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FRIDAY

JULY 2, 2010



VOLUME 105, NUMBER 178

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Pops going inside

Threat of rain changes plans for holiday event

By **JOHN A. MOSELEY**
 Managing Editor

Mother Nature has thrown organizers the annual Pops in the Park event set for Saturday a major league curve.

Each year, Pops in the Park, which combines an evening of music with Howard County's largest fireworks show, draws more than 10,000 spectators to the Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater.

However, with weather forecasts calling for continued rain today and Saturday, members of the organizing committee were forced to hold an emergency meeting this morning.

The result of that meeting is that the Big Spring Symphony and Orchestra's concert of patriotic music, as well as the opening acts of a mariachi band and folklorico dancers from Big Spring's sister city, San Miguel el Alto in Jalisco, Mexico, and the return of local band Greenegos will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on Howard College's campus.

The committee voted to delay its annual fireworks show until July 16 and hold it in conjunction with the "Under West Texas Skies" event held by KWES-TV.

The cost of this year's show, particularly now that it's being divided into two parks, hasn't been trimmed any. The committee still plans to spend about \$40,000 on both Saturday's concert and the later fireworks show.

Sadly, fund-raising efforts are still short of where the committee would like.

"We're still below what we have been in the past, financially," said Jan Hansen, chairman of the Pops organizing committee.

As of Friday morning, the committee had only received about \$30,000 in donations.

"Of course, we'd already announced that we had some money in reserve, so we'll be OK, but we're still needing donations."

In addition, Saturday night's



HERALD file photo
The annual fireworks display in Big Spring has been moved to July 16 because of the threat of rain Saturday. Other activities will be held this weekend, but moved from Comanche Trail Park to Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Sister city group here from Mexico

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Dignitaries from Big Spring's Mexican sister city San Miguel el Alto are expected to arrive in the Crossroads area today, as municipal officials get ready to roll out the red, white and blue carpet this July 4 holiday.

According to Big Spring City Manager Gary Fuqua, city officials from San Miguel el Alto will spend the next several days touring different facilities in the local area.

"We plan to take them around to several of the businesses and show them the different operations we have here in Big Spring," Fuqua said. "We're going to take them on tours of Western Container and the VA Medical Center. We're also going to give them a taste of the local history by tour-

Local dignitaries made a trip to the Mexican city last year, while this week's trip will be the second year in a row San Miguel el Alto officials have traveled to Big Spring to share in the annual Pops in the Park Independence Day celebration.

See **SISTER**, Page 3

Raindrops keep falling...

☐ Rainfall is forecast through the weekend for the Crossroads area.

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

It's been a soggy week so far for local residents, and even more precipitation may be on the way, weather officials say.

Moist air fronts from the Gulf of Mexico and the Gulf of California have combined to drop up to four inches of rain in Howard County the past seven days, said Brian Curran, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service office in Midland.

Rainfall totals for the past week have been spotty across Howard County, ranging from a quarter-inch in the west-central portion of the county to four inches in Big Spring.

What can't be argued, however, is that this is

turning into a wet year for the area. Curran said NWS totals for Big Spring show that 9.94 inches of rain have fallen on the city this year, compared to 7.68 of rain for the entirety of 2009.

"In other words, (Big Spring has) received more rain in the first six months of this year than it did for the entire 12 months of 2009," he noted.

While the increased rainfall has certainly been welcome by most county residents, there's a chance that Mother Nature just might rain on this area's holiday celebrations.

"It looks like there's going to be moisture hanging around the area for the next few days," Curran said. "Howard County will have a likely chance of thunderstorms and showers pretty much every day through

See **RAIN**, Page 3



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Subsurface moisture is considered the likely cause of a small sinkhole that appeared at the intersection of Bluebonnet and Rosemont streets this past weekend.



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Obituaries

Virgil William Bebee

Virgil William Bebee, 67, of Big Spring died Wednesday, June 30, 2010, in a local hospital after a lengthy illness. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 3, 2010, at Mt. Olive Memorial Park with the Rev. Elwin Collom, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, officiating.

He was born Sept. 26, 1942, in Big Spring, marrying Ila Mae Meester on Feb. 7, 1964. Virgil worked in the oilfield, building refineries and doing maintenance.

Survivors include his wife, Ila Bebee of Big Spring; two daughters and sons-in-law, Carolyn and Remigio Martinez of Antonito, Colo., and Cindy and Johnnie Quintana of Capulin, Colo.; one son, Phillip Wayne Bebee of Texarkana, Ark.; one sister and brother-in-law, Thelma and Wayne Gibbs of Midland; one aunt, Christine Baker of Big Spring; one cousin; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and 49 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles "A.C." Bebee of Big Spring; his mother, Ruby Holt of Davis, Okla.; two brothers, Fredrick Charles Bebee of Sommersville and Marion Bebee of Big Spring; one sister, Velva Marie Williams of Big Spring; and two nephews.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Ethyl Loraine Cason

Ethyl Loraine Cason, 88, of Big Spring died Friday, July 2, 2010, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Terry Tredaway

Terry Tredaway, 54, of Big Spring died Friday, July 1, 2010, at San Angelo Community Medical Center. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- ZACHARY WAYNE HIGHTOWER, 28, of 4700 Boulder Dr. Apt. 506, was arrested Thursday on a charge of abandoning/endangering a child – criminal negligence.
- FORGERY was reported in the 400 block of E. Fourth Street.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 59 inmates at the time of this report.

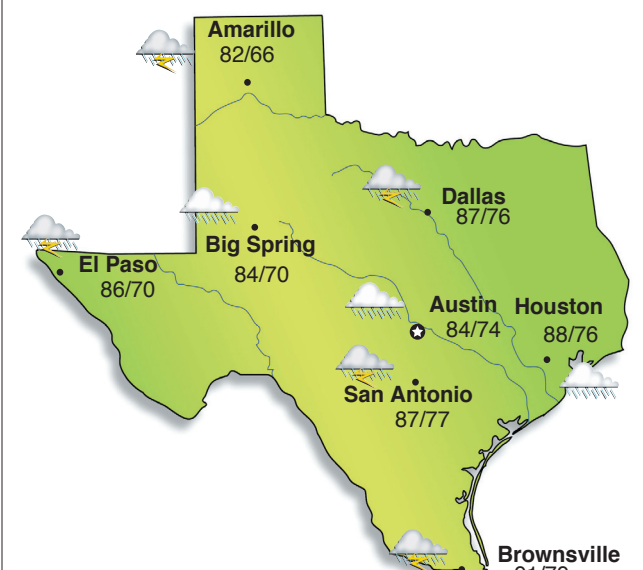
- TY JERMAINE BANKS, 27, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for possession of marijuana – two ounces or less.
- JUAN CARDONA, 24, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction or suspension.
- MICHAEL DALE ANDERSON, 26, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on charges of manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana – two ounces or less, evading arrest or detention, bondsman off bond for possession of marijuana, bondsman off bond for possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.
- ZACHARY WAYNE HIGHTOWER, 28, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of abandoning/endangering a child – criminal negligence.
- JAMIE LEE ATKINSON, 41, was arrested Friday by the HCSO on a charge of disregarding a stop sign.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 7/3	Sun 7/4	Mon 7/5	Tue 7/6	Wed 7/7
84/70 Variable clouds with showers and scattered thunderstorms. High 84F.	82/70 Scattered thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 70s.	86/70 A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 70s.	89/68 A few thunderstorms possible.	85/67 A few thunderstorms possible.
Sunrise: 6:44 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM	Sunrise: 6:44 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM	Sunrise: 6:45 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM	Sunrise: 6:45 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM	Sunrise: 6:46 AM Sunset: 8:56 PM

Texas At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	87	71	t-storm	Kingsville	91	78	t-storm
Amarillo	82	66	t-storm	Livingston	87	72	rain
Austin	84	74	rain	Longview	84	73	t-storm
Beaumont	87	74	rain	Lubbock	80	68	t-storm
Brownsville	91	79	t-storm	Lufkin	88	73	rain
Brownwood	89	73	t-storm	Midland	83	72	rain
Corpus Christi	90	80	t-storm	Raymondville	91	76	t-storm
Corsicana	84	74	t-storm	Rosenberg	88	76	rain
Dallas	87	76	t-storm	San Antonio	87	77	t-storm
Del Rio	87	75	rain	San Marcos	85	75	rain
El Paso	86	70	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	85	74	t-storm
Fort Stockton	84	70	rain	Sweetwater	83	70	t-storm
Gainesville	86	72	t-storm	Tyler	83	72	rain
Greenville	85	73	t-storm	Weatherford	88	72	t-storm
Houston	88	76	rain	Wichita Falls	86	71	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	88	65	sunny	Minneapolis	91	74	windy
Boston	85	65	pt sunny	New York	88	70	mst sunny
Chicago	86	69	sunny	Phoenix	102	76	sunny
Dallas	87	76	t-storm	San Francisco	79	56	sunny
Denver	87	61	t-storm	Seattle	68	53	mst sunny
Houston	88	76	rain	St. Louis	93	75	sunny
Los Angeles	72	59	pt sunny	Washington, DC	90	71	sunny
Miami	87	79	t-storm				

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 1000 block of N. Main Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1900 block of N. Highway 87. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of W. Fourth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 1100 block of Stanford. One person was transported to SMMC.

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Take Note

- New hours for the Chalet, Big Spring State Hospital volunteer run resale shop, will become effective Monday, July 5. New hours are as follows: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Chalet is located at 110 East Second St. Sales from the shop are used to support patients during their stay at the Big Spring State Hospital. Donations of items are welcome.
- Are you tired of hearing your kids say "I'm bored." Well, the Heritage Museum has a fix — Free Summer Saturdays! Each Saturday there is free admission to the Heritage Museum at 510 Scurry St. We are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 267-8255.
- United Blood Services will be in front of Beall's at the Big Spring Mall from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 6. Call

Cody Sneed at the department store, 263-0273, for more information or to schedule an appointment.

• Mobile Meals is in need of volunteers to deliver meals to the home-bound elderly in Big Spring. If you can donate at least one hour a week, call Macaria Cantu at 263-4016 and leave a message.

• One hour a week or one hour a month can make a big difference in someone's life. Whether it's visiting with a patient or simply working in the office, there are many ways you can be a hospice volunteer. Training to begin June 19, June 26, and July 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you can't make these dates, call. We will work around your schedule. To inquire, please call Michelle Coutermarsh, volunteer coordinator for Compass Hospice, at (432) 263-5999 or apply in person at 1003 E. FM 700 in Big Spring. Let's start to make a difference today!

Weekend Events...

