekly in numerous newspapers. E-mail her at annettebridges@ gmail.com



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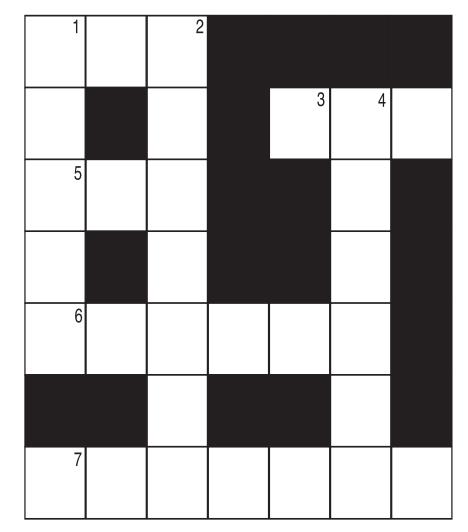
TROOPS.



WHAT FLOWER IS LOVED BY MANY PEOPLE, SO MUCH SO THAT IT IS OFTEN CALLED "THE WORLD'S FAVORITE FLOWER"?

YNOMEK: THE ROSE

Crossword Puzzle



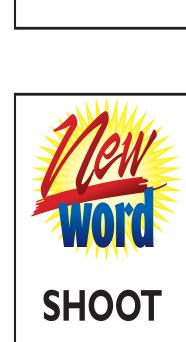
ACROSS

- 1. Crimson color
- 3. Consumed
- 6. Season
- 7. Most grand

DOWN

- 1. Type of flowers
- 2. One who dreams
- 5. Perceive with eyes 4. Flower defense

1. roses 2. dreamer 4. thorns umon 1. red 3. ate 5. see 6. summer 7. largest Across :SY9WSUA



bud of a plant



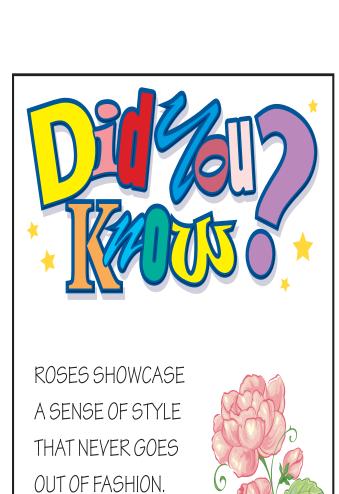
ENGLISH: Garden

SPANISH: Jardín

ITALIAN: Giardino

FRENCH: Jardin

GERMAN: Garten





Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

YNOMEK: Y KODE

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The sun in Gemini

challenges the moon in Aries to a raucous game truth or dare and we're all invited to participate. If you choose to be truthful,

the result

will likely



HOLIDAY **M**ATHIS

humorous. Furthermore, you'll learn there are others in similar straits. If you choose to be daring, the result will quicken your pulse and thrill you, too. You can't lose! **ARIES** (March

21-April 19). You didn't realize what you wanted until you got what you didn't want. Your taste and style has been honed by the little disappointments along the way. ifications. **TAURUS** (April

Now your order will be

fulfilled to precise spec-

20-May 20). You're not missing anything. The power is in you. Steer clear of offers that promise an easy fix. Stay away from those who just want to make money from you and are not personally invested in your success.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Instead of a "to-do"

list, you need to keep a "lookie what I did" list. You haven't been celebrating your accomplishments. Stop taking yourself for granted and start acknowledging to yourself all that you've

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're quite caught up in the task at hand and it's turning out to be a rather frustrating one. It's possible that you're forgetting why you wanted to do it beliefs have contributed in the first place. Take a step back.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There is much that is unknown about a situation and that has potential to cause stress and fear. Keep your mind with what is known. Don't speculate. Stay in the moment and handle what is in front of you. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept.

22). What is preventing you from doing what you know is right? Perhaps you're still imagining the possible consequences of an action and what others will think. Forget it. Do what is right and the future will take care of itself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be dealing with a traditional culture and formalities must be obeyed. There will be delicate matters of etiquette, as well as specific procedures and rules. Comply wherever possible.

