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MONDAY

JUNE 28, 2010



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Proposed street vendor ordinance clarified

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer
 According to city officials, the amendment to the Code of Ordinances allowing street vendors to operate in the city limits approved on first reading by the city council Tuesday requires some clarification. The ordinance will allow mobile vendors — more specifically, ice cream and sno-cone trucks — to hawk their frozen wares in Big Spring,



Sjogren

eliminating a ban on the vendors that has been on the books for more than 50 years. According to City Attorney Linda Sjogren, the ban was discovered recently when a vendor contacted the city administration to purchase a permit. The amendment, if approved on final reading, will not only make the

street vending legal, it will also help regulate a number of safety issues. "This ordinance will allow them to sell, as well as put requirements on them," Sjogren recently told the city council. "For example, they will have to have stop signs and flashing lights on the vehicle, basic safety items we need. When they apply for this permit they will have to go through a background check, which all of our itinerate vendors do. However, because the ice cream trucks were

prohibited, they weren't getting the permits. So this will allow us to do those background checks and I think that will be a good thing for our children." Sjogren said the wording of the ordinance — and the subsequent amendment — can be confusing, however. "Our current ordinances do not allow any vendors to sell from vehicles on See **ORDINANCE**, Page 3

Highland Parade is Saturday

Local children's procession will begin at 10 a.m.

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer
 Kids can be patriotic, too. For more than 30 years, the Highland July 4 Parade has shown that you don't have to be a grownup to show your love for all things red, white and blue. Because the Fourth falls on a Sunday this year, the annual parade will be held along Highland Drive Saturday morning, said Linda Stallings, one of the event's organizers. The parade, featuring children decked out in all kinds of patriotic regalia begins at 10 a.m. Saturday at the intersection of Highland and Robb drives and will end at the intersection of Highland and Goliad. "Entries will be accepted the day of the parade," Stallings said. "We're asking people to get there by 9:30 a.m. So the judges will have plenty of time to view the entries." Among the categories to be



From left, Taylor Moore, Avery Aguilar, Natalie Smith and Hailey Moore prepare for the start of the 2009 Highland July 4 Parade. This year's parade will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday morning.

See **PARADE**, Page 3

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Former Gov. Dolph Briscoe dies at 87

APRIL CASTRO
 Associated Press Writer
 AUSTIN — Former Gov. Dolph Briscoe Jr., who presided over Texas during the oil and gas boom years before a stunning upset in 1978, died Sunday, according to his family. He was 87. Briscoe had been hospitalized in poor health in January and had returned home only recently, family spokeswoman Ann Arnold said. A rancher and a banker, the two-term Democratic governor served from 1972 to 1978. During that time, Texas enjoyed increasing oil and gas revenues, and Briscoe kept his campaign pledge of no new taxes. "The necessity of fiscal responsibility in all levels of government is second only to world peace in our survival," Briscoe once said. The conservative Democrat lost to Attorney General John Hill in the Democratic primary in 1978. Hill lost in the general election to Bill Clements, Texas'

first Republican governor since Reconstruction. As Briscoe departed, he recommended state taxpayers get a \$1 billion refund from the \$2.8 billion "surplus" at the end of his administration, but the refund never materialized. "He understood the importance of limited government and low taxes as a way to guard individual liberty and encourage the economic growth that creates jobs for families," Republican Gov. Rick Perry said in a statement following Briscoe's death. "I will miss his friendship and wise counsel." Years after the bitterness of the 1978 political campaign wore off, Briscoe still contended he could have defeated Clements. He claimed his conservative supporters were apathetic in his Democratic race with Hill, whom he'd tried to paint as an ultraliberal. Briscoe considered a comeback race for governor in 1982, but instead supported Attorney General Mark White,

the Democrat who went on to defeat Clements. After serving as governor, Briscoe turned his attention to his ranch and business operations in south Texas, where he'd inherited the ranching business from his father, Dolph Briscoe Sr. But he always remained on the political scene. Not surprising for a man whose great-great grandfather on his mother's side, also named Briscoe, had signed the Texas Declaration of Independence. "Things get dull at times," Briscoe once said. "I miss it. Sometimes you miss it like you miss somebody hitting you over the head with a hammer, but you still miss it." Briscoe hosted Hillary Rodham Clinton in 1996 when she made a campaign trip to Uvalde to pick up Briscoe's endorsement for her husband, President Bill Clinton, a week before the Texas primary. Briscoe and the then-first lady See **BRISCOE**, Page 3

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Obituaries

Ralph Eugene "Peppy" Blount

Memorial services for Ralph Eugene "Peppy" Blount, 85, were held 2 p.m., Friday, June 25, 2010, at the First Christian Church of Longview with the Rev. Dr. Richard Emerson, the Rev. David Farmer and the Rev. Dr. Jim Lewis officiating under direction of Rader Funeral Home. Family graveside services in Grace Hill Cemetery preceded the memorial service. He died Tuesday morning, June 22, 2010, at his home.

Born Oct. 19, 1924, in Ferris, to Alma Shipp and Ralph Eugene Blount, he was a direct descendant of William Blount, one of the signers of the United States Constitution.

His family moved to Big Spring, when he was 4. Following graduation from Big Spring High School he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps. At 19, he was the youngest pilot of a B-25 bomber in the South Pacific during World War II, and during his military career earned more than 15 military decorations including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with three clusters, two Presidential Unit Citations and six major Battle Stars.

Peppy entered the University of Texas at Austin in 1946 as a freshman where he was elected to the Cowboys; named a Good Fellow and was a member of Alpha Tau Omega. That same year, he was elected as the youngest member of the Texas House of Representatives from the 91st District while playing football for the Texas Longhorns on championship Cotton, Sugar and Orange Bowl teams. He also lettered in basketball and baseball.

He extended his interest in sports by becoming a football official in the Southwest Conference and the old American Football League for 20 years.

While serving three terms as a member of the Texas Legislature, Peppy sponsored the legislation creating the Colorado River Municipal Water District in Howard County.

Following his years in Austin, and three years in Tyler, as a landman for a major oil company, Peppy began his law practice in Longview in 1956. Fifty years later he was honored by the State Bar of Texas for his years as a practicing attorney. He was a member of the Gregg County Bar Association.

In the general election of 1962, he was elected Gregg County Judge on a write-in ballot, the highest elective office ever achieved in the State of Texas by a write-in ballot on voting machines.

Peppy was the co-emcee for the East Texas segment of the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon for 33 years, helping to raise over \$7 million for MDA research and patient care.

He is the author of four books published by Eakin Press of Austin.

He served his community well as the first elected potentate of Sharon Shrine Temple, two terms as president of the East Texas Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and served as a trustee on the boards of Longview ISD, Jarvis Christian College and LeTourneau University. He also served on the boards of the Salvation Army, Longview Symphony, American Heart Association, Longview Museum of Art, Beacon Hospice and Juliette Fowler Homes in Dallas. He was a past master of James F. Taylor Masonic Lodge No. 169, a Knight Templar of York Rite Bodies and past commander of the Council of Kadosh. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution.

He had been honored by being named a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason, awarded the Silver Beaver Award, Order of the Arrow; chosen Man of the Year by the Federated Women's Club; awarded the Daughters of the American Revolution's Medal of Honor; elected to the Commemorative Air Force's Combat Airmen's Hall of Fame in Midland, Texas; and the Southwest Football Official's Hall of Fame.

Peppy was a former Chairman of the Official Board of First Christian Church and the KFRO voice of the Loyal Men's Bible Class for many years. He was named an Elder Emeritus of his church.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Helon Kaldenberg.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 63 years, Eva Jean Finch Blount; and three sons and their families, Ralph Blount of Austin, John "Jeb" Blount and wife, Lyn, of Longview and Stephen Blount and wife, Linda, of San Antonio; eight grandchildren, Robert Mathis, Kathryn Dell, Allison Finch, John Reid, Robert Rowland, Charlotte McHenry, Macon Howard and Jane Anne; and a niece, Kim Kaldenberg of New York City.

Paid obituary

Jannie Petty Early

Jannie Petty Early, 82, died Saturday, June 26, 2010, in Bastrop. Graveside funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 30, 2010, at Rose Hill Cemetery in Merkel.

Mrs. Early was born Aug. 20, 1927, in Winnsboro. She attended Hardin Simmons University, where she met Audrey Adams Early. They were married June 14, 1946.