- JULY 3 | Pops in the Park.** Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater. Fireworks and the Symphony. Food Vendors open at 5pm, Pre Show at 6pm, Symphony 8:25 and Fireworks at 9:45 pm. Contact the Chamber at 432-263-7641.
 - JULY 6-OCT | Farmers Market Begins.** Every Tuesday and Saturday from 7am-Noon Until October. Shop for fresh produce at the corner of Scurry and 2nd St. Call Sherry @ 263-7047 for info.
 - JULY 9 | Movie in the Park.** The Big Spring Film Society and CVB presents "Raiders of the Lost Ark". Comanche Trail Amphitheater. Movie Begins at Dusk. Concessions on Site. Call 263-8235 and visit www.bigspringfilm.org to learn more about The Big Spring Film Society.
 - JULY 16 | "VOCAL TRASH"** Concert presented by the Big Spring Convention and Visitors Bureau. They will perform at the News West 9 "Under West Texas Skies" at the Amphitheater. Check out their website www.vocaltrash.net to learn more about them. 263-8235 for info.
 - JULY 16 | "Under West Texas Skies from 4-10pm.** Booths, Hot Dog eating contest, Ice cream eating contest, Ugly Dog Contest and a performance from Vocal Trash. News West Nine will be broadcasting live at 4pm, 5pm, 6pm and 10pm. 263-7641.
- Event's Supplied by the Convention & Visitors Bureau**
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-

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State briefs

3 accused in alleged prostitution ring in SE Texas

PORT ARTHUR (AP) — A man and two women who have his name tattooed on their necks have been indicted on organized crime charges after allegedly running a prostitution ring in the Port Arthur area.

A Jefferson County grand jury indicted the trio on charges after an undercover sex offense investigation. The arrests were announced Thursday.

Investigators tracked the ring in part by using coupons, allegedly advertising the operation, showing scantily clad women.

Groves City Marshal Jeff Wilmore says it was a “very flamboyant, in your face lifestyle.”

Engaging in organized criminal activity is a felony and can bring a sentence of up to 20 years in prison.

Blind? NE Texas man convicted in VA benefits

TEXARKANA (AP) — A federal jury in Texarkana has convicted a Mount Pleasant man of fraud over decades of veterans benefits for blindness.

No sentencing date was immediately set Thursday for 60-year-old Jim Bob Shipp, who remains free.

Shipp faces up to 10 years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000 on each of seven fraud-related counts. He also could be ordered to repay more than \$800,000.

The Texarkana Gazette reported Friday that prosecutors played surveillance video of Shipp driving a pickup and mowing his lawn. Shipp, who complained of vision trouble while in the Marines, was discharged in 1970 with a 10 percent disability rating. He reported his disability rating, leading to more benefits, reached 100 percent in 1987.

The VA in 2009 changed Shipp’s rating to 30 percent, retroactive to 1974.

Molestation claims target late Houston priest

HOUSTON (AP) — A lawsuit by a former Houston family alleges four members were molested by a Roman

Catholic priest in the 1970s.

The Rev. Lawrence Peguero died in 2000 at age 79. The Houston Chronicle reported Friday that Peguero formerly was at Our Lady of St. John Catholic Church in Houston.

Family attorney John Sloan Jr. of Longview says the molestation allegations involve four relatives who are now adults, one man and three women.

The lawsuit filed Wednesday against the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston seeks unspecified compensation.

Archdiocese spokeswoman Jenny Faber says an attorney for the family complained about Peguero in 2007. Church-sponsored counseling was offered, but the plaintiffs declined. Faber had no further comment.

South Texas quickly dries out after Hurricane Alex

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Shelters emptied and flooded streets receded Thursday after Hurricane Alex harmlessly swiped Texas and let the Rio Grande Valley escape with a mostly mild test run barely a month into the Atlantic hurricane season.

Alex dissipated Thursday night after having been downgraded to a tropical storm earlier in the day as it moved westward across northern Mexico. It made landfall late Wednesday as the earliest Category 2 storm in more than 40 years, but spared Texas with little more than soaking thunderstorms.

“It was a great drill,” said Johnny Cavanos, Cameron County’s emergency management coordinator.

No injuries or major damage were reported, and pumps sucked out high water in only a few remaining areas by Thursday morning. Authorities said low-lying colonias — slapdash and unincorporated border communities frequently without public utilities — stood up well to Alex.

The storm dumped 9 to 11 inches of rain in the Brownsville area, but the intermittent punches of Alex’s spinning outer bands gave the flood-prone Rio Grande Valley time to recede between lashes of soaking downpours and gusts that reached 66 mph.

That saved south Texas the devastating floods brought by Hurricane Dolly in 2008.

SISTER

Continued from Page 1

ing the Hangar 25 Air Museum, Heritage Museum and Vietnam Memorial.

“They have also expressed a desire to tour some of the municipal facilities and buildings, as well. So we’ll show them around and try to give them a feel how our city administration works. We’re really excited to be hosting them and sharing our city with them.”

Local dignitaries made a trip to the Mexican city last year, while this week’s trip will be the second year in a row San Miguel el Alto officials have traveled to

Big Spring to share in the annual Pops in the Park Independence Day celebration.

According to Fuqua, the trip to the Mexican sister city opened his eyes to some of the differences in how cities are run on the other side of the Rio Grande.

“Their system of government is very interesting. It’s very different from what we have here in Big Spring,” Fuqua said. “When the mayor is elected in San Miguel el Alto — and they call him the president — the entire city government changes. He brings in all new people for the administration. Unfortunately, there are sometimes some major differences in priorities between the different

administration, so you run the risk of having projects abandoned before they are completed, something they showed us examples of while we were there.”

Several Mexican officials making the journey to the Crossroads area this week will be taking the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum stage to provide entertainment during the revamped Pops in the Park, according to city officials.

“There will be four people coming to perform during Pops in the Park,” Fuqua said. “They are expected to be on stage between 6 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. during the event. There were actually several more dancers and entertainers that were expected

to take part, but there were some problems with visas. However, we’re very excited to see the performers that were able to make the trip.”

And while the dignitaries arriving today will only have a few days to spend in Big Spring — city officials say they are expected to head back to Mexico July 5 — at least one of them has already spent more than a week in the city for training purposes.

“Victor Cornejo, who is the fire chief for the city of San Miguel el Alto, came early to take part in some fire training with the Big Spring Fire Department,” Fuqua said. “Sometime back we were able to-

nate some of our old fire equipment we couldn’t use anymore to their fire department, and he came early so he could get some training with it. He’s also made some runs with the firefighters here and seems rather impressed with the systems they use. It’s been very educational for everyone involved.”

San Miguel El Alto is a town and municipality located in Jalisco, central-western Mexico. The municipality covers an area of approximately 580 square kilometers and, as of 2005,

had a total population of 26,971. The municipality includes the town of San José de los Reynoso.

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

RAIN

Continued from Page 1

Sunday.”

Aside to the moisture already in the area, officials are anticipating remnants of Hurricane Alex, which struck the northern Mexico coast Wednesday night, to pass through this area in the next day or two, increasing the chance of more rainfall.

The forecast for Saturday, which will feature holiday parades in Coahoma and the Highland addition of Big Spring, as well as the annual Pops in the Park celebration, calls for a 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms and locally heavy rainfall, Curran said.

“And there’s at least

a slight chance of thunderstorms through the middle of next week,” he added. “Although we expect it to taper off after Sunday.”

Heavy rain increases the chances of flash flooding in the area, but no severe weather warnings are in effect at this

time, he said.

reporter@bigspringherald.com

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at

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Fri.: 1:20 4:20 7:20 10:10	Fri.: 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:20
Sat.: 1:20 4:20 7:20 10:10	Sat.: 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:20

The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG-13)	Toy Story 3 (G)
Fri.: 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00	Fri.: 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50
Sat.: 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00	Sat.: 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50

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Pastor

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	Wednesday Service.....7:00p.m.

EDITORIAL

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

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- Big Spring Independent School District students on showing improvement over previous years following the latest round of Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) standardized testing. Preliminary TAKS information released this month show that BSISD students, on average, scored 77 percentage points better in 2009-2010 than during the previous school year.

- Local residents Thomas Tafuro, Liz Watson, Janet Wolfe, Julie Bailey, Larry Hollar, Steve Campbell, Spencer Wolfe, Craig Bailey, Brad Burt, Richard Cauley, Stan Parker, Josh Hamby, Deede Cauley and Bo Fryar, all of who attended the recent Texas State Republican Convention.

- Members of the local VA Medical Center's employees association and other local residents that participated in the Operation Soldier Holiday and will be shipping 300 gift boxes to U.S. service personnel during the Fourth of July weekend. The gift boxes contain gifts ranging from CDs and DVDs to personal items like toothbrushes and wash cloths.

- All the dignitaries from Big Spring sister city in Mexico, San Miguel el Alto, who are visiting the Crossroads area this weekend, and for the second year have plans to share in the annual Pops in the Park celebration at the Comanche Trail Park Amphitheater on Saturday night.

- State Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, who Wednesday was named to the Senate Select Committee on Redistricting by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and will serve as its chairman. Seliger represents the 31st Senatorial District that includes Big Spring.

- Gerald McCasland, who was honored with a reception June 22 as the Hangar 25 Air Museum Veteran of the Month for June. McCasland, who retired with the rank of master sergeant, served in the U.S. Airforce from 1953 to 1974 as an airplane and helicopter mechanic.

- Newly installed Greater Big Spring Rotary officers Malinda Flenniken, Shelly Smith, Debbye Valverde, Debbie Wegman, Richard Sanders, Debbie Green, Keith Graumann, Amy Vidal and Troy Tompkins.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we work toward Your end, Lord, throughout our life.

Amen

The heavens declare ...

If you happen to be outside at around 10:15 tonight, you can look nearly straight up and see a horseshoe shaped constellation named Corona. No, it's not a giant bottle of Mexican beer in the heavens — Corona represents a crown.

I have spent many years stretching my neck back as I gawked through the midnight sky at what shines from above. For a guy who loves to map out things, gazing at the stars is a perfect lifetime hobby. But for me, being a Jesus freak and a bible thumper, I can't help but see the hand of God as He shows off one more time, and tells His amazing stories.

A crown represents dominion, reward and honor. God promises each one of us a crown — in fact, He promises us five different kinds of crowns. If you will allow me to be a teacher in this column, I want to show them to you.

There is the incorruptible crown: 1 Cor. 9:24,25. This crown is given to believers who faith-

fully run the race. Run whatever race God has set out for you, and be the best you can be for God. You've got to know He sees you, and even though what you are going through is only temporary, your reward is not.

Then, there is the crown of life: James 1:12. For those believers who endure trials, tribulations and severe suffering, even unto death. Rev. 2:8-11. This crown is also referred to as the martyr's crown. You need to know God hates suffering and rewards people who stick with Him even when it doesn't feel good to do so.