SCORPIO 24-Nov. 21). You've canceled lunch one or two times, but have you ever cancelled a way of thinking? You'll hit on a line of reason that no longer serves you or is simply untrue. Cancel that internal monologue and replace it with a new

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll be dealing with someone who behaves as though he or she is helpless. Don't buy into this lie. This person is actually very powerful and needs to be shown how to do things autonomously.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're in the mood to build a light rapport with others, not a serious bond. You may feel like steering clear of heavy topics of conversation or serious matters in favor of areas of novelty, intrigue and gossip.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If you're feeling anxious, ask yourself what thoughts and to this mood. You're probably thinking about what you don't want instead of what you do want. You can turn it around in an instant.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are starting to realize that the decisions you make are not so much about what vou should do next, but about who you are and who you are becoming. You'll recognize what feels authentically you and what doesn't. ASTROLOGICAL

QUESTIONS: "I'm a 30-year-old Aquarius girl who lives at home with my parents. They don't mind that I live at home, but they would prefer that I marry. I have never found someone I wanted to marry. When I turned 24, my mom sent me to Korea to meet a man she thought was perfect for me. This man couldn't have been a worse match. After that, my mother seemed to give up on me ever getting married. I like to date and go out and have fun. mother doesn't understand. She blows up at me. I'm not willing to get married just so my parents can be

happy. Do you think I'll ever find love?" Being an Aquarius, you tend to buck traditional systems and can often open people's minds when you do. But you haven't taken this purpose to heart. Though you are 30 years old, in many ways you are still a child. If you are not going to follow your family traditions, you need to give your mother and father new reasons to respect you. Find meaningful work and contribute to your household and family more than you ever have before. You will find love as you learn to make valuable contri-

butions to others. ® 2009 CREATORS SYNDICATE. INC.

Obesity surgery thins bones, but enough to break? recipients studied so far experi-

By LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — isn't just the thunder thighs that shrink after obesity surgery. Melting fat somehow thins bones,

Doctors don't yet know how likely patients' bones are to thin enough to break in the years after surgery. But one of the first attempts to tell suggests they might have twice the average person's risk, and be even more likely to break a hand or foot.

The Mayo Clinic's finding is surprising, and further research is under way to see if the link is real. But with bariatric surgery booming and even teenagers in their key bone-building years increasingly trying it, specialists say uncovering long-term side effects and how to counter them takes on new urgency.

Simply popping today's doses of calcium supplements may not be enough.

"These procedures are now being sold as a panacea," Dr. Shonni Joy Silverberg of Columbia University told last week's annual meeting of The Endocrine Society, where the fatand-bone relationship took center stage. "It is of heightened importance to find the answers to these questions." Here's the irony: Obesity actu-

ally is considered protective against bone-weakening osteoporosis, possibly the only positive thing you'll ever hear a doctor say about too much fat.

"They're starting better than most of us," cautions Mayo bonemetabolism expert Dr. Jackie Clowes. So the big question is whether they really end up with worse bones, or just go through a transition period as their bones adjust to their new body size.

About 15 million Americans are classified as extremely obese, 100 pounds or more overweight. Dieting alone doesn't make enough of a dent to fend off rampant diabetes and other health problems, so surgery is fast becoming the preferred treatment — from the stomach stapling called gastric bypass to less invasive stomach banding. Patients tend to lose between 15 percent and 25 percent of their original weight, and diabetes dramatically improves.

More than 1.2 million U.S. patients have undergone the surgery in the past decade, 220,000 in the last year alone, according to the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery.

There's little data on how patients fare many years later; large National Institutes of Health studies, on both adults and teens, are under way.

But doctors have long noted that the radical weight loss can speed bone turnover until the breakdown of old bone outpaces the formation of new bone. Silverberg cites recent studies showing that a year after gastric bypass, adults' hip density drops as much as 10 percent, raising concern about a common fracture site of old age. (Stomach banding causes less thinning because it doesn't alter nutrient absorption as much.)

No one knows if teen bones react similarly, but it's an important issue because almost half of peak bone mass develops during adolescence.

To see if such changes translate into fractures, the Mayo team is comparing the medical records of nearly 300 adults who've had bariatric surgery with similarly aged Minnesotans who haven't.

A quarter of the 142 surgery

enced at least one fracture in the following years, Mayo's Dr. Elizabeth Haglind told the endocrinology meeting. Six years post-surgery, that group had twice the average risk. But in a puzzling finding, the surgery recipients had even more hand and foot fractures than their Minnesota neighbors, three times the risk. Those fractures aren't usually

connected to osteoporosis. Did the once-obese merely start exercising and just fall down more? Clowes doubts it. "I was shocked" at the num-

bers, says Dr. Scott Shikora, president of the bariatric surgeons group, who says he hasn't seen a significant fracture problem in his own practice.