Jannie attended Midway Baptist Church in Big Spring for many years. She was a nurse and a homemaker. She loved to cook for her family and gardening.

Survivors include four sons, Kenneth, David, Johnny and James (Jimbo) Early; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Chris Becker

Chris Becker, 48, of Stanton died Sunday, June 27, 2010, at his residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- PATRICK MICHAEL SHARP, 41, of 3706 Connally, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.

- JESUS SOLIS JR., 18, of 1112 N. McGregor Rd., was arrested Saturday on a charge of theft – shoplifting.

- EMMETT EARL WOODARD, 48, of 1819 S. Benton, was arrested Saturday on charges of prohibited weapons – switchblade/knuckles and driving while license invalid.

- JAMELA SHANTIL OVERTON, 19, of 615 Bucknell, was arrested Saturday on warrants for speeding, failure to appear (two counts) and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- KEITH ALLEN MYRICK, 22, of 1610 N. Midway Rd., was arrested Sunday on a charge of public intoxication.

- GUDALUPE RIOS CASTILLO, 66, of 1304 Nolan, was arrested Sunday on a charge of violation of a protective order.

- ROSALINDA LOPEZ, 45, of 602 E. 16th St., was arrested Sunday on a charge of assault – family violence.

- BETTY JANE MCWILLIAMS, 68, of 2900 W. Highway 80 Apt. 210, was arrested Sunday on a charge of theft with two or more convictions.

- JAMES RICHARDSON, 19, of 2517 Fairchild, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- THOMAS RICHARDSON, 24, of 2517 Fairchild, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- TRAVIS JOSHUA BENNETT, 31, of 2502 March, was arrested Monday on a charge of public intoxication.

- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported: In the 500 block of E. 14th Street.

- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported: In the 4000 block of Vicky.

- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 2600 block of Langley.

- THEFT was reported: In the 700 block of E. 15th Street.

- DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 1100 block of N. Lamesa.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 73 inmates at the time of this report.

- ROBERT CASTANEDA, 20, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on charges of public intoxication and accident involving serious bodily injury/death.

- CASEY GENE RICHTER, 22, was transferred to the county jail Friday by the BSPD on a charge of fraudulent possession of a controlled substance prescription.

- ROSALINDA FLORES, 45, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of criminal mischief and assault – family violence.

- JESUS SOLIZ, 18, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of theft.

- RICHARD D. MCCUTCHAN, 42, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of resisting arrest, search or transportation, failure to appear (three counts), failure to maintain financial responsibility (two counts) and displaying an expired registration.

- SAMUEL EUGENE WOODS, 44, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

- DARRICK KYLE SHIFFLETT, 23, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on charges of assault – family violence, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and possession of a controlled substance.

- PATRICK MICHAEL SHARP, 41, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- STETSON GENE HECTOR, 22, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of disorderly conduct – urinating in public.

- WILLIAM EDMOND GOSSETT, 34, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on charges of evading arrest or detention and driving while license invalid.

- EFRAIN ROMERO GALINDO JR., 39, was arrested Saturday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

- JAMELA SHANTIL OVERTON, 19, was transferred to the county jail Saturday by the BSPD on charges of speeding, violation of a promise to appear (two counts) and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

- EMMETT EARL WOODARD, 48, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on charges of driving while license invalid, speeding, violation of a promise to appear (two counts) and prohibited weapon – switchblade/knuckles.

- ROSALINDA FLORES, 45, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of assault – family violence.

- GUADALUPE RIOS CASTILLO, 66, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of violation of bond/protective order.

- KEITH ALLEN MYRICK, 22, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- DANNY ZAMBRANO, 40, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of public intoxication.

- BETTYE JANE MCWILLIAMS, 68, was transferred to the county jail Sunday by the BSPD on a charge of theft with two or more convictions.

- BENNY O. ISLAS, 46, was arrested Sunday by DPS on a charge of driving while intoxicated – third or more offense.

- TRAVIS JOSHUA BENNETT, 31, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- THOMAS EVERETT RICHARDSON, 24, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- JAMES LYNN RICHARDSON, 19, was transferred to the county jail Monday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- TRAUMA was reported in the 200 block of Pine. Service refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2300 block of Cindy. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of Westover Road. Service refused.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 4000 block of W. Highway 80. Service refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 12000 block of N. County Road 35. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2500 block of Hunter. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1700 block of Settles. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the intersection of Belvedere and Wasson. Service refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of Texas Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 600 block of N.W. Seventh Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT was reported near the 172 mile marker of Interstate Highway 20. Service refused.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of E. 11th Place. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 15900 block of Sycamore. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson. One person was transported to SMMC.

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1800 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 3800 block of Piper Road. One person was transported to SMMC.

- TRAUMA was reported in the 1300 block of Nolan. One person was transported to SMMC.

- STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 1000 block of Nolan.

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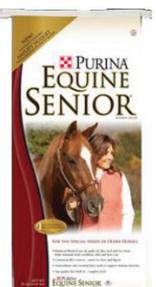


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Local stamp cancellation set for July 21 at post office

By KEVIN LEWIS

Special to the Herald

Post office officials will reveal Howard County's own stamp cancellation at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 21, at the Big Spring Post Office.

The Texas Plains Trail Region and the United States Postal Service are partnering for a special year-long stamp cancellation project. Each of the 52 counties in the Texas Plains Trail Region will be featured on a stamp cancellation this year.

Each Wednesday a new

county stamp cancellation — in alphabetical order — will be revealed at the county seat post office. A complete list of the Texas Plains Trail counties and their respective stamp cancellation date can be found on the Texas Plains Trail Web site, www.texasplainstrail.com.

The project is the effort of Texas photographer Rick Vanderpool to connect the communities of the Panhandle. Vanderpool asked students in the Texas Plains Trail Region to draw a simple

picture representing the Panhandle for use on an envelope cachet — a graphic that usually appears in the bottom left corner of the envelope.

The Plainview Daily Herald coordinated a contest for the artwork and judged the cachet entries, selecting a piece by 17-year-old Jaime Vaquera, a senior at Plainview High School, to appear on envelopes sold at each post office in the Texas Plains Trail Region.

Vanderpool also invites each community to spotlight

its youth's artwork by creating its own cachet.

"I want to see people in the region come up with as many opportunities to connect and form partnerships as they can," Vanderpool said. "I want youngsters to learn and grow from that experience. They know it's a big country out here, and sometimes they wonder who's over that next hill."

Texas Plains Trail officials will also be available to speak about the region's history and heritage with local fourth-

and seventh-grade students or other local organizations.

The Texas Plains Trail Region is made up of 52 counties in the Texas Panhandle, stretching from the Oklahoma and New Mexico state lines and south to Big Spring. The Texas Historical Commission has also designated nine other heritage trail regions.

For more information, go to www.texasplainstrail.com or contact Plains Trail Region Executive Director Deborah Sue McDonald at 806-231-3479 or txplainstrail@yahoo.com

Low-level radioactive waste site has more troubles

BETSY BLANEY

Associated Press Writer

LUBBOCK — A troubled site for disposing some of the nation's low-level radioactive waste has two more problems to deal with.

Officials with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality said the agency will issue a Notice of Violation within two weeks because the company that operates the site has stored a concrete canister filled with

the hottest low-level radioactivity material beyond the 365 days allowed under a waste processing license.

The commission is drafting what it will require of Waste Control Specialists to deal with the violation, but because of "potential issues related to repackaging and transportation, the TCEQ will allow the waste to remain on site as long as WCS complies with TCEQ's corrective action requirements," agency spokeswoman Andrea Mor-

row wrote in an e-mail.

No fines will be issued.

Last month the environmental agency denied the company's request for a time extension for the canisters until June 8, 2011, which came from a Tennessee radioactive processing plant.

In a routine check at the site near Andrews, close to the New Mexico border, state inspectors also found cracks up to an inch wide on a 10-acre asphalt pad near where the canisters of radioactive

material sit.

Morrow said the pad is important because it is one safeguard against contamination into the ground.

A spokesman for the company said it he was not aware of any pending action from the commission. Rickey Dailey said the company believes the nine canisters should be classified under its storage license for which there is no time limit for interim use.

"We have a difference of opinion and we're continuing

discussions to resolve the issue," he said.