There is the crown of righteousness: 2 Tim. 4:8. When God honors you and puts this crown on your head, He is saying there is nothing wrong between you and me. The Brewer is a big fan of this one.

There is also the crown of glory: 1 Pet. 5:1-4, and the crown of rejoicing: 1 Thess. 2:19, 20. & Dan 12:3. Both of these bad boys are connected to ministry and our willingness to advance the Kingdom and the King's agenda.

All of heaven has an amazing culture of honor. God gives us crowns, and we get to throw them back at His feet. He makes us powerful, and we get to sing songs that say, "all power

belongs to you." It's just really cool.

One of the ways we bring Heaven to Earth is that we become honorable people who honor the people next to us. We should make a big deal out of other people's sacrifices. We should bless other people and recognize how they triumphed in the midst of suffering.

There is a crown in the heavens tonight. The Texas night sky will be lit up with all kinds of God stories this evening, and one of them is the promise of a crown.

I double dog dare you to go outside, take a look up and give a big smile back to the One who is smiling on you.

Even the Bible says to look up be watchful because your redemption gets closer every day.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard." — Psalms 19:1-3

To contact the the Rev. Troy Brewer, go to his web sites at www.opendoorministries.org or at www.troybrewer.com



TROY
BREWER



'What if's' and an old shoe

Uncle Mort, my 97-year-old kin down in the thicket, sometimes goes a "fer piece" on trails where rabbits fear to tread. When his fascination and imagination are revved up, his mind whirls into nooks and crannies not found on maps.

"Last week, he was spinning enough cobwebs for a ten-year spider crop, leaving me to do all the chores without a lick of help," Aunt Maude fretted.

A tiny news item caught his eye; his mind shifted into "what if" gears.

The headline hooked him like a catfish after dough bait: "World's Oldest Leather Shoe Found in Armenian Cave."

"I thought I had old shoes," he laughed. "But compared to that one, mine are brand new."

He had a hard time visualizing a 5,500-year-old shoe that predated the pyramids by a thousand years. Mort's prattle about the discovery heightened. When he mentioned hitch-hiking to Armenia, Maude told him to "stuff it." He spoke of buying the shoe, then organizing a needle-in-a-haystack search to find its mate. "No telling what a pair of ancient shoes would be worth," he reasoned.

Had it stopped there, he might not have been banished to the barn for continuance of his pipe-dreaming.

"This could even make saddle

soap a hot item," he added. "I've got a trailer load I bought for a song years ago. News of leather hanging around this long, coupled with budgets crimped by the recession, could have folks 'saddle-soapin' shoes they even forgot they own," he grinned.

Then he thought about how he might react the next time he's labeled "common as an old shoe." He wasn't sure if he'd smack 'em upside the head or extend thanks for recognizing his caveman lineage.

Mort's dreaming didn't end there. He imagined ad tie-ins to Buster Brown shoes and stock purchases of Mother Goose rhymes. "Genealogists will come out of the woodwork to trace the oldest woman ever to live in a shoe," he joked.

Maude, gathering eggs nearby, realized that Mort's babbling was unfair to the horses and cows. "They probably hate his prattle, too," she thought.

She decided to try to get his mind off the subject with an old hiccup remedy. Maude reminded him that the 6 o'clock news had begun on TV.

They watched President Obama signing a document; Maude wondered about the BIC letters on his pen.

"My guess is, the letters stand for 'Because I Can,'" Mort cackled.

At bedtime, Maude carefully hid the newspaper clipping about the old shoe. "Out of sight, out of mind," she figured.

The next morning, she got up first, like always, to prepare a wonderful breakfast — the kind Mort always claims to be

"as good as he ever lapped a lip over."

Featured are mouth-watering biscuits the size of lily pads, made from scratch, of course. He also loves the sausage patties, eggs and butter she churned a few days earlier — all of this topped off by a final biscuit oozing rivulets of butter and blackberry jam.

"I eat it as fast as I can," he explains. "If I think about it too much, my mouth starts watering, and I don't want to dilute it none." He pours another cup of coffee, insisting "It don't take much water to make good coffee."

After the repast, they retreat to cane-bottom chairs on the front porch, about the time the sun's shadow hits IX on the sun dial.

Maude, her mind in yesteryear mode, starts talking about doctors' endorsement of running barefoot. Then she makes an unlikely proposition: "Want to race to the mailbox?"

He does, and off they go, dust flying down the 100-yard path. They arrive at exactly the same time, laughing heartily. They wiggle their toes in a bed of mint; he tears off a sprig for afternoon tea.

Mort and Maude, hand in hand, walk slowly back to the house, humming "I got shoes, you got shoes, all of God's children got shoes."

Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker living in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Send inquiries/comments to newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Website: www.speakerdoc.com.

Angel Food menu

Angel Food order dates for July begin today. Orders will be taken until 6 p.m. today and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. You can also order next Friday and Saturday, July 9-10, at the same hours. Orders are taken at North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church, located at 2792 N. Birdwell Lane.

Delivery will from from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. July 24. Cash, money orders and Lone Star Cards are accepted as payment when the order is placed. You can also order online at angelfoodministries.com

Signature Box, \$30
4.5 lb. whole chicken; 28 oz. cooked meat loaf with tomato sauce; 2 lb. lasanga with meat sauce; 1 lb. lean ground beef; four 6-oz. hamburger patties with cheese; 12-in. supreme pizza, 1 lb. all-meat hot dogs; 2 lb. frozen vegetables; 1 lb. baby carrots; 15 oz. baked beans; 6.5 oz. skillet meal helper; 1 head cabbage, 11 oz. breakfast cereal, 32 oz. shelf stable 2 percent milk; dozen eggs; dessert.

Senior Convenience Meals (fully cooked), \$28
Fish sticks, rice/bean blend, broccoli and carrots; Boneless pork pattie, bbq sauce, sweet potatoes, peas and carrots; Red beans and rice, smoked sausage, carrots, brussels sprouts; Meat lasagna, carrots, green beans; ?Chicken parmesan, spaghetti, corn/red pepper blend, zucchini; Roaster chicken, red potatoes, lima beans, carrots/celery blend; Salisbury steak, graqv, red potatoes, green pea/carrot blend, brussels spouts; Swedish meatballs, noodles, yellow squash/onions, brussels sprouts; Country herbed chicken, mashed potatoes, green peas, lima bean/red pepper blend; assorted des-

serts.
Allergen-Free Box, \$23
1 lb. breaded chicken breast chunks; 1 lb. breaded formed chicken tenders; 1 lb. breaded cubed steak; 2 lb. breaded chicken drumsticks.
After School Box, \$24
1.5 lb. fish sticks; 1.5 oz mini corn dogs; 1 lb. popcorn chicken; two 6.5 oz. peplperoni pizza; two 2.6 oz. peanut butter and jelly sandwiches; 14 oz. stuffed bread sticks; six mini moon pies; two 3.7 oz. twin cheeseburgers; two 2.2 oz. PBJ or Graham wafer.

Fruit and Vegetable Box, \$16
2 red apples, 6 caramel apple dip, 3 Granny Smith apples, 3 pears, 3 navel oranges, 6-pk. raisins, 8 oz. trail mix, 1 lb. mini carrots, 4 chewy granola bars.

Special No. 1, \$23
Four 10 oz. ribeyes; four 8 oz. sirloin strips.

Special No. 2, \$22
Two 12 oz. New York Strips, four 8 oz. chopped beef steaks, four 8 oz. boneless pork steaks, 1 lb. chicken sausage.

Special No. 3, \$21
10 lb. quick frozen chicken breasts.

Special No. 4, \$21
3 lb. potatoes, 1 head lettuce, 1 lb. plums, 16 oz. salad dressing, 5 oz. salad croutons, 4 ears corn, 2 lb. bag onions, 1 large cantaloupe, 1 large honeydew melon, 4 lemons, 1 pineapple, 1 lb. carrots.

Special No. 5, \$21
3 lb. split cornish game hens, 2.5 lb. split IQF chicken breasts, 1 lb. smoked sausage, 1.5 lb. country fried steak, 1 lb. broccoli florets, 1.3 oz. frozen fruit medley dessert.

Local veteran speaks fondly of 21 years in the U.S. Air Force

By JOE S. HAYS

Special to the Herald
MSgt. Gerald McCasland of Big Spring, Hangar 25 Air Museum's Veteran of the Month for June, spoke with fondness of his 21 years in the military service during a recent reception in his honor.

McCasland, originally from Levelland, was supported by family members, friends and past veterans of the month recipients in the museum's Briefing Room on June 22.

Some of the planes McCasland worked on and flew in included the T-33 Shooting Star, T-37 Tweet, T-38 Talon, F-86B Sabre, F-100 Super Sabre, F-104 Starfighter, KC-135 Stratotanker, B-29 Superfortress and B-52 Superfortress. After hearing McCasland's description of his experiences as a crew chief in 69 degrees below zero in Fairbanks, Alaska, and the jungle heat of Thailand and Vietnam, there was no doubt in the audiences' minds that he was a man who made the aircraft fly.

Questions from the audience focused on the time McCasland spent near Alamogordo, N.M., where he observed many new types of missiles being tested, witnessed early



Courtesy photo
MSgt. Gerald McCasland speaks during a reception held in his honor at Hangar 25 Air Museum.

drone aircraft experiments and saw the first man ride in a rocket sled. Much of McCasland's work in the Pacific and Southeast Asia involved troubleshooting aircraft engine problems.

A proud moment for McCasland was when he was put in charge of running the engine shop at Webb Air Force Base, where he had about 100 military personnel and civilian workers under his su-

pervision. When asked how he ended up coming back to Webb, McCasland explained he was given a choice of Minot, N.D., or Big Spring. Having experienced the cold of Alaska, he chose Big Spring.

McCasland retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1974.

Joe S. Hays is administrator with the Hangar 25 Air Museum. He can be reached at 264-1999.

SUPPORT GROUPS

MONDAY
• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.
• Diabetes Support Group meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. Medical lectures and information for Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetics and caregivers. Call 267-3806 for information.
• Take Off Pounds Sensibly

(TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

TUESDAY
• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministeries, 1209 Wright St.
• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for fam-

ily members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

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

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

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Church News

Signal Mountain

Emmaus Community

The Signal Mountain Emmaus Community meets at Spring Creek Fellowship, 501 Birdwell Lane, on the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Babe Chick meeting is at 6:30 p.m.

The next meeting is July 8. Please mark your calendar.

At this month's meeting we will honor the 2005 Walks: Women's Walk 38, Susan Skelton; Men's Walk 39, Joe Wennik; and Women's Walk 40, Kay Pittman. Please plan to attend. Bring a dish and join us at 6 p.m. for a pot-luck fellowship.