Surgeons routinely tell patients to take some extra calcium and vitamin D. Shikora estimates about half follow that advice, and other research suggests higher doses may be needed anyway as the obese tend to start out deficient in vitamin D.

A key next step will be to compare the patients who fracture with people of the same weight to see if their bone mass just had to adjust — or if something about surgery alters the complex soup of hormones and other factors that keep bones strong, thus requiring more than extra calci-Clowes' advice for now: Don't

skip checkups, where doctors monitor bone health, and aggressively treat nutrient deficien-

EDITOR's NOTE ,Äî Lauran Neergaard covers health and medical issues for The Associated Press in Washington.

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from
section
or property lines,
the abrupt changes
of direction always
caused a slight pause
in an otherwise routine
trip.

Continuing on his way, the man would check wells down roads that few ever traversed. Ahead, by the side of the road, stood a small, slender bird. Accustomed to seeing wildlife, he slowed his vehicle, then stopped. As he approached what he thought was a sandpiper, it did not fly. The man worried that the bird, with one wing lower than the other,

would probably be hit if it stayed by the road.

Through the porch widow, I recognized R.C. after he rang the doorbell. Having brought us various species of birds, he held a small object in his hand. "It has an injured wing," he said as he transferred the unusual bird to my hands.

Weighing maybe two ounces, the bird resembled a delicately sculptured figurine. Most noticeable were its long needle-like bill, neck and legs. Dull gray above and white below, the bird had a cinnamon wash heightening its otherwise pale neck. "You've given me something special. Although it's a shore bird, I can't tell you which one."

Offering to call him as soon as we identified it, I had Art photograph the bird that rested in the palm of my hand. In an e-mail to Gail Barnes, a wildlife volunteer in Lubbock, I wrote that it resembled a member of the sand-piper family, but I wasn't sure just what I had.

After examining



Courtesy photo

Sporting his wing bandage, Wilson cavorts in the dry area of Gail's tub. As a fresh water bird, the phalarope frequents ponds and playas filled by spring rains during migration.

both wings and finding nothing obvious, we felt our guest might have either a hairline fracture or soft tissue

injury. Knowing that many similar birds feed at the edge of ponds and marshes, I provided, inside a carrier, a shallow basin of water sprinkled with meal worms. Gently placing the bird at the back of the container, I had not anticipated its rush to the water dish or ensu-

ing dance.
As if to signal its approval of our dietary selection, the bird used its bill to swirl the water and extract the larvae. Whirling around in the basin and on the floor of the carrier, it pirouetted to an unheard melody.

Having heard the phone ring, we listened to a message from Gail. "We've identified your bird as a Wilson's — I'll have to spell it — Phalarope." Calling her back, I told her the pronunciation is "fal-

uh-rope."
After calling R.C.
about his rescue, I
asked, "Where is the
closest body of water

you found this bird?"
"There isn't any," he
replied. Then after
a moment's silence,
he corrected himself.
"Two buffalo wallows
filled with water after
that last rain."

Since it was the 23rd of April, the male phalarope had been in the process of migrating to the northern Great Plains and southern Canada.

For three days we continued to supply the worms that brought utter delight to this dainty creature.

Informed that we were delivering the bird the next day, Gail asked about its diet. "Mosquito and cranefly larvae, beetles, eggs of water fleas, seeds of aquatic plants, and shrimp brine," was my reply. "Where am I supposed to get that?"

Over the weekend, the phalarope frolicked in Gail's bathtub.
With only half of the bottom in water, the tub allowed the bird to walk on a dry sur-

face as well as dab for worms and dance in the water. When she asked what name to give him, I suggested Wilson.

An X-ray of the right wing showed a simple fracture.

Binding the wing, the veterinarian advised Gail to keep the bandage dry.

Once home, she decided a playpen would give the phalarope ample room to exercise. However, playing in water would be offlimits for at least four weeks.