The cracks were repaired and sealed last month, Dailey said, and "were superficial" and did not jeopardize "the integrity of the pad."

Inspectors now want the company to submit engineering assessments on the pad's surface condition, its long-term viability and to provide details of past and future repairs, according to a May 25 letter from the commission to the company.

BRISCOE

Continued from Page 1

draw parallels with the 1948 visit of Bess and Harry Truman, who came calling on former Vice President John Nance Garner in Uvalde.

Briscoe also attended campaign events for Republican Gov. George W. Bush before he was elected president in 2000.

From the time he was valedictorian of the Uvalde High School graduating class in 1939, Briscoe was accustomed to being top man. He was elected to the Texas House from Uvalde in 1949 and served as a leg-

islator for eight years, bragging that he never had an opponent.

After leaving the Legislature, he was designated the state's Outstanding Conservation Rancher, one of the state's five Outstanding Young Texans by the Junior Chamber of Commerce and Mr. South Texas. He served as president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, the South Texas Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Chamber of Commerce. He also was senior chairman of the board of directors of First State Bank of Uvalde.

In 2008, the University of Texas at Austin named its Center for

American History for Briscoe, who donated \$15 million to the center.

Briscoe's first bid for the governorship was an unsuccessful one in 1968, when Preston Smith won over nine other Democrats.

He announced for the 1972 Democratic race and immediately hammered opponent Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes for being the presiding Senate officer when the chamber passed two bills involved in the Sharpstown stock fraud scandal, which involved loans allegedly to be made by the Sharpstown State Bank in Houston to top Texas Democrats in return for favorable banking legislation. Those recipients

were to buy stock, then redeem the shares at inflated prices. Barnes never faced charges but his career was tarnished by the scandal.

Briscoe easily led the party primary voting, with Frances "Sissy" Farenthold second and Barnes a distant third. Briscoe defeated Farenthold in a hotly contested runoff and nosed out Republican Hank Grover by less than 100,000 votes in November.

Briscoe won re-election in 1974, carrying 247 of 254 counties. He became the state's first four-year chief officer because of a 1975 law changing the governor's term length.

Briscoe was the gover-

nor who signed the Texas Open Records Act in the 1970s, now known as the Texas Public Information Act.

Throughout his public career, he refused to reveal his full wealth, filing reports showing only what public officials were required to disclose. But several published accounts cited him as the state's largest landholder, with more than 1 million acres owned or leased. The same reports estimated his worth at more than \$50 million.

Briscoe and his wife, Janey, were the 1999 recipients of the John Henry Faulk Award for Civic Virtue presented by The Freedom of Information Foundation

of Texas. Janey Briscoe died of heart problems at age 76 in October 2000.

Dolph Briscoe's survivors include a son, two daughters and five grandchildren.

ORDINANCE

Continued from Page 1

the streets. That has been on the books in some form since 1958," she said. "With the new ordinance, if passed on second reading, we specifically allow only mobile street vendors,

which we have defined as persons offering food or drink for sale from a motor vehicle on the city streets. We still are not allowing the sale of any other items on the streets."

A question during the meeting regarding the sale of tamales in local store parking lots, and how the new

amendment might affect it, is also leading to some confusion.

"Regarding the persons selling tamales from parking lots, my statement was that they would not have to get this permit because they don't meet the definition of a mobile street vendor since they are stationary at

a parking lot," Sjogren said. "However, they are an itinerant vendor and must get the itinerant vendor permit, which is in another part of Chapter 5 that we did not amend.

"Additionally, they should be getting a state food service permit, and will eventually be getting that permit

from the city if we pass an ordinance adopting the food service regulations and take over enforcement of those permits from the state."

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

PARADE

Continued from Page 1

judged are walkers, strollers, bicycles, motorized and battery powered vehicles, pets, horses, houses and mailboxes, Stallings said. Prizes to the top entries will be presented immediately following the parade's conclusion. "We'll also have music

and refreshments after the parade," she said.

The parade, which has been held annually since the early 1970s, has become a local holiday fixture.

"It's really become a tradition with so many families," Stallings said. "So many people grew up doing this and now their children are doing it. Plus, it's fun. The kids get a kick out of it and the adults have

fun, too."

For more information or to inquire about entering the parade, contact Stallings at 267-8427 or Melanie Lauder milk at 213-4703.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-

7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

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Hawaii Cruise 7 Night Cruise Plus 2 Nights Land October 22 - November 2 (Fly) Departing Abilene	Ozark Mountains Fall Foliage October 25-30 Departing Big Spring and Abilene
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R. Lanham "Butch" Hodnett, 69, died Friday. A celebration of his life will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.
Chris Becker, 48, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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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

Bill McClellan
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John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

OTHER VIEWS

Voter ID shouldn't be priority for next legislative session

The estimated \$18 billion budget shortfall alone is enough to ensure a brutal legislative session next year. Toss the budget nightmare into a redistricting session and then add the second most partisan issue on the Texas landscape — voter ID — and you've got the potential for a bad-blood session of historic proportions.

When the posturing leading up to the November election is done, the governor and legislative leaders, regardless of who they may be, should kick the debate over requiring voters to have a photo ID to the side until serious problems are addressed. The state's voter fraud problem is small and centers on mail-in ballots anyway, not picture identification.

The budget must be addressed in a responsible way. Cuts are inevitable, and the crucial parts of state government must be protected. Education must be moved in a positive direction.

The budget decisions will be gut-wrenching and require as much good-faith cooperation as lawmakers can muster.

Redistricting, which is the most partisan issue handled by any legislature, can't be avoided. New census data will be ready, and Texas is expected to have several new congressional districts.

The last decade's ugly redistricting battle, sparked by former U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay's heavy-handed pressure on GOP leaders in the Legislature to redraw the lines a second time, has not been forgotten. Those memories will color an already tense confrontation.

The voter ID issue is one that can and should be avoided until a session with less pressure. ...

Too much unnecessary damage was done in 2009. Republicans wanted voter ID so badly that they circumvented the cherished Senate two-thirds rule that requires 21 votes to get a bill to the floor. And hardball House Democrats clogged up the legislative process for five days, blocking the voter ID bill but also killing many meritorious measures.

Serious issues must be addressed in 2011, and partisan gamesmanship on voter ID would be a destructive waste of time at a moment in history when statesmanship is required.

It will take true leadership to keep the Legislature on the rails and avoid slipping into the partisan abyss that is smothering Washington.

THE EXPRESS-NEWS
SAN ANTONIO

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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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- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- 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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Trusting In You, Lord, will be to our benefit.
Amen

Fresh thinking on national security

Everyone wants America to be safe and secure. And our government has a wide array of tools for accomplishing that.

We can use creative diplomacy to diffuse tensions. We can use foreign aid to tackle the problems of poverty and despair that make many people more vulnerable to criminal networks, from drug traffickers to the Taliban. We can use border security. And of course we use the military.

All of these tools are important. The problem is that one of them, the military option, receives the overwhelming bulk of taxpayer dollars, while the other areas are chronically underfunded. Every year we spend about \$14 on our military forces for every dollar we spend to engage the world by non-military means. And military spending will total a whopping \$750 billion in 2010.

One reason for that is that Congress has separate votes on the budgets for the Pentagon, the State Department, USAID, and other agencies that carry out different security functions. This makes it difficult to grasp the tradeoffs between different security tools.

For example, most experts be-

lieve it is far more likely that a nuclear device will approach our shores smuggled in a ship than delivered by a missile. And so it would make sense to be spending more on Coast Guard inspections of container ships than on missile defense.

But when legislators vote to approve billions for new missile systems, they aren't required to weigh this decision against cuts to the Coast Guard. Likewise, when they approve new fighter jet programs, they don't weigh that investment against the costs of expanding the diplomatic corps.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recently proposed a solution — a unified national security budget. This would allow all spending on our security — including military forces, homeland security, and non-military foreign engagement — to be presented as a unified whole, so that the tradeoffs among them can be considered.

As Clinton pointed out, with a unified budget "it's not us going and making our case to our appropriators and the Defense Department going and making their case to the appropriators" — a contest the State Department habitually loses. It's a whole-of-government approach to security budgeting.

Her partners at the top of the national security team, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chair Mike Mullen, are on board with the idea.