For more information, see our website at www.signal-emmaus.org

First United Methodist

That energetic and inspirational troop called the United Methodist Army has come and gone. We will long remember all those fresh young faces as they worked, played and worshipped. Thanks for the blessing.

In less than two weeks our junior high age youth with join forces with those from First Methodist Midland for ROTC (Reaching Others Through Christ). They will be working the week of July 12 in Floydada. On Sunday night, July 11, we will give them a big send off in Garrett Hall with hot dogs and drinks furnished by the Family and Parish Life Committee. The congregation is asked to bring desserts, chips and whatever they like to go with their "dogs."

Meanwhile this weekend will be filled with all sorts of Independence Day celebrations. Please include attending church as part of your family's observance of the holiday. At First Methodist we will have a patriotic service and special stirring music provided by Music Director Eddie Vandewalker and choir. Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. and are led by our pastor, the Rev. Sharon Wiese. Come join us in giving thanks to God for the freedoms we enjoy in this, "the land of the free."

Wednesday there will be no noon Bible study and lunch. However, Wednesday night SAM, that's our Senior Adult Ministry, will observe our Annual Air Conditioned Independence Celebration with gourmet hot dogs and all the trimmings in Garrett Hall beginning at 6 p.m. There will be food, fun, fellowship and a special presentation of patriotic music.

Just around the corner, beginning July 19, it's Vacation Bible School. The kids will have a wonderful biblical experience, as their imagination takes them to Egypt to join Joseph in his travels. Becky Woodall and Joyce Willis are still needing some help in various areas, please give them a call.

A new evening Bible study, entitled "Bait of Satan," began this week and there is still time to join in this month long study being taught by our pastor. This study helps to empower you to stay free from temptation and have a deeper relationship with God.

There's lots going on down at Fourth and Scurry. We're working hard to do the Lord's will. We want you come join us; we're First Methodist, where

families grow in Christ.

First Presbyterian, Coahoma

The friendly folks at First Presbyterian Church, Coahoma, invite anyone to come and worship with us. We meet at 11 a.m. Sunday to share the scriptures, sing, pray and worship, led by Commissioned Lay Pastor Tom Koger.

Tom, along with Big Spring's pastor, Craig Holstedt, continues to have a Bible study on the week's lectionary in the library of First Presbyterian, Big Spring, on Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. Everyone from both churches, and anyone else who is interested, is invited to this informal study.

Our church is invited to the multi-generational Vacation Bible School combining the talents and personnel of First Presbyterian, Big Spring; First Christian; and St. Mary's Episcopal churches. The event will be in the evenings Tuesday through Friday, July 27-30. Everyone, children through adults, is urged to attend.

The lectionary for Sunday is II Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6:1-16; and Luke 10:1-11, 16-20. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated during the worship service.

Chapel of Faith

You are invited to attend Chapel of Faith church, located at the corner of E. 14th and Goliad streets, as we learn more about God's Word and His love for each of us. Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. each week, and at 5 p.m. Sunday, there's singing and Bible study of the book of Mark.

Pastor Scott Willis will be preaching this Sunday. His message is entitled "Bear One Another's Burdens," based on scripture from Galatians 6:1-16.

Encouraging words: "Beautiful thoughts hardly bring us to God until they are acted upon. No one can have a true idea of right until he does it." — William R. Inge

We encourage you to attend the church of your choice. However, if you are looking for a church home, we invite you to visit the Chapel of Faith. You will be warmly welcomed! Remember, God loves each of us so much that He sent His son to die for our sins that we might live for Him now and with Him eternally.

Baptist Temple

This Sunday, Dean Thomas will preach during our morning worship service. There will be no evening service so as to allow everyone to celebrate the holiday with family and friends.

Men's breakfast will be Wednesday at 7 a.m. All men are welcome to attend.

Our weight-loss support-group, SPEED (Shedding Pounds Eagerly Every Day), meets on Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

Our 12-Step Recovery group, led by Dean Thomas, meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the church.

Our Vacation Bible School will be July 12-15. The theme will be "High Seas Expedition." You may register your child by calling the church of

Happy Birthday, Uncle Sam

In just a few days, we will be celebrating Uncle Sam's birthday again. If the legendary white-haired uncle

had been present for the signing of the Declaration of Independence, he would be 234 years old by now. His red and white striped pants and blue topcoat would be getting a little threadbare. Even his star-spangled hat would be showing its age.

Although Uncle Sam has been the personification of the United States longer than most of us have been alive, his origin is a bit dubious. However, one popular story traces the stone-faced character back to the War of 1812. It seems that Samuel Wilson, a New-York meat packer known to his friends as Uncle Sam, became a subcontractor to Elbert Anderson to pack meat for the army. Together they packaged military

rations during the war, stamping their goods with the initials E.A.—U.S.

When asked what the initials stood for, one worker was reported to have quipped, "I don't know unless it stands for Elbert Anderson and Uncle Sam."

According to tradition, at that moment Uncle Sam became synonymous with the United States, and Samuel Wilson, a meat packer from Troy, New York, was catapulted into fame.

While many have tried to discredit this account, Uncle Sam is here to stay. Whether he is the embodiment of Samuel Wilson or not doesn't matter. Clad in red, white, and blue, Uncle Sam will be parading the streets of American again this year. His face, made famous by artist James Montgomery Flagg in 1916 when it was published on the cover of a magazine, will continue to be seen on posters and billboards across the nation.

We sometimes shudder at Uncle Sam's demanding look and pointed finger

and wince when he demands more tax money. We tremble at the thought of another draft and that Uncle Sam may still want our young men and women for yet another war. But simultaneously, we turn to Uncle Sam for protection and security.

Although he never knew our Uncle Sam, the apostle Paul had a right perspective on government. He wrote, "Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God" (Romans 13:1 NASB).

This year as we honor Uncle Sam on his birthday, perhaps we should look beyond the stern-faced, benevolent patriot we have created to the Creator who has allowed us to have the freedom that we enjoy as Americans. "Happy Birthday," Uncle Sam, and thank God for allowing you to stand.

Bonnie Wheat is an author and a minister's wife. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net.



BONNIE WHEAT

rice or clicking a link on our website. We will also have a VBS Carnival on Sunday, July 18.

You are always welcome here. Sundays, we have classes for all ages starting at 9:45 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesdays, we have groups for all ages starting at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 267-8287 or check us out on the web at btcbig-spring.org.

First Presbyterian, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study met Wednesday at 5:17 p.m. The choir will not meet on Wednesdays until July 28.

The choir members will join the congregation for the next few Sundays.

Plans are under way for a family Vacation Bible School in cooperation with First Christian Church and Saint Mary's Episcopal Church in July. Please save the evenings of Tuesday through Friday, July 27-30, for this multi-generational summer-time event.

Sarah Burch will provide refreshments for "Take Ten" Sunday morning. Jerry Grimes is liturgist. We appreciated having Charlie Boling and Kelly Schaedel as liturgists last Sunday.

See **CHURCH NEWS**, Page 8

Coahoma Freedom Parade & City Park Celebration

Saturday, July 3, 2010
Parade starts at 10:00 a.m.

Park celebration will start immediately after the parade.

Events:

Open & Stock Lawn mower races
\$25.00 entry fee/money prizes

Power Tool Drag races
\$25.00 entry fee/money prizes

Music

Recognition of the following:
Citizen of the Year
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All parade participants need to line up at the Coahoma football parking lot by 9:30 a.m.

For more information call:

Quail Dobbs-394-4000 Coahoma City Hall-394-4287
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The day called Sabbath

When the children of Israel became slaves in Egypt, they were put under cruel taskmasters and forced to work seven days a week with no break.

If they faltered, failed to meet their daily quota of bricks, or stumbled while hauling gigantic stones to build Pharaoh's pyramid, the Egyptian overseer was ever present with the lash and the offenders were severely whipped.

Day after endless day, their exhausted bodies cried out for relief. There was no time to hope, no time to think; there was only backbreaking labor. Then God miraculously set them free from Pharaoh's rule.

Once in the desert, God delivered the Ten Command-

ments to Moses on Mount Sinai. From the beginning, one of the blessings of freedom was a day each week for rest, reflection, creative thought, and worship. They were reminded that their Creator brought forth the glory of creation in six days, and then on the seventh day He rested.

God made it clear that keeping the Sabbath meant no plowing, no gathering, no commerce inside the cities or towns, and no work outside. Their tools were not to be used. God wanted the slaves and their animals to rest.

Consider what the life of a slave was like. It was not so different from what we call burnout today. Our bodies give out under the pressure of being overworked and overstressed. God means for us to have a day of rest. Not doing so violates His commandment.

God's intention for the Sabbath was to be a blessing, not a burden. The Sabbath was

spelled out in detail by the prophet Isaiah, who wrote, "Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. Do not pursue your own interests on that day, but enjoy the day as a delight and honor unto the Lord."

In our culture today, a large percentage of people do not attend church on the Sabbath. They seem to have forgotten that God said to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. What makes this country so extraordinary is the fact that it was solidly founded upon God's laws.

Today, little by little, the courts are stripping away our Christian heritage, and the Sabbath day that America once knew and honored has virtually disappeared.

What blessings can we gain by obeying the fourth commandment of honoring the Sabbath? There is a spiritual benefit that comes when we keep the Sabbath. The Sabbath rest gives us a

perspective on life that can only come when our spirits are lifted, we are focused on Him, and we leave the cares of tomorrow outside.

The One who made us knows that deep in the soul of every person is a void that only He can fill. If that void is not satisfied with the relationship of a loving God, humans will continually search for the missing ingredient. Since we are born of God and created by God, we are in essence, a part of God.

An interesting scientific discovery shows that even when someone loses a limb, such as a hand for instance, the sensation of that limb's presence remains. There are times that, without thought, one would make the move to reach out with the hand even though it is no longer there.

The same holds true for those who try to live their lives apart from God. There is always a void and nothing can change that empty feeling other than a relationship

with one's Maker. There are those today who are forever searching, only to find emptiness at every turn. They say nothing is really wrong, but nothing is really right either.

When we do not take time to make God the center for our lives, our Sabbath becomes just another stress-filled day.

God designed the Sabbath as a day of rest for His family, but many have abused, misused, and ignored God's plan. I believe that is why Americans suffer with more stress than many can handle today.

When we ignore God's plan for our lives, we suffer. Determine to keep one day a week as your own personal Sabbath.

By obeying God's commandment, we will be able to accomplish more in the remaining six days when we are rested than we would in the seven if overly tired and stressed.

God bless.

CHURCH NEWS

Continued from Page 7

In the church nursery, the children ages up to 5 years old will have a "Fourth of July Celebration" from 11 a.m. to noon Sunday.