In addition to meal worms, she searched until finding shrimp brine. Refusing any offerings except the worms, Wilson was the ruling presence during his recovery. Once a week, Gail escorted the phalarope to the clinic, where exercising his wing prevented mus-

cles from atrophying. Role reversal seemed inherent in our male, who was less colorful than a female. Although she would be adorned for breeding with a black face and neck stripe leading into a deep cinnamon on her neck, Wilson had redeeming qualities. His duties were nest building and incubation, while she would sound an alarm of any danger. In addition, he would watch over the newly hatched and protect them from weather

extremes. After Wilson's forced recuperation, the wing bandage was removed. Thirty-four days after being found on a lonely county road, the phalarope was taken by Gail to a playa lake. Seeing the body of water through the carrier's gate, the bird became almost frantic to reach the water. Squeezing past the opening gate, the phalarope ran to the edge and once again physically rejoiced by wading and spinning in the shallow water. Having given Wilson his freedom, Gail experienced the pleasure of an avian ballet.

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

2009 Big Spring Baby Contest



Did you or someone you know have a baby in 2008 or 2009

If so, they are eligible to participate in the "2009 Big Spring Herald Baby Contest" which will be printed on Sunday, June 28th. To enter your baby simply fill out the information below and bring the photo, information to the Big Spring Herald before 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17th and your baby will be entered into the contest. Bring \$15 to have baby's photo published.

An independent panel of judges will be judging the photos.

The "First Place" winner will receive a **\$100 Savings Bond** "Second Place" winner will receive a

\$50 Savings Bond.

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Date of Birth: _____

Parents' Name: ____

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	:PM	News	News	Locura	Lopez	News	Noticias	News	Raymond	Scrivner	BBC	Cash Cab	Three Kings,		Kevin James		Phineas	Horn	SportsCenter
5	:30	ABC	ABC	Noticiero	Lopez	CBS	Noticiero	NBC	Friends	Uri Harel	Business	Cash Cab	Ice Cube	Scn		BET's Top 10	Suite Life	Interrupt	
	:PM	News	Jeopardy!	Tontas Cielo	Two Men	News	12 Cora-	News	Seinfeld	Dr. Young	News-Lehrer			CSI: Crime		Live	Wizards	College	
b	:30	Entertain	Fortune		Two Men	Entertain	zones	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Hagee		Catch		Scn			Montana	Baseball:	
7	:PM	Kimmel	Kimmel	Çuidado-	House	NCIS		Celebrity	Fam. Guy	Israel	Nova (DVS)	Deadliest	Movie: U.S.	CSI: Crime	Wedding Day		Movie:	NCAA World Series Game	
	:30	NBA	NBA	Angel			Diablo		Fam. Guy	Victory		Catch	Marshals,	Scn		Cookout,	Spy Kids 3:	8 Teams	NFL Live
	:PM	NBA	NBA	Mañana es	Mental	The Mental-			Fam. Guy	Light of the	Frontline	Deadliest	Robert Downey Jr.	Jesse James	HawthoRNe	Jenifer Lewis	Game Over	TBA.	Football
8	:30		Basketball:			ist	Analia	SVU	Fam. Guy	Southwest	(DVS)	Catch	Downey or.				Wizards		Baseball
0	:PM		Finals Game 6 Magic at	Aquí y Ahora	TMZ	48 Hours	Sin Senos	Law & Order:	Office		Independent			Jesse James		College	Wizards	Series of	Tonight
9	:30	Lakers	Lakers		Raymond	Mystery		SVU	Office		Lens	the Catch			Grace		Montana	Poker	
10	:PM			Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	Seinfeld	Israel	Charlie Rose		Movie: Dirty	Jesse James	HawthoRNe	Movie: The	Suite Life	Series of	SportsCenter
10	:30	News	News	Noticiero	King-Hill	Late Show	Decisiones	Tonight Show	Seinfeld	Cortes		Catch	Harry, Reni			Cookout,	So Raven	Poker	
4.4	:PM	Nightline	Nightline	La Casa de	Law Order:		de		Sex &	Ministerio-	Smiley	Deadliest	Santoni	CSI: Crime	Saving	Jenifer Lewis	Life De	NFL Live	
	:30		Jimmy Kim-	la Risa	CI	Late Late	Decisiones	Late Night-	Sex &	Vida	Smiley	Catch		Scn	Grace		Cory	NASCAR	
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12	:30	mel Live	(:36) Extra	Viento	Consumer	Insider	Pagado		Runnings,	Church		Catch	Movie: Brad-	Scn		College	Kim	Poker	Baseball
	:AM	News	Paid	Mujer	Friends	Entertain	Pagado	Poker After	Malik Yoba	Light of the		Bone Detec-	in Action III	Police Shoot.	Cold Case	The Deal	Emperor	NHRA Drag	SportsCenter
	:30	Wall St	Paid	Güereja	Consumer	Paid	Pelicula:	Dark		Southwest		tives					Dragon	Racing	
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DENNIS THE MENACE



°Could ya make us a B'Loney san-Wich,an CUT IT IN THREE HALVES 2'

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



Daddy has the week off and Billy fills in with his family observations.