MIRIAM PEMBERTON



Banks profit while farmers fail

Bruce Drinkman is a successful organic dairy farmer who milks 50 cows with his wife, Mari, near Glenwood City, Wis. Despite his 34 years of experience, the two-year drop in milk prices and four years of drought have meant no profits or savings.

Last fall they were denied credit from their bank to purchase seeds to plant 55 acres in grains and corn this spring. To continue farming they cashed in Mari's retirement account but the farm was placed into foreclosure around Christmas. After repeated attempts to refinance the farm with other banks, farm credit services and Farm Service Agency (a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, or USDA) they were turned down by all, and did not even attempt to obtain bank credit this spring.

Fortunately Bruce was able to obtain credit from a vendor to buy seed, and at the end of April he and Mari filed reorganization bankruptcy, the only means they knew to preserve their farm, home and livelihood.

A recent survey by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago indicated that 11 percent of Wisconsin farmers with existing lines of credit may not have credit extended next year; this is especially significant because of the a 56 percent decline in net farm income in 2009. Dairy farmers have received prices far below their costs of production for nearly two years. With eroding equity, many are in immediate

danger of losing their farms.

Farmland is so valuable that local (but often not locally owned) banks call in farm loans at the first opportunity, destroying families, communities, and regional economies. Farms entering foreclosure are listed publicly, further devastating owners while notifying speculators and investors of chances to take advantage of distraught landowners.

Something is askew. As the number of unemployed nationwide remains around 10 percent and the USDA holds summits on revitalizing rural America, why are experienced, efficient farmers receiving ridiculously low prices for their products, forcing family members to seek scarce off-farm jobs to support them? Why are banks and USDA denying them access to credit to continue their operations? Are these institutions conspiring to close farming operations in order to give investors the opportunity to purchase their land for a fraction of its worth?

A posting on Farmland Forecast, read by farmers, agribusinesses, investors and speculators interested in agricultural land, stated that "Midwestern U.S. farmland provides investors the best opportunity... Farmland may be [cheaper] in other regions of the world, but... may not have the same soil quality, transportation infrastructure, or government that supports property rights."

When an elderly couple with no heirs interested in or able to afford the farm decides to sell; when a younger farmer sells after incurring too much debt from low prices and rising input costs, there's probably a corporate investor ready to buy. The land may be flipped to develop-

Gates has lamented that "America's civilian institutions of diplomacy and development have been chronically undermanned and underfunded for far too long, relative to what we spend on the military."

In a speech in early March, Mullen noted that "Secretaries Clinton and Gates have called for more funding and more emphasis on our soft power, and I could not agree with them more. My fear, quite frankly, is that we aren't moving fast enough in this regard. U.S. foreign policy is still too dominated by the military."

But the budgets they draw up for the Pentagon keep on growing, and the cuts in military programs they support are almost exclusively designed to be plowed back in to other military programs.

As our nation continues to struggle with the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, it's even more important that every penny of our tax dollars is spent wisely.

It's encouraging to hear Obama administration officials taking a fresh look at more balanced and efficient national security budgeting.

Now they just need to make it happen.

Miriam Pemberton is a research fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies, and, with Lawrence Korb, chairs the Task Force on a Unified Security Budget for the United States.

ers when enough profit can be made or planted in commodity crops (such as soybeans and corn) used primarily for livestock feed or ethanol production.

Sadly, many people who would like to engage in farming remain landless but are forced to rent or accept tenuous land use arrangements with no guaranteed long-term security. Speculators and investors only make matters worse by driving the price of farmland out of their reach, making less land available for the profitable production of fresh, local and sustainable produce, eggs, milk, grains and meat.

It appears that the people who depend on their land for survival and provide us with food — farmers, ranchers, fishers and laborers — are more expendable than people sitting behind a desk trading stocks, land and communities' futures.

The solution to this situation is two-fold.

First, restructure the pricing system to be fair and just for people producing or harvesting our food.

Second, require banks that received Troubled Asset Relief Funds (TARP) to supply credit to and work with small businesses (including farms) in their communities. Demand this from your government.

Otherwise, when farmers are forced off their land because they can't profit from their labor or access credit for annual inputs, who will provide us the wonderful bounty of summer — watermelon, sweet corn, BLTs and strawberries with whipped cream?

Lisa Griffith is membership coordinator of the National Family Farm Coalition, where she also works on local food issues.

Post office offers a step back in time

JUAN CASTILLO

Austin American-Statesman

AUSTIN — Before they stepped onto the hardwood floors at the McNeil general store and post office, a lively hub of 19th-century life in northern Travis County, early Texas pioneers hitched their horses in nearby caves.

Time stands still for no one, and it didn't for the hamlet of McNeil. A century and a half later, the new, sleek commuter rail flies over a bridge here. About two miles to the east, traffic barrels down the MoPac Boulevard (Loop 1) toll road. The horse and buggy is history.

But off the beaten path and like something right out of a Hollywood movie set, the McNeil Store, a wood-and-brick building that is said to date to the 1860s, and the tiny post office, which debuted inside the store in 1888, are still open for business, standing the test of time, much to the delight of their customers.

"It's like a forgotten spot of Austin," said Destiny Peters, a regular.

But its days might be numbered. The U.S. Postal Service is considering closing the facility when its lease expires in November and moving operations to the new Austin McNeil Station Post Office about six miles away, near Lakeline Mall.

In a statement, the Postal Service said it is considering the move "to provide a more efficient and effective retail and P.O. Box operation for our customers currently served by this location."

According to the Postal Service, the old McNeil office rents out only about 50 P.O. boxes and is staffed by one postmaster. The agency leases the facility from the Austin White Lime Co. for \$100 a month, said Sue Ritter, a spokeswoman for the company. Austin White Lime operates an adjacent limestone quarry, as it has since the late 1800s.

A Postal Service spokesman said the agency had no comment other than the statement.

Ritter said last week that Austin White Lime wants the post office to remain open and is willing to renew the lease at no cost. She said that if the post office closed, the store would likely remain open.

It's the second time the Postal Service has considered shutting down the old McNeil office, said Jim Donohue, a limousine service owner who has rented a post office box there since 1990. He and other supporters collected nearly 500 signatures to keep it open two years ago. Supporters have mounted another petition drive.

Recently, Postal Service officials hosted a meeting with about two dozen McNeil post office box holders. Donohue, who was there, said that after persistent questions from the audience, postal officials said that the McNeil office is making money but that they were concerned about security there.

Ritter said the Postal Service has never expressed concerns about security to Austin White Lime.

The small trickle of customers who visited the store/post office on a recent steamy afternoon readily signed a petition resting on a store counter just inside the front door, across from the post office counter, which is barely wide enough to accommodate one customer at a time. A few rows of post boxes, many of them bronze-colored antiques with old-time combination locks, line the wood-paneled wall.

Working behind the postal counter, Joyce Macfoy was greeted by a quarry worker who asked: "How are you, young lady? Are you feeling better?"

"They actually know your name here," Peters said later. Like a number of other customers, she said she preferred the post office for the personal touch, the history and the convenience.

The store has always been a company store, and quarry workers still are the majority of store customers, said Bridgette Massey, who has run it for more than 20 years and still oils the dark, cypress wood floors once a week. "They're the originals, and they look beautiful when I clean them," she said proudly.

That the building doesn't draw a larger customer base isn't surprising; it isn't visible from nearby Howard Lane and McNeil Road. In fact, only a couple of small, green signs alert passersby that there's a post office beyond a patch of woods and a curving side road.

A Decade In Sports

2000-2009

Who do you think is the most influential sports figure for the past decade from Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan & Howard College?

Here's your chance to nominate them in the categories listed below. All areas in the ballot must be completed for your nomination to count. Ballot must be turned into the Big Spring Herald at 710 Scurry, Big Spring, TX 79720 by Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Coach Of The Decade

Name: _____
School: _____
Year/Years Attended: _____

Why You're Nominating Them? _____

Male Athlete Of The Decade

Name: _____
School: _____
Year/Years Attended: _____

Why You're Nominating Them? _____

Female Athlete Of The Decade

Name: _____
School: _____
Year/Years Attended: _____

Why You're Nominating Them? _____

Sports Team Of The Decade

Name: _____
School: _____
Year/Years Attended: _____

Why You're Nominating Them? _____

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Name: _____
Address: _____
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BP denies CEO resigning, Gulf tropical storm looms

VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

Associated Press Writers

NEW ORLEANS — BP denied its embattled chief executive was resigning as the first tropical storm to hit the Gulf of Mexico this year threatened to disrupt cleanup work on its massive oil spill, even from a distance.