The lectionary for Sunday is II Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6:(1-6, 7-16; and Luke 9:1-11, 16-20. The Rev. Craig Holstedt will present the sermon. Communion will be celebrated during the worship service.

If you cannot attend worship, listen in on KBST 1490 AM, beginning at 11 a.m. If you wish to have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211. You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website: www.fpcbs.org. There, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Rev. Holstedt.

St. Mary's Episcopal

Everyone is invited to attend worship services at St. Mary's this Sunday. Morning prayer will be held at 10 a.m. this week. We will be meeting in the parish hall.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201 or visit our web site at www.stmarysbst.org. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

Birdwell Lane Baptist

We are in the community to help you in the spiritual needs that you may have. For 68 years we have been a Bible-believing, Bible-preaching, Bible-teaching, missionary-minded, independent Baptist Church — for the winning of souls to Christ, to the edifying of the saints and for the Glory of God — where you are always welcome. Come worship the Lord and hear God's word with us.

We are located at 1512 Birdwell

Lane. Sunday services are at 10:55 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday School is for all ages from pre-K thru adult. Children's Church is during the morning worship for ages 4-12. There is a nursery provided for your little ones, and if you need a ride, call 264-9924 or 267-7157. Midweek service and youth meetings are at 6:30 p.m.

We thank God for America and our freedom. Only two people have died for you, Jesus Christ and the American soldiers. We pray you have a safe Fourth of July holiday.

For further information, call 267-7157 or 267-8214.

Alive in Christ Lutheran

Our motto is "Celebrating and sharing God's love and grace in our lives."

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive in the Kentwood Subdivision in Big Spring. Our phone number is 264-7818. Our website is www.lutheransonline.com/aliveinchristbstx. We would love to have you join us for church on Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday School at 10:15 a.m.

Pastor Carroll Kohl will be preaching this Sunday. The sermon text will be from Amos 9:7 and Acts 17:24, 26, 27 with the topic: God, the Creator of Nations.

Angela Newton is our organist. This week's acolyte will be McKenna Alsbrooks. Our elders are Bobby Roever and Darren Byrd. The liturgy will be read by George von Hassell. The readings are Isaiah 66:10-14, Psalm 66:1-7, Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18 and Luke 10:1-20.

Wednesdays at 6 p.m., come join us and work on our new banners.

The pastoral call committee is still meeting.

A new Bible study titled "The Bible According to Andy Griffith" has begun. Those participating are treated to a very interesting and inspirational class. Bring the whole family and join us for this summer class.

Sunday, we will sing patriotic songs instead of the Bible study. This will give us a chance to think on the importance of our country's history as well as the sacrifices of her military and her citizens. We are extremely blessed to live in our United States of America. May God continue to bless her and us.

There is a possibility of another short study of our Lutheran faith in the works. More details are on the way.

Last Friday, the LWML sponsored a congregational picnic at Bob and Jaunell Roever's home. This chance of fellowship as well as the delicious food was an experience not to be missed. Thank you, Bob and Jaunell, for opening your home.

The LYF (Lutheran Youth Fellowship) is planning a trip to Six Flags on July 8-10. This is the last chance for any interested LYF members to contact Dana Byrd.

Mark your calendars for Sept. 19. We will have our dedication of our building and church property at that time.

Last Sunday, our new church bell and signs were blessed. Thank you to all who have been instrumental in these wonderful and beautiful additions to our church.

If you have not yet received your copy of the 2010 church directory, check your mailboxes.

The Board of Education will not meet the second July 13, but will meet instead on Tuesday, Aug. 10, at 7 p.m. at the church.

Monday, July 12, the LWML will serve refreshments at the VA. The LWML's next meeting will be Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. at the church. The Elders meet Thursday, July 15, at 7 p.m. at the church.

First Church of the Nazarene

Summer days are upon us and God's

love is shining everywhere. First Church of the Nazarene would like to invite you to come bask in the glow of our loving God. At First Church of the Nazarene we strive to love God, love community and love others. Please come join us for one of our uplifting services.

Sunday service begins at 10 a.m. with coffee and donuts in the commons at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday evenings at 4:30, "Each One Disciple One" class is being led by Pastor Tim.

Wednesday evening small groups occur at 6:30.

For more information, contact the church office at 267-7015. You can also visit us on the web at www.nazfamily.org and view a live service. We are also on Facebook and Twitter.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church meets for worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pastor Billy Bates leads each service.

Sunday School for all ages meets at 9:30 a.m. The adult class discussion will be "God's Cosmic Plan," taken from 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:28 and will be led by Jacque Mauch. Nancy Wagner will lead the elementary class.

Bible study is held the first and third Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. We are studying the Book of Acts.

Angel Food orders will be taken today from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Orders will also be taken Friday and Saturday, July 9-10, at the same hours.

North Birdwell Lane United Methodist Church is located at 2702 N. Birdwell and welcome all who wish to witness to God's love through mission to our community.

For more information, please call 267-2203 or 263-2536, if no answer leave a message.

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News in brief

Jobs report arrives as worries grow that recovery may be flaming out

WASHINGTON (AP) — Concerns are rising that the economic rebound is stalling, but a strong jobs report on Friday would go a long way toward assuaging those fears.

Conversely, a report showing private employers failed to create many jobs in June will amplify worries that the recovery is weakening and won't be strong enough to put many of the 15 million unemployed back to work anytime soon.

"The economy is losing some momentum," said Ryan Sweet, senior economist at Moody's Economy.com. "We need to see private hiring really accelerate."

Analysts forecast that employers cut a net total of 110,000 jobs in June, which would be the nation's first loss of jobs in six months. But that figure includes the expected end of about 240,000 temporary census jobs.

Volunteers, boat pilots ready to help clean up Gulf oil but left out

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — BP and the Obama administration face mounting complaints that they are ignoring foreign offers of equipment and making little use of the fishing boats and volunteers available to help clean up what may now be the biggest spill ever in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Coast Guard said there have been 107 offers of help from 44 nations, ranging from technical advice to skimmer boats and booms. But many of those offers are weeks old, and only a small number have been accepted, with the vast majority still under review, according to a list kept by the State Department.

And in recent days and weeks, for reasons BP has never explained, many fishing boats hired for the cleanup have done a lot of waiting around.

A report prepared by investigators with the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform for Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., detailed one case in which the Dutch government offered April 30 to provide four oil skimmers that collectively could process more than 6 million gallons of oily water a day. It took seven weeks for the U.S. to approve the offer.

New health insurance law may mean longer waits in emergency rooms; too few family doctors

CHICAGO (AP) — Emergency rooms, the only choice for patients who can't find care elsewhere, may grow even more crowded with longer wait times under the nation's new health law.

That might come as a surprise to those who thought getting 32 million more people covered by health insurance would ease ER crowding. It would seem these patients would be able to get routine health care by visiting a doctor's office, as most of the insured do.

But it's not that simple. Consider:

- There's already a shortage of front-line family physicians in some places and experts think that will get worse.
- People without insurance aren't the ones filling up the nation's emergency rooms. Far from it. The uninsured are no more likely to use ERs than people with private insurance, perhaps because they're wary of huge bills.
- The biggest users of emergency rooms by far are Medicaid recipients. And the new health insurance law will increase their ranks by about 16 million. Medicaid is the state and federal program for low-income families and the disabled. And many family doctors limit the number of Medicaid patients they take because of low government reimbursements.

Prosecutors: N.Y. suspect spilled Russia spy operation details

NEW YORK (AP) — Within hours of his capture, U.S. prosecutors say, Russian spy suspect Juan Lazaro admitted his name was an alias.

So who is he? Lazaro wasn't saying — not "even for his son," court papers say.

Lazaro's admission — and defiance — was revealed Thursday by federal prosecutors arguing against bail for him, his wife and another couple with children. The U.S. government claims those defendants and seven others were part of a spy ring on assignment to infiltrate America's cities and suburbs for the Russian intelligence service.

Their cover was so deep, "there is no inkling at all that their children who they live with have any idea their parents are Russian agents," Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Farbiarz told U.S. Magistrate Judge Ronald L. Ellis.

Split between House, Senate Democrats slows bill funding Obama's Afghanistan troop surge

WASHINGTON (AP) — A House measure blending money for President Barack Obama's Afghanistan troop surge with last-ditch moves by Democrats to salvage their faltering jobs agenda faces an uphill climb in the Senate.

After long delays, House Democrats muscled the approximately \$80 billion measure to passage Thursday night as their final act before leaving for a weeklong Fourth of July break. But the Senate passed a significantly slimmer measure in May

and it'll take additional weeks to reconcile the differences between the rival chambers of Congress.

It's just the latest disconnect between the battling House and Senate, which also have been unable to approve an extension of unemployment benefits and other economic stimulus steps. Repeated Senate filibusters are chiefly to blame, but Democratic leaders in the House and Senate also have disagreed on strategy and tactics, and long-simmering tensions have reached the boiling point.

House leaders went ahead with Thursday's measure despite ample evidence that they have limited leverage in forcing the Senate to accept the more than \$20 billion in domestic spending add-ons, such as \$10 billion in grants to school districts to avoid teacher layoffs, \$5 billion for Pell Grants to low-income college students and \$700 million to improve security along the U.S.-Mexico border.

No green, no red-white-and-blue spectacular for some towns, cities

WASHINGTON (AP) — Expect fewer booms this July Fourth because of financial busts in some cities and towns.

As many folks pack up picnics and head to see the fireworks this holiday weekend, the skies over a couple-dozen cash-strapped communities will be missing the spectacular crackle of color that Americans associate with the nation's birthday.

Blame the economy.

Cities and towns including Antioch, Calif.; Louisville, Colo.; Akron, Ohio; Stamford, Conn.; and Jersey City, N.J., were forced to pull the plug on their local fireworks shows because of tight budgets.

Blind organization to showcase vehicle that can be driven by blind

WASHINGTON (AP) — Could a blind person drive a car? Researchers are trying to make that far-flung notion a reality.

The National Federation of the Blind and Virginia Tech plan to demonstrate a prototype vehicle next year equipped with technology that helps a blind person drive a car independently.

The technology, called "nonvisual interfaces," uses sensors to let a blind driver maneuver a car based on information transmitted to him about his surroundings: whether another car or object is nearby, in front of him or in a neighboring lane.

Advocates for the blind consider it a "moon shot," a goal similar to President John F. Kennedy's pledge to land a man on the moon. For many blind people, driving a car long has been considered impossible. But researchers hope the project could revolutionize mobility and challenge long-held assumptions about limitations.

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My wife of 18 years left me. The day started out like any other. I got dressed for work, gave her a kiss on the lips and told her, "I love you. See you later." She said, "Love you, too." When I got home, I discovered that she had taken all of her things, plus a few of mine and both of our dogs. She didn't give a reason. She only left a short note saying, "I have to get away. I can't take anymore."