HAGAR



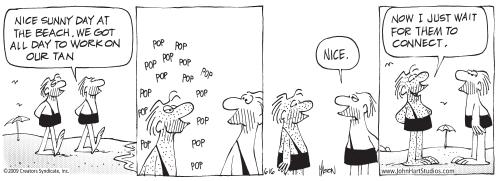
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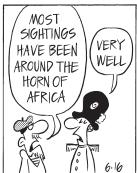
BC



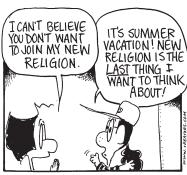
WIZARD OF ID



AGNES











This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, June 16, the 167th day of 2009. There are 198 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight History:

On June 16, 1858, as he accepted the Illinois Republican Party's nomination for U.S. Senate, Abraham Lincoln said the slavery issue had to be resolved, declaring, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

On this date:

In 1567, Mary, Queen of Scots, was imprisoned in Lochleven Castle in Scotland. (She escaped almost a year later, but ended up imprisoned again.)

In 1897, the government signed a treaty of annexation with Hawaii.

In 1903, Ford Motor Co. was incorporated.

In 1932, President Herbert Hoover and Vice President Charles Curtis were re-nominated at the Republican nation-

al convention in Chicago. In 1933, the National Industrial Recovery Act became law. (It was later struck down by the Supreme Court.) In 1958, the Supreme Court,

be denied a passport because of his communist affiliations. In 1959, actor George Reeves, TV's "Superman," was found dead of an apparently selfinflicted gunshot wound in the

in Kent v. Dulles, ruled that

artist Rockwell Kent could not

bedroom of his Beverly Hills, Calif., home; he was 45. In 1963, the world's first femalespacetraveler, Valentina Tereshkova, was launched into orbit by the Soviet Union

aboard Vostok Six.

In 1976, riots broke out in the black South African township of Soweto.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos exchanged the instruments of ratification for the Panama Canal treaties.

One year ago: Former Vice President Al Gore announced his endorsement of Barack

Today's Birthdays: Actor Bill Cobbs is 74. Author Erich Segal is 72. Author Joyce Carol Oates is 71. Country singer Billy "Crash" Craddock is 70. Songwriter Lamont Dozier is 68. R&B singer Eddie Levert is 67. Actress Joan Van Ark is 66. Actor Geoff Pierson is 60. R&B singer James Smith (The Stylistics) is 59. Boxer Roberto Duran is 58. Pop singer Gino Vannelli is 57. Model-actress Jenny Shimizu is 42. Actor James Patrick Stuart is 41. Actor John Cho is 37. Actor Eddie Cibrian is 36. Actress China Shavers is 32. Actress Missy Peregrym is 27. Actress Olivia Hack is 26. Singer Diana DeGarmo ("American Idol") is

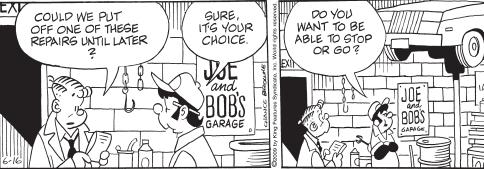
Thought for Today: "Not to know is bad. Not to want to know is worse. Not to hope is unthinkable. Not to care is unforgivable." - Nigerian say-

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Answer to previous puzzle

RUNTO ASTIR AIDS

HI AND LOIS

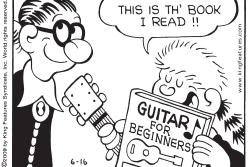


THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





Newsday Crossword

location

58 List-ending

paradise

powder

61 Eliot of *The*

DOWN

person

car

6 Devout

7 Dote on

breather

8 Take a

3 Purple fruit

Untouchables

1 Part of the foot

4 Overnight-train

5 Leisurely walk

2 Song for one

57 Dwelling

abbr.