Russia's state RIA Novosti news agency quoted a senior Russian Cabinet official as saying that BP Chief Executive Tony Hayward was expected to resign.

It quoted Deputy Prime Minister Igor Sechin, who was set to meet with Hayward on Monday, as saying that Hayward would introduce his successor.

"Hayward is leaving his post, he will introduce his successor," Sechin was quoted as saying by RIA Novosti.

BP spokeswoman Carolyn Copland in London said the report "is definitely not correct."

Hayward was to assure Russian officials of BP's viability and discuss issues related to Russian joint venture TNK-BP, which accounts for about a quarter of BP's reserves and production.

In the Gulf, Tropical Storm Alex was forecast to strengthen and possibly become a hurricane Monday or Tuesday as its center crossed open water from Yucatan to Mexico's northeastern coast.

That track is far from the area of the oil spill off Louisiana's coast. But the first tropical storm of what is expected to be an active Atlantic hurricane season will still generate waves up to 15 feet high and winds of 20 to 30 mph on its outer edges that could pound the oil spill area, said Stacy Stewart, senior hurricane specialist at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Kagan to break silence

JULIE DAVIS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Elena Kagan will be making the argument of her life on Monday when she faces a Senate panel on her confirmation to the Supreme Court.

Kagan's chances are bright as she heads into a marathon week of high-pressure vetting before the Senate Judiciary Committee, pressing to portray herself as a mainstream, impartial addition to the court. She's set to break weeks of public silence Monday afternoon in sworn testimony before the panel.

Democrats have more than enough votes to confirm her. Republicans have shown no inclination to try to block such a vote, although some conservative interest groups are urging them in increasingly vocal ways to do so.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., the Senate Judiciary Committee chairman, predicted Mon-

day that Kagan will be cleared with votes to spare. He brushed off GOP questions about her lack of judicial experience, saying there have been many successful justices who had no previous bench time. He cited Earl Warren, Hugo Black and Robert Jackson.

Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, the ranking Republican on the panel, said he hopes there won't be a filibuster, but said he's concerned that Kagan may be "outside the mainstream" of legal thinking.

Sessions said Republicans have serious questions to resolve about Kagan, including whether she would be too driven by her political views if she were to take a place on the high court bench.

The GOP is set to grill Kagan on hot-button issues from guns to abortion to campaign finance, arguing that she'd bring liberal politics and an antimilitary

bias to the job of a justice.

"She'll have to convince me that all of this liberalism that she's lived with all her life can be put in a proper place and when she gets to be a judge she'll be left of center but within the mainstream of judging," Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said on "Fox News Sunday."

For the second summer in a row, a woman chosen by President Barack Obama is appearing before the Judiciary Committee for televised hearings in a cavernous room on Capitol Hill, where the questioning by senators is seldom polite but nominees rarely if ever go off-script.

If confirmed, the 50-year-old Kagan would be the fourth woman to

join the Supreme Court, and her swearing-in would mark the first time three women have presided there at the same time.

The White House and Senate Democrats are painting Kagan, the first woman to be dean of Harvard Law School or to hold the job of solicitor general, as a pioneering figure and brilliant legal mind who can build consensus on the polarized court.

Later this week, they'll call conservatives, including two who served in the administration of George W. Bush — Harvard Law School professor Jack Goldsmith and former Solicitor General Greg Garre — in a bid to dispel GOP charges that she's a liberal rubber-stamp for Obama.

W. Va. Sen. Robert Byrd dead at 92

ANDREW TAYLOR

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON

Robert C. Byrd, the longest serving member of the U.S. Senate, a fiery orator and hard-charging power broker who steered billions of federal dollars to his beloved West Virginia, died Monday. He was 92.

A spokesman for the family, Jesse Jacobs, said that Byrd died peacefully at about 3 a.m. at Inova Hospital in Fairfax, Va. He had been in the hospital since late last week.

At first Byrd was believed to be suffering from heat exhaustion and severe dehydration, but other medical conditions developed. He had been in frail health for several years.

A man of humble, Depression-era upbringing, Byrd held his seat for over 50 years, working tirelessly all that time to make sure his state never missed out on its share — or even more, in some cases — of the federal largesse. He was the Senate's majority leader for six of those years and was third in the line of succession to the presidency, behind House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Flags at the Capitol and the White House flew at half-staff Monday as Washington mourned Byrd's passing.

Sen. Jay Rockefeller, a fellow West Virginian in the Senate, said it was his "greatest privilege" to serve with Byrd.

"I looked up to him, I fought next to him, and I am deeply saddened that he is gone," Rockefeller said.

The Senate Republican leader, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, said Byrd "combined a devotion to the U.S. Constitution with a deep learning of history to defend the interests of his state and the traditions of the Senate."

"We will remember him for his fighter's spirit, his abiding faith, and for the many times he recalled the Senate to its purposes," McConnell said.

Former President Jimmy Carter said Byrd "was my closest and most valuable adviser" during his presidency, when Byrd served as Senate majority leader. Byrd was skilled "in using arcane Senate rules to achieve his goals, and

was proud of his ability to count votes and forge prevailing coalitions," Carter said in a statement.

West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin, a Democrat, will appoint Byrd's replacement. For a declared vacancy more than two years and six months before the expiration of a senator's term — Byrd's term was to end Jan. 3, 2013 — the appointee serves until an election is held to fill the rest of the term.

Byrd's death followed less than a year after the passing of venerable Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, a nationally recognizable figure who had been a most vociferous spokesman for liberal causes for years.

In comportment and style, Byrd often seemed a Senate throwback to a courtier 19th century. He could recite poetry, quote the Bible, discuss the Constitutional Convention and detail the Peloponnesian Wars — and frequently did in Senate debates.

Yet there was nothing particularly courtly about Byrd's pursuit or exercise of power.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K Q 3
♥ 8 6 5 4
♦ J 10 6
♣ K 8 5

WEST
♠ A 10 7 5 4
♥ K 7
♦ K 3 2
♣ A 4 2

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

SOUTH
♠ 8
♥ A Q J 10 9 2
♦ A Q 9 5 4
♣ 9

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ 1♠ 2♥ 2♠
3♦ Pass 4♥

Opening lead — ace of spades.

This deal occurred in the quarter-finals of the 1988 Spingold team championship. It features excellent play by Jim Mahaffey, captain of the team that eventually captured the title.

Mahaffey held the South cards and reached four hearts on the bidding shown. West led the ace of spades, cashed the ace of clubs and exited with a second club.

Tomorrow: To the victor belongs the spoils.

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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. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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

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Big Spring Herald

Future of West Texas Shootout looks bright

BY ADAM COLEMAN
Sports Editor

The Harold Davis West Texas Shootout just wrapped up its third year in existence and Roy Green couldn't be happier where the Big Spring fixture is headed.

The summer girls basketball tournament invited 32 teams from Central and West Texas to compete at Howard College's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, among other venues, giving those players a chance they've never seen before.

The tournament also honor local hero Harold Davis and benefits children in foster care.

"Overall we've got-

ten a very, very positive response, from the officiating to our facilities to even our coverage," said Green, who is a Big Spring native and the tournament's creator. "We've gotten a greater response from the business community as far as food and restaurants, things like that. You're always going to have some things that are going to happen, but overall, we think it's very successful."

The tourney received an extra boost with guest speaker Terri Jagers, who won the Mrs. US America pageant in 2008 at the age of 37.

Jagers, who spoke Saturday night, said she and Green have actively been involved

in foster care. Jagers said she has fostered 25 children and has adopted five.

But that's not entirely why Jagers wanted to make an appearance in Big Spring.

Jagers, who was a foster child herself, said she wanted to spread the message of accountability and let young girls know they can reach any goal if they take matters into their own hands.

"I love sports. I specifically have a real place in my heart for women's sports," she said. "Not that I have anything against men's sports, but I think women need to understand that there's a great deal of empowerment

See DAVIS, Page 12



HERALD Photo/Adam Coleman

The El Paso Sun's Carolina Castaneda attempts a lay-up on a fastbreak during her team's championship game against San Antonio's Finest in the Harold Davis West Texas Shootout on Sunday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The tournament, run by Big Spring native Roy Green, just finished its third year in existence.