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

She has been gone almost a week, and I haven't heard a word. I know she was a bit depressed after a co-worker accidentally totaled her car. We work in the same office and were around each other 24/7. We did everything together. We had arguments like any other married couple, but I didn't think any of them were serious. The last

one was two weeks ago, but we made up, and I thought we both had gotten over it.

This would be easier to deal with if I didn't still love her with all my heart. I can't sleep or eat. I wish she would call and talk to me so we could work this out. If it means going to a marriage counselor, I'll do it. I'll do anything to get her back. Please help. — Depressed and Confused in Colorado

Dear Colorado: Too much togetherness can be suffocating — small problems are magnified, and things that might be overlooked become intolerable because there is no perspective. We also suspect you may have been somewhat oblivious to your wife's unhappiness. Right now, she needs a little space. If she contacts

you, offer to go for counseling. If she doesn't, ask a relative, mutual friend or co-worker to intercede on your behalf so you can see whether the relationship can be mended.

Dear Annie: We are trying to buy our dad a birthday present. He has four children, all adults, but only one is married.

Here is the dilemma: The gift we have in mind will cost \$300. Does each adult pay the same amount, or are my married brother and his wife considered one? Please tell us the fairest way to split the costs. — Baffled in California

Dear Baffled: There is no definitive rule. In some families, the cost is split according to employment — those with

full-time jobs pay a full share, those with part-time jobs pay half, and those who are unemployed contribute what they can. The best way to do this without rancor is to hold a sibling meeting (include your brother's wife) and reach an agreement about what is fair.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Elaine from California," who said she was inspired by another letter in your column about a woman who couldn't stay sober. She asked if she was too old to change, and her counselor replied, "Is your heart still beating?"

Her story hit me right in my middle. I am 67. I have had three back surgeries and will always have physical lim-

itations. I also live with chronic depression and am overweight. It seems like I have struggled with one or all of these conditions my entire life.

As I get older, I am more and more weary. I have a psychiatrist, a therapist, a good back doctor and the best primary care doctor. And I have asked each of them whether there is any use in thinking I can improve my condition. They all gave me positive answers, but "Elaine's" letter rang a new bell. Even when some parts are broken, there are parts that still work.

Here is one of my favorite quotes for lifting the spirits, from Leonard Cohen:

Ring the bells that still

can ring.

Forget your perfect offering.

There is a crack in everything,

That's how the light gets in. — Ellen in Florida

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@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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Weaver shuts down Rangers, 2-1

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Jered Weaver has put up numbers worthy of All-Star status over the first half of the season. But he's not picturing himself on the mound in the Midsummer Classic in his home park just yet.

"It would be a tremendous honor, it's been a goal of mine since I was 9 years old," he said. "I got my hopes up last year and it didn't quite happen. I felt like I put myself in a position a little bit, but I'm not going to get my hopes up."

Weaver pitched two-hit ball over seven score-

less innings while shutting down Texas slugger Vladimir Guerrero and helping the Los Angeles Angels beat the Rangers 2-1 on Thursday night.

"Those guys are like the Yankees out there," Weaver said. "They got power up and down their lineup."

The second-place Angels — who host the July 13 All-Star game — took two of three from the Rangers, whose AL West lead was reduced to 3½ games — still the largest in the American League. Texas had won seven straight series and lost consecutive

games for the first time since June 6-7 against Tampa Bay and Seattle.

"It's a credit to us that we go out there and take down the hottest team in baseball," Angels center fielder Torii Hunter said.

Weaver (8-3) struck out six and walked two in lowering his ERA to 1.70 in eight home starts. His 124 strikeouts lead the AL, and he has 28 in his last three starts while allowing just three walks.

"He should be an All-Star," Hunter said.

Angels manager Mike Scioscia added, "If he's

not, something's wrong. "He has no fear on the mound. He's going to execute a pitch and live with the consequences."

The right-hander proved the most effective Angels pitcher in the series against Guerrero, keeping him hitless in three at-bats with a walk Thursday. The former Angel went 6 for 8 with three home runs, including a grand slam, and eight RBI in the first two games.

Weaver also contained Josh Hamilton, whose career-high 23-game hitting streak ended with

an 0 for 3 performance that included an intentional walk. Weaver retired 10 in a row during one stretch.

"I was able to control all my pitches and get in on a couple of their big hitters," he said. "Me and (catcher) Jeff (Mathis) had a great game plan going into it and we executed it. I don't think I shook him off maybe one time. We were on the same page all night so it was fun."

Brian Fuentes pitched a perfect ninth to earn his 15th save in 18 chances.

Texas lefty C.J. Wil-

son (6-4) gave up two runs and five hits in 5 2-3 innings, struck out four and walked four in losing for the first time since May 29 at Minnesota.

"They've got a pretty good team and we've got a pretty good team. It's going to come down to pitching and defense all the time, and that's what it came down to tonight," Rangers manager Ron Washington said.

"Weaver was sharp. He went to his off-speed stuff and he was putting

See **RANGERS**, Page 15

Bell has big plans for Coahoma girls basketball

BY ADAM COLEMAN
Sports Editor

For Coahoma's new girls basketball coach and Iraan High School graduate Mitzi Bell, it just doesn't get any better than basketball at the Crossroads.

"West Texas basketball is just different than any other place that I've been," she said. "The speed, the pace, the intensity, it's just different. Coaching basketball out here for 10 years, seeing the difference, I'm ready to get back out there and coach some real basketball."

Coming from Smithville to replace Derek Faught, who left for

Brownfield after two years, Bell will look to build a winner in Coahoma.

Her hire is the latest change just east of Big Spring, where the Bulldogs also are welcoming football coach Trey Gardner for his first season at the helm.

Bell immediately stood out to athletic director Kim Nichols.

"We called some in for interviews and she interviewed great," he said. "I think she'll be great for the position. She's experienced. She has been head girls basketball coach, before she's coached a little bit of everything. I think she'll do an outstanding

job."

Being around many different sports may be a positive for Bell.

At Smithville, she was the head coach of the volleyball team and an assistant softball coach. Her coaching experience before she arrived at Smithville is where her basketball credentials show.

She was head coach at Grape Creek and an assistant at Bastrop and Odessa, both of which are 5A programs. She also was an assistant at Odessa College for the 1997-1998 season.

But coaching at a big program is of no inter-

See **COAHOMA**, Page 15



Kylie Gee takes a shot in Coahoma's game against Tahoka last season. Mitzi Bell was hired on to replace Derek Faught as Coahoma's girls basketball coach. The Iraan High School graduate comes from Smithville to build a winner in Coahoma.

James gets visitors, Rudy Gay gets his big contract

(AP) — Money is flying around in free agency, and LeBron James and the A-listers haven't even started getting paid.

James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh only got visitors Thursday. Rudy Gay got rich.

Gay scored the first big deal of the free agency period, agreeing to a five-year contract with the Memphis Grizzlies that will pay him more than \$80 million, according to a person with knowledge of the negotiations.

While not on the top level of players available, Gay was expected to draw interest from a number of teams. He canceled a planned visit

to Minnesota when the Grizzlies stepped forward with their offer.

James, the head of this year's class and perhaps the most hyped free agent ever, received visits in Cleveland from the New Jersey Nets and New York Knicks. He's set for more in the coming days before deciding where he will play next season.

Wade met with the Chicago Bulls and Nets, Bosh was visited by the Miami Heat and Nets, and both will sit down separately Friday with the Knicks.

In the meantime, deals are getting done around them.

Darko Milicic — drafted right after James and

just before Bosh and Wade with the No. 2 pick in the 2003 draft — agreed to a four-year deal with the Timberwolves. It includes about \$16 million in guaranteed money, despite what's been a disappointing career for the center from Serbia.

Other top names in the class, considered the deepest free agent pool ever, include Amare Stoudemire, Dirk Nowitzki and Carlos Boozer.

But the news came from lesser players, such as the five-year, \$32 million contract Drew Gooden agreed to with the Milwaukee Bucks, and the \$34 mil-

See **NBA**, Page 15

Nowitzki in NYC with Jason Kidd

DALLAS (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki heard about fans for thousands of fans to meet him at the airport in Dallas to beg him stay with the Mavericks, so instead he spent the first day of free agency in New York.

Meeting with the Knicks? Or former coach Avery Johnson and the Nets?

Nope. Just hanging out with Mavs point guard Jason Kidd.

"I wouldn't read anything into this other than Dirk trying to avoid a big scene here," Dallas president of basketball operations Donnie Nelson said Thursday. "I know that there is no ulterior motive."

Nelson said he remains "cautiously optimistic" that Nowitzki will remain with the Mavs, his

only NBA team. Over 12 seasons, Nowitzki has become the club's career leader in points and rebounds, having won an MVP award and gotten Dallas to the NBA finals. But they haven't won a title and at 32 he realizes his prime years are fading.

Nowitzki opted out of a guaranteed \$21.5 million for next season to become a free agent for the first time. He could re-sign for up to four years and perhaps get a no-trade clause added.

Nelson said he expects Nowitzki in town soon.

"Knowing him it could be any day," Nelson said. "He could get on any flight and try to slip in. It might be tomorrow, Saturday — who knows."

When he gets here, we'll have a chance

to settle quietly into a meaningful, heart-to-heart conversation."

Kidd has said he'll do whatever he can to be a recruiter. So maybe their get-together was part Kidd convincing Nowitzki to stay and part gearing up on who they can target as a tandem.

Or maybe Nowitzki wanted to let his friend know face-to-face that he's got something else in mind.

It's all part of the uncertainty that is free agency.

Mavs owner Mark Cuban is doing his best to make sure Nowitzki feels loved and appreciated.

Despite the plans for the welcoming committee falling through, the team launched a "DFW Digs Dirk" campaign complete with a website.

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

State Representative Joe Heflin Golf

Tournaments

This golf tourney will make its way to Big Spring on July 27 at the Comanche Trail Municipal Golf Course. Scramble is scheduled for 9 a.m. and lunch will be provided. RSVP to CassiDe Street at Heflin2010@yahoo.com or 806-675-1583.

Coahoma Ragball Tournament

There will be a ragball tournament July 9 and 10 at the Coahoma Little League Field. Sign-ups will continue at 5:30 p.m. Friday at the concession stand

with games starting at 7 p.m. Contact Anthony Herrera at 213-1498 for more information.