59 Biblical

ACROSS

- 1 African snakes **5** Tire in the
- **14** Breadbasket
- item
- 16 Mystical glow
- **17** Detective's
- lead
- **18** Barnyard
- perch
- basketball
- 22 Lower-leg
- joint
- **24** Required task
- **25** Iron alloy
- 27 Camera
- **31** Paid out
- 35 Shoreline
- 36 Quite likely
- **37** Harbor boat
- **39** Young women
- 41 How-to book's
- for you!"
- 45 Stretches over
- 49 Like tiny print
- 54 Well-built
- **55** Use a vegetable peeler

56 Internet

- trunk 10 Sow's supper

- **15** Ocean motions **60** Copy-machine

- hardly
- wait!" 20 Host team's
- locale
- 23 Heartbeat
- accessory
- 30 Plays the lead role
- 33 Patient-care
- **34** Be incorrect
- **38** Young stallions
- starting point 43 "I'll do that
- 44 Pulled apart
- **47** Soup server
- 53 Egg-shaped

ROMANTIC by Gail Grabowski Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

35 Ice-cream

holder

38 Apple discard

39 Mannerly man

40 Response to

a doorbell

painter's need

42 Hay-fever

cause

45 Hair stylist's

46 Group of lions

47 Succeed with

one's diet

49 Boxcar rider

50 Fill completely

43 House

shop

48 Eager

- **9** Maine clock setting: Abbr.
- **10** Holy ones
- **11** Rabbit's foot, for example
- **12** Vocal
- 13 Window glass
- 21 Pool sticks 22 Female
- relative
- **24** Bumper
- blemish
- 25 Pompous walk
- 26 Flexible
- deadline 27 Minus
- 28 More than enough
- 29 Soup vessels
- **30** Tennis-match units
- **31** Boot bottom
- 51 Historical times
- **52** Snakeline
- swimmers **32** Butter portion
 - **54** Settled on the sofa 11 | 12 10

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State probe finds code violations at shelter

By DANNY ROBBINS

Associated Press Writer DALLAS — A state investigation has found more than a dozen fire code violations at the East Texas homeless shelter where five men died in a massive blaze early this year.

The investigation by the state fire marshal's office has determined that the Christians in Action shelter in Paris was deficient in 18 areas, including a lack of fire prevention devices and proper exits, before it burned to the ground in the early morning hours of Jan. 5. Thirty men were sleeping in makeshift cubicles at the time.

The report said the Lamar County district attorney's office will review the matter to see if criminal negligence was involved and that the case will remain open until the DA's scrutiny is complete.

Gary Young, county and district attorney for Lamar County, declined comment, saving he hadn't seen the report. Paris Fire Chief Ronnie Grooms, whose office requested the investigation, declined comment

A copy of the document, completed May 20, was obtained by The Associated Press through a request under the Texas Public Information Act.

The report paints a stark picture of a group facility that for years operated under unsafe conditions and off the radar of local authorities even though it was located in a downtown section of the city of 26,000.

"This is a tragedy that any local jurisdiction would do well to learn from," said Jerry Hagins, a spokesman for the state fire marshal's office.

Larry Dixon, whose brother Derrial was among those who died, said he would welcome an investigation by the district attorney.

"Justice has not been met because nobody is saying who's actually liable and I know somebody has to be liable,' he said.

The report details how men slept in wooden cubicles built into a warehouse-style structure that lacked sprinklers or smoke detectors as well as the required number of exits. The building also contained "excessive" amounts of donated clothing and other items throughout, according to the document.

The men who died were discovered in an upper level of cubicles that afforded "minimal"



This Jan. 5, 2009, file photo shows members of the Paris Fire Department securing equipment after extinguishing an overnight blaze at the Seed Sowers Christians in Action homeless shelter in Paris, Texas. A state report has found more than a dozen fire code violations at the East Texas homeless shelter that burned to the ground in January, killing five of the 30 men sleeping inside.

means of egress, according to Jim Lindholm, the state's investigator.

Lindholm wrote that the fire started in a large pile of clothing that was "boxed in" by some of the cubicles, but he could not determine its cause. The pile of clothing was 5 feet high and had to be removed from the building with heavy equipment, he stated.

Lindholm noted that most of the men in the facility smoked and were careless in how they disposed of their cigarettes. He also stated that a lamp that had been positioned near the clothing could not be examined because it had been removed by "an unknown party" to "an unknown location."

Walker, Don founder of the nonprofit organization that owned and operated the facility, said Monday smoking was not allowed in the building. He said battery-operated smoke detectors had been installed, but the men were constantly removing the devices so they could smoke.

Walker said his organization, Seed Sewers Christians in Action, did the best it could with little funding and would have upgraded the facility if the fire department had ordered it.