Hamilton's hit streak at 21, Rangers beat Astros 10-1

ARLINGTON (AP) — Texas Rangers starter Tommy Hunter was sitting on the bench when he heard Josh Hamilton's home run. That's right, heard it.

"I wasn't even watching, and I was like, 'Yes!'," Hunter said. "It gives you little tingles in your stomach."

Hamilton's 468-foot drive sampler into the upper deck in right-center field, way above the Rangers bullpen, was the second-longest ever at Rangers Ballpark and put AL West-leading Texas ahead to stay in a 10-1 victory over the Houston Astros on Sunday night.

"It was so loud," said Nelson Cruz, who was on the on-deck circle for Hamilton's two-run

blast in the second off Roy Oswalt (5-10).

The homer extended Hamilton's hitting streak to 21 games and was his 47th hit in June, matching the team record for hits in a month shared by Mickey Rivers (August 1980) and Frank Catalanotto (August 2001). Hamilton is batting .477 (41 of 86) during his hitting streak and has raised his season average to .346, tied for second in the majors.

According to the Rangers, the only longer homer at home was a 480-foot drive by Jose Canseco playing for Texas in 1994, the first year of Rangers Ballpark.

"You just feel those. I got all of it," said Hamilton, who hit

a 460-foot blast last season. "I see it go up, I feel that it's going out, and I put my head down and run. I've never been one to watch where they land. I let everybody tell me when I get back to the dugout."

Michael Young also homered for Texas and Matt Treanor had a two-run, two-out single in the fifth to make it 7-1. Treanor's hit came on Oswalt's 100th and last pitch of the game after the right-hander had walked the bases loaded.

The Rangers (46-29) are 20-5 in June and matched a franchise record by winning their eighth consecutive series, something they had only done in 1977.

Texas has a day off Monday

before opening a three-game series on the road against the Los Angeles Angels, who trail the Rangers by 4½ games in the AL West.

Hunter (4-0) allowed one run and five hits over six innings. Hamilton has 18 homers this season, with one in each of Hunter's five starts.

Oswalt, whose 142 career victories are only two shy of Joe Niekro's record with the Astros, earlier this year requested a trade from the struggling team for which he has played all 10 of his major league seasons and went to the World Series in 2005.

Texas president and Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan has said his team is interested in the 32-year-old Oswalt,

though any such deal is complicated by the Rangers' unsettled bankruptcy proceedings that have stalled the sale of the team. Not to mention Oswalt's salary (\$15 million this season, \$16 million in 2011).

Oswalt, who said Friday a trade to the Rangers would be OK with him, had his worst outing of the season. He gave up eight runs (seven earned) and seven hits (five for extra bases) with four walks, three strikeouts and two wild pitches.

"I was missing spots, throwing it over the middle of the plate," Oswalt said. "The ball was running on me a little bit. ... It was location more than anything."



HERALD Photo/Adam Coleman

Ryan Erwin demonstrates ball handling skills in front of players, coaches and parents at the Harold Davis West Texas Shootout on Saturday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on Howard College's campus. The tournament ended Sunday.

Armstrong playing team card to beat Contador

PARIS (AP) — RadioShack knock Contador off his perch. "The big favorite is not in our team," Bruyneel recently told the Associated Press. "But it's better to have three cards to play from a strategic point of view. Among our three leaders, Lance is maybe the best, but we'll see during the race."

Contador, who defeated Armstrong last July to claim a second Tour victory, is favored to defend his title.

But although the Spaniard has the odds on his side, seven-time champion Armstrong and his longtime friend and mentor Bruyneel believe that playing the team card could help Ra-

dioShack knock Contador off his perch.

Armstrong won the Tour de France seven times in a row before retiring in 2005. He came back to racing last year following a 3½-year absence and finished third while riding alongside Contador with the Astana team.

Kloeden finished second in the Tour in 2004 and 2006 while Leipheimer was third in 2007.

Trick is making US soccer lovefest last after brief, exciting World Cup run

IRENE, South Africa (AP) — The United States' all-too-brief run at the World Cup was a smash hit.

Record numbers for TV broadcasts, Internet traffic and ticket sales. Bars and restaurants packed with fans, no matter the time. So much World Cup-related traffic it temporarily brought down Twitter's whole operation. Soccer not only went mainstream in the one country that's resisted the charms

of the beautiful game, it became the center of attention.

Now the trick is making the love last.

"Without a doubt, the game has grown in our country," U.S. coach Bob Bradley said Sunday, a day after the Americans were eliminated. "We understand that every four years, to some degree, that growth will be put to the test by the results of that World

Cup. That's just the way it is. ... If we do take it further, then maybe that shows people the progress. When you don't, then you still have to keep going. So we've got to keep going."

Soccer has its core of die-hard fans in the United States and, every four years, there's a standing-room-only crowd on the World Cup bandwagon. But the tournament in South Africa had blockbuster potential, with all

the pieces in place for a surge — and a lasting one at that — in the game's popularity in the United States.

The wall-to-wall coverage by ABC and ESPN is unprecedented. The U.S. team is a talented, entertaining bunch with its best players — Landon Donovan, Tim Howard and Clint Dempsey — in their prime. An opening game against England's glamour boys provided six months' worth of hype.

Sports in brief

Chubby Abrego Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament

The Chubby Abrego Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament takes place at 8 a.m. July 10 at the Comanche Trails Golf Course and will benefit Coahoma High School Athletes. It is \$50 per person, four person scramble. Prizes

will be included. Call Rocky McCullough at 213-4868 or DeLoyd Hooser at 816-9051 for more information

Cavern City Tennis Tournament

This is a USTA sanctioned tennis tournament for participants of all ages and those interested must be USTA members.

Fee for singles players is \$20 and fee for doubles teams is \$30. Open draw is 9 a.m. June 28 at the Rio Pecos Tennis Shop in Carlsbad N.M.

The entry deadline is 6 p.m. June 27. All first place winners get \$100, second place winners get \$50. Call tournament director Charlie Jurva at 575-887-1980 for more information.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Has anyone ever said you were psychic? Have you predicted the future accurately without even meaning to? Prescient statements won't be so rare today, as the sun and Mercury come into alignment in the emotional water sign of Cancer. The future might be simply accessed by describing your feelings in the present.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll get the chance to talk about your plans with someone who can't help you at all. This is perfect. You'll hone your vision as you talk. Soon you'll be presenting to someone who can help, and you'll be ready.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Getting others to follow your plan will not be so easy. Your patience will be required, and it will also help to have an open mind. Eventually, loved

ones give you what you need and not necessarily what you want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're proud to have powerful friends, but sometimes this makes you feel, by comparison, less successful. It's not true. Make a list of your proudest accomplishments to remind yourself of them.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're about to hit a home run. But this will only bring the kind of happiness and luck you desire if you have prepared for it. Everything goes better for you when you feel like you've covered all your bases. A checklist helps.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be the center of attention, which would be a lot of pressure for someone else. But not for you. You are so creative that you can take whatever you see and turn it into a story.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You are admired and loved. You'll hear the proof of this. Someone will say sweet things to you when it matters — and even sweeter things to you

when it doesn't.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Take care of yourself the best way you know how. Tend to the details. It's not for them; it's for you. If you miss something, you'll be too self-conscious to do your best.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A burden is lifted from your mind and heart. This makes you feel suddenly bright. Your inner light will shine. People sense this and draw near to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's someone who has been on your mind. Think lovely thoughts about this person, and soon you will get the call. You'll thrill to the sweet sound of his or her voice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Do you know exactly why you want what you want? Investigate by asking your heart to be specific. If your reasons are too vague, you will not have the drive to follow through with your plan.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Sometimes you make your friends

laugh. But you are not merely a source of entertainment to them — you're a real friend who knows when and how to lighten the mood.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your reputation will be stellar. This is not because of your excellent public relations plan, but because you do the right thing consistently and people feel that you are someone who can be trusted.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 28). You'll make meaningful new connections this year. Your feelings will deepen while doing the most ordinary of activities. You'll also learn that relationships don't have to be so heavy to be good. Carefree friendships infuse your days with laughter. There's a transportation upgrade in August. November brings a windfall. Save it! Capricorn and Taurus people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 20, 15, 44 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL INSIGHT: URANUS AND THE TAROT: Astrology is linked symbolically to the deck of

cards known as Tarot. Each planet is represented in its own card. For instance, the card called "The Fool" is generally said to symbolize Uranus in a typical deck of Tarot cards. This card shows a person — sometimes a court jester — standing on a precipice ready to step off into the unknown. There is the element of surprise depicted here, a sense that anything can happen, which is in keeping with Uranus' reputation as the inventor and innovator of the zodiac. Uranus is at the forefront of technology, imagining how things might look in the future and turning that vision into today's reality. He is the cutting edge, so to speak, and what The Fool will find lying at the bottom of that cliff is anyone's guess. It could be a pit of alligators, or he may find while freefalling that he's learned how to fly. That's the unpredictable flip side of Uranus — part pioneer, part saboteur. The trick to getting along well with this trickster planet is to just trust in the big

picture of the universe and take a leap of faith, just as The Fool illustrates.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Her mother left when she was 2, and her father was in and out of jail. But "American Idol" contestant Kellie Pickler is a sensitive Cancer who has found something positive to do with her life's misfortunes: turn them into country songs. She was born under a warrior moon — that's Aries. And with Mercury and Venus in Leo, her playful creativity is at its best under the white-hot spotlight.