2-Person Low Ball

The Big Spring Country Country Club invites the community to participate in this event, which takes place July 24 through 25. The entry fee is \$60 per player plus the golf cart. Private carts are welcome. Entry includes barbecue on the course July 24. Field will be flighted by the first round score. Number of flights determined by number of entries. Call the Pro Shop at 267-5354 for more information



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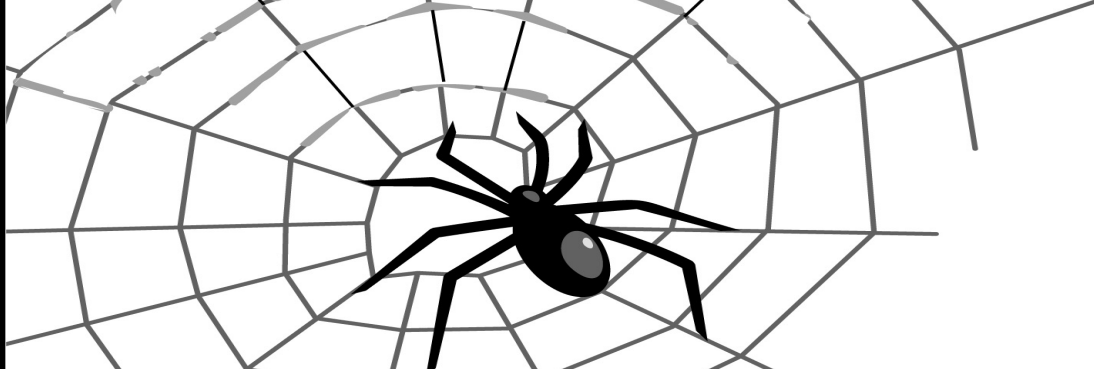
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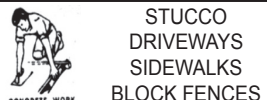
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Whether or not you are religious, you may have an increased awareness of the spiritual nature of this life and of the feeling that emanates from the places, objects and people around you. If you are religious, the Pisces moon will stimulate your sense of duty, and you will be directed toward honoring your beliefs in a specific and ceremonious way.



HOLIDAY
MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The only thing better than doing your work well is doing your work well in front of people. You're not a show-off; you're just at home in the spotlight. So stand there a while and take in the applause.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll probably encounter an unforeseen snag. Fear not. Your skills haven't left you, and this bramble will be behind you in a moment. These are the kinds of minor challenges that keep you sharp.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The hurdles between where you are and where you want to be only matter inasmuch as you allow them to matter. If you keep your eyes on the goal, you won't even see them.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You're an expert at navigating change and finding the advantages it offers. In the next two days, an unforeseen event gives you the opportunity to prove this. A Virgo figure prominently in

that scene.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Some days, you feel like you're plodding along, dragging your feet through the puddles. Not today. You're a song in the wind — dancing, singing and laughing all the way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Without committing to a systems overhaul of your life, you've recently made many substantive changes. You are not who you were a year ago. You are better.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). People make you mad. Some days are just like that. The good news is that you recognize a little of your own behavior in the circumstances and resolve to change whatever part of you needs to act out like that.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Someone needs to write you a fight song. You deserve one after all this training, perseverance and steadfast dedication. You are an inspiration to many, even if they don't say it outright.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Keep your curiosity alive. Imagine a way to arrange the obstacles in your path. Maybe the roadblocks could be stacked like stairs so that you could climb up and out. The win goes to the one who perseveres.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). For you, traveling isn't about getting somewhere; it's about the act of going. The feeling you get from hurling yourself into the unknown is an exhilaration that persists no matter the destination.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). People who know you best will be

quick to sing your praises. Even better: Their praises are the truth. You deserve all the love you get because you give so much away, asking nothing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It may feel a little weird, but give yourself a high-five. It's not quite the same as having someone else to high-five with, but some kind of congratulatory action is in order. You have triumphed.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 2). You'll enjoy how things turn out this year. The next three months are filled with elegant scenes. In August, there's a turn of poetic justice. You'll volunteer and meet kindhearted people in September. You'll create wonderful, memorable events in November and December. Your sweet heart is madly in love with you. Scorpio and Gemini people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 50, 14, 25, 40 and 48.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: **ARIES:** Be lighthearted and playful. Deep conversation and seriousness are a turn off right now. **TAURUS:** Lose some of your expectations, and a loved one will in some way exceed your wildest notions. **GEMINI:** What you lost with a past love you will gain with a new love. **CANCER:** You can thank an ex for shaping your current attitudes about love and romance. **LEO:** To become more attractive, you'll rid yourself of an addiction. **VIRGO:** You'll field many compliments. **LIBRA:** Once you deal with yourself, your romantic life will unfold in a most pleasing way.

SCORPIO: You dress with flair, but also with class. A degree of decorum and restraint will make you even more beautiful than you are. **SAGITTARIUS:** You are driven to work hard and provide for your loved ones, and you deserve a partner who feels the same way. **CAPRICORN:** Drop the past and whatever happened so that you can focus your mind on what is going on around you. **AQUARIUS:** Love the relationship you have, not the one you think you should have. There is no "should be." There is only what is. **PISCES:** Talking about a partner is not appropriate, even if you know that what you say will never be repeated.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Pisces and Cancer are a natural — if not a supernatural — match. These two have a tendency to bring out the psychic awareness in each other. Not only do they sense each other's thoughts and feelings, but they often take them on. If one is in a bad mood, the kind thing to do is to stay away from the other. By the same token, maintaining a positive frame of mind is an act of love.

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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su | do | ku
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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

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

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Forcing or Nonforcing?

Below are six unrelated bidding sequences. Where the question mark appears in each case, indicate whether you consider the last bid made in each sequence as forcing (compelling you to bid again) or nonforcing (permitting you to pass). If the last bid merely urges but does not compel you to bid again, treat it as nonforcing.

- North: 1♣, 1♥, 1♥
South: 1♦, ?
- North: 1♣, 2♣, ?
South: 1♥, 2♦
- North: 1♦, 3♥, ?
South: 1♥, ?
- North: 1♦, ?
South: 3♣
- North: 1♣, 2♥, ?
South: 2♣, ?
- North: 1♣, 3♣, ?
South: 1♦, 3♦

1. **Nonforcing.** North might have a minimum opening bid and South might have a minimum response, so it would not make sense to treat one heart as forcing. If North wanted to assure another response, he would have to bid two hearts (a jump-shift) over one diamond.

2. **Forcing.** When the responder

(as distinguished from the opening bidder) names a new suit, opener cannot pass. Thus, one heart was forcing, and two diamonds is equally forcing.

3. **Nonforcing.** A jump-raise by opener is merely invitational, allowing South to pass if he has a very weak hand.

4. **Nonforcing.** One spade would be forcing, and two spades (a jump-shift) would also be forcing, but three spades is a different kettle of fish. Unless you have a specific agreement to the contrary (such as that three spades in this sequence is a splinter bid, showing shortness in spades), three spades is a pre-emptive bid, pure and simple, and might consist of something like seven spades to the K-Q-J and nothing else. North may therefore pass if he feels game prospects are poor.

5. **Forcing.** When responder has raised opener's suit and opener then bids a new suit, responder must bid again. Here, North is probing for a game, possibly a slam, so South cannot pass.

6. **Forcing.** Once South bids over three clubs (which is invitational and not forcing), his side is committed to reaching game. South might have only a game in diamonds, clubs or notrump in mind, or he might be thinking of slam and be marking time to allow North to further define his hand. But whatever South's intentions are, North can't pass until at least a game is reached.

Tomorrow: Voyage of discovery.
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ANSWERS

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

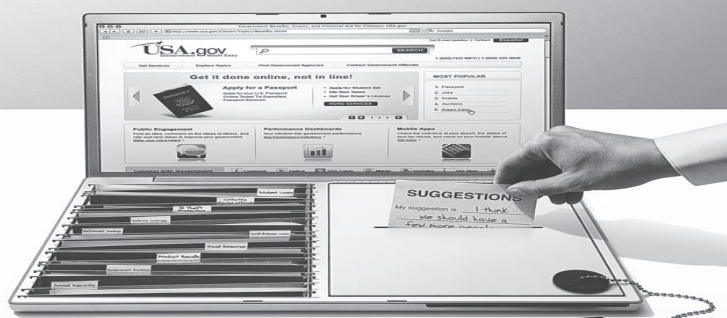
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPIKE (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports
5:PM	News ABC	Vida	Lopez	News CBS	Noticias	News	King	Faye H. King	World Business	King	Cash Cab	Nelson	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Hannah Deck	Primetime	SportsCenter
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Mi Pecado (SS)	Two Men	News Ent	A Corazón Abierto	News	Seinfeld	Dr.	PBS News-Hour	70s Show	Saved My Life		CSI: Crime Scene	Bones		Deck	NFL Live	Countdn
7:PM	Wife Swap	Hasta que el Dinero	Bones	Medium	El Clon	Millionaire	Seinfeld	Alewine	Wash.	Smallville	Dual Survival	Movie: The Horse Soldiers, Constance Towers	CSI: Crime Scene	Movie: Unlawful Entry	BET Awards 2010	Deck	The Complete Wimbledon	NASCAR Racing
8:PM	America Celeb	Soy Tu Dueña (SS)	House	Flashpoint	Perro Amor	Dateline NBC	Harold & Kumar Go	Light of the Southwest	Neighbors	Supernatural	Dual Survival	Knockout	Movie: The General's Daughter			Wizards		
9:PM	20/20	Rosa de Guadalupe	Simpsons Friends	Miami Medical	¿Dónde Está Elisa?				Lodge	Married... Married...	Dual Survival	Knockout	Movie: The Wings of Eagles, Dan Dailey			Wizards		
10:PM	News Nightline	Impacto	Raymond	News	Noticias	News	(15) Movie: American Wedding	Church Cortes	Charlie Rose	Roseanne	Dual Survival	Knockout			The Mo'Nique	Phineas Deck	Boxing: Friday Night Fights.	
11:PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Corazón Salvaje	Law & Order: SVU	Late	A Corazón Abierto	Jay Leno		Mark McGee	T. Smiley (Off Air)	Bernie Cops	Dual Survival	MAN Trailers	Movie: A Perfect Murder		Wendy Williams	Suite Life So Raven	Baseball NFL Live	
12:AM	Extra	Amar sin Limites	Paid Faith	Insider	Pagado	Late Night	(12:15) Movie: My Best Friend's Wedding	CCM		Cops	Dual Survival	Movie: Operation Pacific, Ward Bond			Movie: The Last King of Scotland, Kerry Washington	Cory Kim Poss	World Baseball	
1:AM	Paid	Mujer... Cero	RENO 911	Paid	Pagado	Poker After Dark		Best of Light of the Coast		Videosomnia	Overhaul				Memphis Beat	Repla School	NASCAR Racing	SportsCenter