"If (the fire department) would have told me I needed these kind of things, I would have done everything in my power (to follow their instructions)," he said. "Of course, even with that, you've got to have

money to do it." Lindholm, citing information provided by Paris fire personnel, stated in his report that

See FIRE, Page 8A





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(Meet at North Entrance of Fairgrounds at 9 am)

★ Comanche Trails Park Landscaping • June 20th

(Meet at Historic Spring at 9 am)

Contact President Walter Ward

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Vietnam veteran's art documented war

By MICHAEL GRANBERRY The Dallas Morning News

ARGYLE — Don Schol is a Vietnam veteran and no stranger to the horror of war. But from the moment he arrived in 1967, his experience was destined to be different.

The Pan Am jet from San Francisco had just touched down at the Saigon airport. A jeep pulled up and a captain barked, "Schol, come with me." At U.S. Army headquarters, he met a colonel who told him he would be using his talent as an artist to document the war for posterity.

He would carry an M-16, a .45 and an artist's sketch-

"Our job," Schol says, "was to document the war like no other war had ever been documented."

Schol was appointed the head of a team of combat artists who from October 1967 to April 1968 crisscrossed Vietnam to paint, sculpt, shoot pictures and, like every other soldier, try to survive which posed the biggest challenge.

"I have always been a dove," Schol says. "Vietnam made me even more of one."

Schol's work and that of the four enlisted men he supervised as artists became permanent fixtures in the U.S. Army Office of Military History, where it remains in Washington, D.C. But what he saw and felt has never left the Argyle resident, who, at 67, remembers all too well the enduring terror of Vietnam.

An exhibition of Schol's work is on view through Saturday at Photographs Do Not Bend on Dragon Street in the Dallas Design District. It consists of 16 wood-cut prints that Schol hopes will "grab people, make them think about what they're seeing. I want them to realize ... this could be any war." (Those who wish to buy individual prints can do so for \$600 each.)

Schol has taught at the University of North Texas since 1969, just after he left Vietnam. Even now, he finds it hard to escape the grim effects of war, which in his mind too many people take for granted. These days, he's lamenting the departure of one of his UNT graduate students who was recently sent to Iraq for a second time to finish out his reserve commitment. More than 40 years later, Schol is still coping with his own war, which caused his best friend to take his life soon after coming home.

Burt Finger, the co-owner of Photographs Do Not Bend, served in Vietnam during 1968 and 1969 with the 299th Combat Engineer Battalion stationed in Dak To. He says Schol's exhibition "has brought back a lot of really hard memories. The pieces are so real to me, so vivid. The first time I saw them in his studio, there were actually tears in my eye. It was almost too much for me to look at, it was so emotional."

Finger is especially moved by Angel of Mercy, which shows a helicopter with angel wings, the kind that flew him to safe harbor after he was wounded. More than anything, he says, Schol's artwork portrays the horror of war but does so "with a feather and not a sledgehammer."

"It's the responsibility of returning soldiers to try to relate to others the horror and the misery of war," Finger says. "It's not something you ever walk away from."

As soon as they arrived, Schol and his team of artists hooked up with the 3rd brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, the same unit depicted in Apocalypse Now. Death arrived quickly.

"More so than battlefields with bodies lying all around, it was the existential moments that always went the deepest," Schol says. "For me, seeing an individual at the moment of death was the hardest." It was also an existential moment to have someone shoot at him, which he says made the war "very,

very personal." Schol remembers a moment with the 25th Infantry when he was visiting soldiers huddled in a tent. He left, and no more than a minute later, watched a mortar round hit the tent, killing all inside.

"I was moved by the whole experience," he says, "but what saved me was my philosophy, my outlook, my ability to put things in perspective. I was not unfamiliar with the atrocities of war." His father had, for six months during World War II, been a prisoner of war, held captive by the Nazis. He now realizes that even his father suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome.

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FIRE

Continued from Page 7A

the shelter hadn't been inspected since 2005.

Records reviewed by the AP in February showed that the building had been inspected by the Paris Fire Department only five times in the past 10 years, the last in 2006, and that none of the inspections were by state-certified fire inspectors. The records detailed how the inspections failed to notice that the facility lacked the basic safety requirements for overnight occupancy.



Community Guide

A resource for newcomers to Big Spring and Howard County

Publication Date: July 26, 2009 DEADLINE: July 15th

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