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

Dear Annie: I have a daughter whose lifestyle includes drugs. She has two children and refuses to let me be a part of their lives.

The boy is only 3 years old, and no one has seen him in two months.

I have contacted the police, child protective services and the child welfare department.

They all tell me that unless I can prove my grandson's life is in danger, there is nothing they can do.

My daughter claims the boy is in Sacramento, Calif., living in a home with multiple families.

She will not answer her door, and the police can't force her.

Even though they have talked to her on the phone, the fact is, we still have not seen my grandson.

Is anyone able to help me? — *Worried Grandma*

Dear Grandma: Your situation sounds strange. If a child hasn't been seen in months and the mother refuses to open her door, the police ought to investigate more thoroughly and child protective services should be deeply involved. Keep insisting.

However, if the police have determined that the boy is actually safe and sound, but you are being shut out, there is nothing they can do.

Call your daughter. See how she's doing. Ask whether there is anything she needs, and

let her know you want to help her.

It may be the only way to see your grandson again.

Dear Annie: I am getting married to a wonderful man. We both lived independently long enough to accumulate two of everything.

I have requested that, instead of gifts, guests make a donation in our name to a charity of their choice.

Here's the problem: No one is complying. They keep insisting there must be something I need.

I hate the whole concept of registries or the thought of useless stemware being given when donations to local charities would go much further and make me happier.

My future mother-in-law isn't supportive of the idea, so she won't help spread the word. How do I respond when people keep asking, "No, really, what do you need?" — *Frustrated Bride-to-Be*

Dear Frustrated: Brides can make suggestions about gifts (through registries and informing friends), but they don't make the



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

final decision.

Guests can give whatever they choose, like it or not.

Tell your friends to help pass the word. Consider registering at a store where the return policy allows you to receive

cash back.

When people ask what you really want, say calmly, "I really want donations made to charity. Those would be the most thoughtful gifts we could imagine."

But whatever they give, please be gracious enough to send an appreciative thank-you note.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Not Always Greener," who found her birth mother but the relationship did not turn out well.

When I was young, I became pregnant by my then-boyfriend. He was not interested in marriage. I was wildly irresponsible, but smart enough to realize I could not provide a decent home for a child.

Giving her up for adoption was the most difficult thing I have ever done. For years after, I would regularly cry myself to sleep.

Almost 25 years later, I still get sad as her birthday approaches.

I have since built a life that includes a loving husband and two children.

If that "baby" showed up at my door, I don't know how welcoming I'd be. I worked hard to accept the fact that she is no longer mine.

I hope she is healthy and happy. I would love to sit down, just the two of us, and talk about why I put her up for adoption and go over her family medical history. But we don't need a relationship.

It may sound cruel and uncaring, but I have a life I want to protect, and that is my choice. Please don't judge those mothers who gave away their children.

Most of us did so believing it was the best thing for the baby. — *Still Cry About It*

Dear Still: We appreciate your candor. Thank you for offering the other side.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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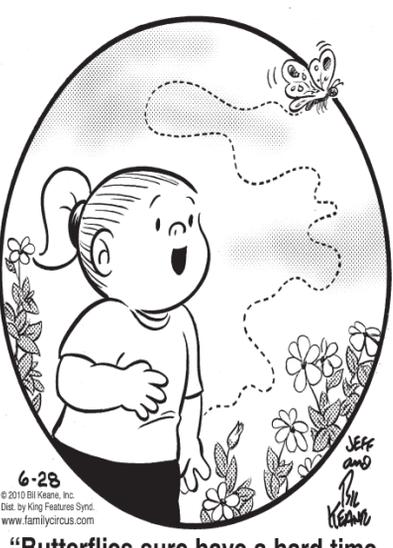
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5:PM	News ABC	Vida Notic.	Lopez CBS	News	Noticias Noticiero	News	King Granger	Chumney King	World Business	King Cash Cab	Cash Cab	Zellweger	CSI: Crime Scn	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Phineas Now	NASCAR	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Mi Pecado Fortune	Two Men Ent	News	A Corazón Abierto	News	Seinfeld	Van Impe	PBS News-Hour	70s Show	Ulti. Car Build-Off		UFC 116: Count.	Bones	TBA	Wizards Deck	MLB Baseball: Florida Marlins vs. New York Mets.	College Baseball
7:PM	The Bachelor	Hasta que el Dinero	Lie to Me	How I Met Rules	EI Clon	Last Comic Standing	Fam. Guy Upd	Hansen	Antiques Roadshow	90210	Cars	Movie: The Client, Mary-Louise Parker	(:07) Movie: Cradle 2 the Grave, Anthony Anderson	Bones	Movie: Steppin': The Movie	Phineas		
8:PM	Soy Tu Dueña (SS)	The Good Guys	Two Men Big Bang		Perro Amor		Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest	History Detectives	Gossip Girl	Ulti. Car Build-Off			Bones		Phineas		
9:PM	(:02) True Beauty	Cristina (SS)	Simpsons Friends	(:01) CSI: Miami	¿Dónde Está Elisa?	Persons Unknown	Neighbors Fam. Guy		Wall-World	Married... Thunders	Heartland	(:45) Movie: Fear, William Petersen	Entourage	The Closer	BET Awards	Phineas Hannah	Baseball Tonight	SportsCenter
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto Noticiero	Raymond TMZ	News Letterman	Noticias A Corazón Abierto	News Update	Lopez Tonight	House Sala	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Cars	(:45) Movie: Entourage	Entourage		The Mo'Nique	Wizards Deck	World Cup Primetime	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Corazón Salvaje	Law & Order: SVU	Late	Decisiones	Jay Leno	Neighbors Name	CCM	World T. Smiley (Off Air)	Bernie Cops	Ulti. Car Build-Off	(:45) Movie: The Man in the Iron Mask, John Malkovich	(:14) Entourage	CSI: NY	Wendy Williams	Suite Life So Raven	Baseball	
12:AM	Extra	Amar sin Limites	Paid King-Hill	Insider	Pagado	Late Night	Memphis Beat	Upd	Video	Heartland Thunder	Video		(:45) Movie: The Man in the Iron Mask, John Malkovich	Hawthorne	Movie: Back in the Day, Pam Grier	Cory Kim Poss	NFL Live World	SportsCenter
1:AM	Paid	Mujer... Cero	Paid RENO 911	Paid	Pagado	News	Lopez Tonight	Light of the Southwest	Videosomnia	Overhauled			CSI: Crime Scn	Leverage		Repla School	World Cup Soccer	

DENNIS THE MENACE



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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, June 28, the 179th day of 2010. There are 186 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

- On June 28, 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife, Sophie, were assassinated in Sarajevo (sah-ruh-YAY'-voh) by Serb nationalist Gavrilo Princip, the event which sparked World War I.
- On this date:
 - In 1491, England's King Henry VIII was born at Greenwich.
 - In 1778, the Revolutionary War Battle of Monmouth took place in New Jersey; it was from this battle that the legend of "Molly Pitcher" arose.
 - In 1836, the fourth president of the United States, James Madison, died in Montpelier, Va.
 - In 1838, Britain's Queen Victoria was crowned in Westminster Abbey.
 - In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY') was signed in France, ending the First World War. In Independence, Mo., future president Harry S. Truman married Elizabeth Virginia Wallace.
 - In 1928, New York Gov. Alfred E. Smith was nominated for president at the Democratic national convention in Houston.
 - In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the National Housing Act, which established the Federal Housing Administration.
 - In 1939, Pan American Airways began regular trans-Atlantic air service with a flight that departed New York for Marseilles, France.
 - In 1950, North Korean forces captured Seoul, the capital of South Korea.
 - In 1978, the Supreme Court ordered the University of California-Davis Medical School to admit Allan Bakke (BAHK'-ee), a white man who argued he'd been a victim of reverse racial discrimination.
- Today's Birthdays: Blues singer-musician David "Honeyboy" Edwards is 95. Comedian-movie director Mel Brooks is 84. Senate Armed Services Chairman Carl Levin (D-Mich.) is 76. Comedian-impressionist John Byner is 73. CIA Director Leon Panetta is 72. Rock musician Dave Knights (Procul Harum) is 65. Actor Bruce Davison is 64. Actress Kathy Bates is 62. Actress Alice Krige is 56. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer John Elway is 50. Record company chief executive Tony Mercedes is 48. Actress Jessica Hecht is 45. Rock musician Saul Davies (James) is 45. Actress Mary Stuart Masterson is 44. Actor John Cusack is 44. Actor Gil Bellows is 43. Actress-singer Danielle Brisebois is 41. Jazz musician Jimmy Sommers is 41. Actress Tichina Arnold is 39. Actor Alessandro Nivola (nih-VOH'-luh) is 38.

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Answer to previous puzzle

A	U	D	I	O	T	A	P	E	G	O	A	D	
F	R	O	N	E	D	O	N	A	W	G	E	E	
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S	C	R	U	B	S	T	R	E	E	T	A	R	
T	E	E	N	I	S	E	A	S	T	O	R	M	

Newsday Crossword

FOUR PAIRS by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 Baby's father
 - 5 Marathon, for one
 - 9 Pleads
 - 13 Much-admired celebrity
 - 14 Family business owners, perhaps
 - 15 Gem from an oyster
 - 16 ___ store (small family business)
 - 18 Math proportion
 - 19 Before, particularly
 - 20 Lubricates
 - 21 Apartment renter
 - 22 Loathe
 - 24 Cars on rails
 - 25 Campfire residue
 - 26 Supported, as framework
 - 27 Answer an invitation
 - 30 Living-room seating
 - 31 Lab-maze runner
 - 34 Storybook monster
 - 35 Electrical jolt
 - 36 Entice
 - 37 Excessively
 - 38 Ribeye or porterhouse
 - 39 Chop into tiny pieces
 - 40 Portrait painter, e.g.
 - 42 "... three ___ in a tub"
 - 43 Prepares to propose
 - 44 "Quiet!"
 - 48 Breaks up a relationship
- DOWN**
- 10 Depart right after a meal
 - 11 Broad smiles
 - 12 Vending-machine opening
 - 15 Deliver a sermon
 - 17 Like a bad muffer
 - 21 Place for
 - 23 Lacking color
 - 24 Highway hauler
 - 26 Berate, as a movie villain
 - 27 Go bad
 - 28 Self-love
 - 29 Both sides of an issue
 - 30 Game with kings and pawns
 - 32 Rainbow shape
 - 33 Driving-range platform
 - 35 Clown's height-enhancing prop
 - 36 People waiting
 - 38 Beer mugs
 - 39 Honeydew or cantaloupe
 - 41 Plants seeds again
 - 42 Total incorrectly
 - 43 Scoundrel
 - 44 Greet at the door
 - 45 Cheese-topped chip
 - 46 Antique-shop collectible
 - 47 Cairo's country
 - 48 Online auction site
 - 49 Undiluted
 - 52 Sandwich meat
 - 53 "Spring forward" clock setting: Abbr.

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57						58				59		

Wake-up Call: James may not be 'the man' if he joins Bulls

BY COLIN WILSON

AP Columnist

A rumor was floated out on Sunday about LeBron James and Chris Bosh having already decided to head to Chicago in free agency.

A New York Times report said that James will entertain each of his suitors next week anyway as a showing of good faith, despite having already made his decision.

Chicago is lucrative for James, especially if he is joined by Bosh. That would leave him on a team full of all-stars that would undoubtedly be the favorite to win the title next year and for many years after that. Four

"James knows very well that legacies are built on individual greatness as much as they are by teams winning championships."

Colin Wilson,
AP Columnist

top-notch players all under the age of 30 in Joakim Noah, Derrick Rose, LeBron James and Chris Bosh. Add in Luol Deng, James Johnson and Taj Gibson and you've got a great young team ready to make the type of run Michael Jordan made in the 90s but with arguably more talent.

Maybe James would be silly not to take that option. Or would he?

James knows very well that legacies are built on individ-

ual greatness as much as they are by teams winning championships. There would be a great chance that if that Bulls team won the title, that he wouldn't even be the Finals MVP.

He'd have a hard time winning the league MVP because his rebounding and scoring numbers would diminish.

The comparisons to Michael Jordan might change to Scottie Pippen or James Worthy in Chicago. Even if they

add Bosh, without James the Bulls aren't the Eastern favorites. But James puts them over the top. However, if he joins a cast of all-stars, he's taking the chance that he won't always be the man.

However, with a machine more comparable to the Bird-McHale-Parrish Celtics or the Johnson-Worthy-Kareem Lakers, James isn't going to be the man all the time if he does join the Bulls in that role.

Again, this is not to say that James doesn't want that. He has said he wants to win, and that would be the best chance to win without any doubt at all.

But HOW does he want to win? That's the real question.

There's no doubt James couldn't always handle the weight of Cleveland's title drought. He showed his frustration about the expectations that were put on him by fans and even people in the organization.

After the team's 2007 playoff run, it was clear that they were one big piece away from legitimacy.

WVU doctors: Chris Henry had chronic brain injury before death

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — Cincinnati Bengals receiver Chris Henry suffered from a chronic brain injury that may have influenced his mental state and behavior before he died last winter, West Virginia University researchers say.

The doctors had done a microscopic tissue analysis of Henry's brain that showed he suffered from chronic traumatic

encephalopathy.

Neurosurgeon Julian Bailes and California medical examiner Bennett Omalu, co-directors of the Brain Injury Research Institute at WVU, were to publicly announce their findings Monday afternoon alongside Henry's mother, Carolyn Lee Henry.

Her 26-year-old son died in December, a day after he came out of the back of a pickup truck

his fiancée was driving near their home in Charlotte, N.C. It's unclear whether Henry jumped or fell. Toxicology tests found no alcohol in his system, and an autopsy concluded he died of numerous head injuries, including a fractured skull and brain hemorrhaging.

But Bailes, team doctor for the Mountaineers and a former Pittsburgh Steelers physician, said

it's easy to distinguish those acute traumatic injuries from the underlying condition he and Omaha found when staining tiny slices of Henry's brain.

Bailes and fellow researchers believe chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or CTE, is caused by multiple head impacts, regardless of whether those blows result in a concussion diagnosis. A number of

studies, including one commissioned by the NFL, have found that retired professional football players may have a higher rate than normal of Alzheimer's disease and other memory problems.

Bailes said Henry was only 26, and neither NFL nor WVU records show he was diagnosed with a concussion during his playing career.

CTE carries specific

neurobehavioral symptoms, Bailes said — typically, failure at personal and business relationships, use of drugs and alcohol, depression and suicide.

Although he was a vital part of the Bengals' offense as a rookie, he ended that season with an arrest for marijuana possession. After a playoff loss to Pittsburgh, he was arrested on a gun charge in Florida.

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Saturday, July 3rd

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Schedule Of Events:

5:00 P.M. ~ Gates Open at Amphitheater	8:00 P.M. ~ Flag Ceremony
5:00 P.M. ~ Food and Novelty Booths Open	8:25 P.M. ~ Symphony Concert
6:00 P.M. ~ Performance by Sister City's Performers.	9:25 P.M. ~ Video Presentation Recognizing
6:45 P.M. ~ Performance by Los Greengos	Servicemen & Women
7:50 P.M. ~ Welcome and Announcements	9:45 p.m. ~ Fireworks Display

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