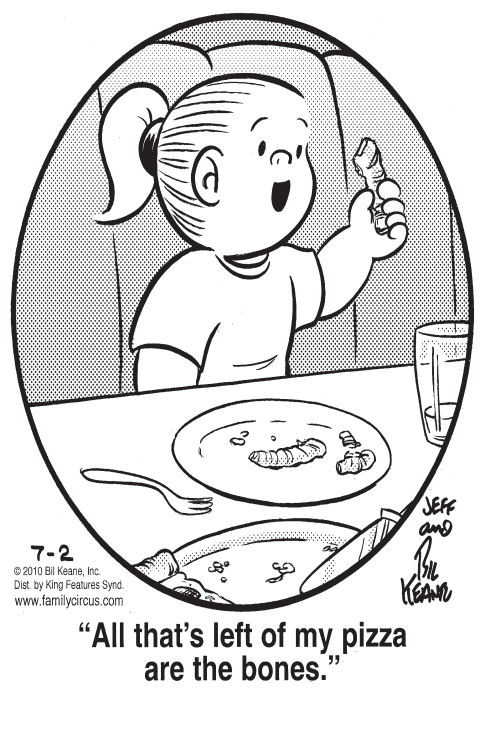
DENNIS THE MENACE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

HAGAR



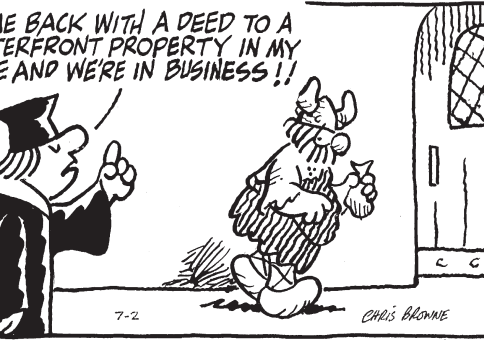
"IF THIS WERE A RESTAURANT, I'D GIVE IT A FIVE-STAR RATING!"



"All that's left of my pizza are the bones."



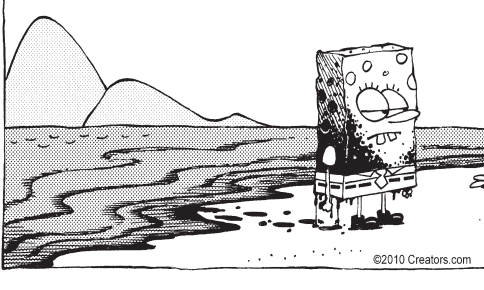
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'D TRY TO BRIBE A MEMBER OF THE KING'S COUNCIL FOR A FEW GOLD COINS!



COME BACK WITH A DEED TO A WATERFRONT PROPERTY IN MY NAME AND WE'RE IN BUSINESS!!

BC

BLONDIE



HE SAYS HE'S GOT A LAWYER.



PETER'S OIL

WIZARD OF ID

AGNES



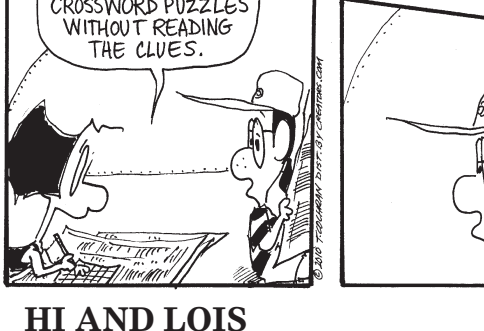
I HATE CALL WAITING!



IT'S LIKE SUDOKU, ONLY WITH WORDS!

HI AND LOIS

THE OTHER COAST



I LIKE TO WORK CROSSWORD PUZZLES WITHOUT READING THE CLUES.



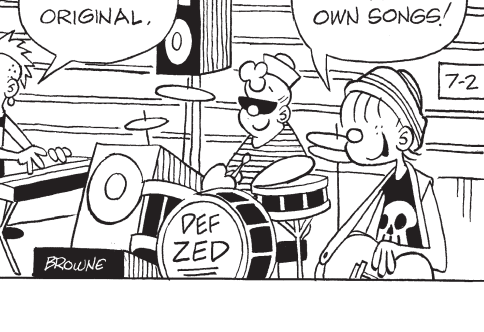
YEEESH, JUST THE THOUGHT OF SOMEONE STICKING A NEEDLE IN ME MAKES ME FEEL FAINT.

SNUFFY SMITH

BEETLE BAILEY



A PAPERBACK ?!!



SARGE, THIS IS YOUR FIFTH CHEESEBURGER! YOU'RE AMAZING!

This Date In History

Today is Friday, July 2, the 183rd day of 2010. There are 182 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 2, 1937, aviator Amelia Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan disappeared over the Pacific Ocean while attempting to make the first round-the-world flight along the equator.

On this date:

In 1776, the Continental Congress passed a resolution saying that "these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

In 1881, President James A. Garfield was shot by Charles J. Guiteau at the Washington railroad station; Garfield died the following September. (Guiteau was hanged in June 1882.)

In 1890, President Benjamin Harrison signed into law the Sherman Antitrust Act.

In 1917, rioting erupted in East St. Louis, Ill. as white mobs attacked black residents; nearly 50 people, most of them black, are believed to have died in the violence.

In 1926, the United States Army Air Corps was created.

In 1961, author Ernest Hemingway shot himself to death at his home in Ketchum, Idaho.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law a sweeping civil rights bill passed by Congress.

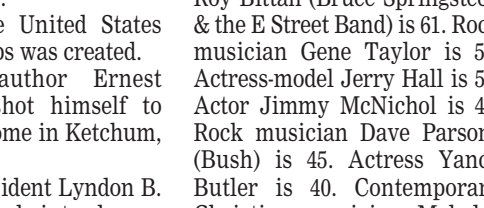
In 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation reviving draft registration.

In 1990, more than 1,400 Muslim pilgrims were killed in a stampede inside a pedestrian tunnel in Saudi Arabia.

In 1994, a USAir DC-9 crashed in poor weather at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport in North Carolina, killing 37 of the 57 people aboard.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Marvin Rainwater is 85. Former Philippine first lady Imelda Marcos is 81. Jazz musician Ahmad Jamal is 80. Actor Robert Ito is 79. Actress Polly Holliday is 73. Former White House chief of staff John H. Sununu is 71. Writer-director-comedian Larry David is 63.

Luci Baines Johnson, daughter of President Lyndon B. Johnson, is 63. Actor Saul Rubinek is 62. Rock musician Roy Bittan (Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band) is 61. Rock musician Gene Taylor is 58. Actress-model Jerry Hall is 54. Actor Jimmy McNichol is 49. Rock musician Dave Parsons (Bush) is 45. Actress Yancy Butler is 40. Contemporary Christian musician Melodee DeVevo (Casting Crowns) is 34. Actor Owain (OH'wyn) Yeoman (TV: "The Mentalist") is 32. Race car driver Sam Hornish Jr. is 31. Singer Michelle Branch is 27. Actress Vanessa Lee Chester is 26. Figure skater Johnny Weir is 26.



WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?

I'M NOT SURE, BUT I THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOUR LUNCH

Answer to previous puzzle

SEETO	ARAB	ADAM
ASCAP	COMO	HERO
CLOSED	CAPI	TIONED
TRUED	TRYONE	
NIKEADS	ALE	TAM
ODO	SOLE	BESS
DEFIED	COCOA	
AIRTI	TIGHTALIBI	
ISSUE	PETROL	
REPS	SARI	ETA
ANI	GUM	NICEDAY
ICETEA	STOOL	
LOCKED	HORN	SWITH
OREO	EURO	TALIA
NESS	SETS	SYLPH

Newsday Crossword

LET'S PARTY by Merle Baker
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- ACROSS**
- 1 What Elmo calls Dagwood
 - 4 Ocean liner's route
 - 10 Vise parts
 - 14 Motorist's reversal
 - 15 Think much of
 - 16 Capital of Western Samoa
 - 17 Shriner's topper
 - 18 Picnic pastime
 - 20 Kitchen supply
 - 22 California fossil site
 - 23 Former Queen of Jordan
 - 24 Highly sought-after
 - 25 Celestial event
 - 29 Canned consent
 - 30 Makes use of 20 Across
 - 31 Some Slavs
 - 35 River of Florence
 - 37 Mine contents
 - 39 Challenge
 - 40 Start of a Pope quote
 - 42 Pandora's legacy
 - 44 Custard creation
 - 45 Result of static
 - 48 Climate phenomena
 - 51 Barak of Israel
 - 52 Lyrical
 - 53 Misconstrued as
- DOWN**
- 1 Flub
 - 2 Film holder
 - 3 Complex and intricate
 - 4 Snore
 - 5 Jackson Pollack portrayer
 - 6 Islamic prince
 - 7 Desdemona, to Othello
 - 8 Canine comment
 - 9 Lily-livered
 - 10 Talked nonsense
 - 11 Into pieces
 - 12 Toon coyote
 - 13 "Rabbit food"
 - 19 Icicles spot
 - 21 Ring site, perhaps
 - 24 Vast
 - 25 Zoo trench
 - 26 Maltese money
 - 27 Signs of disdain
 - 28 Shot-put throw
 - 32 Done in quick succession
 - 33 Vivacity
 - 34 Noticed
 - 36 Satellites, e.g.
 - 38 Most aerodynamic
 - 41 Arrested
 - 43 Areas of interest
 - 46 Falsify
 - 47 Wine cask
 - 48 Orlando-area attraction
 - 49 Camelot composer
 - 50 Site of Hercules' first labor
 - 53 Affiliations
 - 54 Auto bar
 - 55 Redolence
 - 56 Where the Tevere flows
 - 58 Soldier food: Abbr.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14			15						16				
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48	49	50							51				
52							53	54				55	56
57							58					59	
60							61					62	
63							64						65

NBA

Continued from Page 10

lion, five-year pact Amir Johnson got to stay with Toronto.

The most noteworthy development on Day 1 didn't even involve a player. The Los Angeles Lakers announced that

Phil Jackson would return for a run at a third straight title and a 12th as an NBA coach.

"Count me in," Jackson said in a news release. "After a couple weeks of deliberation, it is time to get back to the challenge of putting together a team that can defend its title in the 2010-11 season.

It'll be the last stand for me, and I hope a grand one."

The Heat are trying to build a team that can stop Jackson's Lakers, and after talking to Stoudemire shortly after the market opened, moved on to Bosh on Thursday and will call on James on Friday.

Bosh seemed pleased

with what he heard from the Heat.

"Off to a great start," he wrote on Twitter. "First one went well. Pat Riley is very passionate about winning."

After years of slashing payroll so it could be a player in this year's market, New York finally got to make its pitch to James. Arriv-

ing just as the Nets left, the Knicks spent more than two hours speaking with James and his advisers.

"I think it went well," New York coach Mike D'Antoni said. "But obviously everyone that gets the chance to talk to him will probably say the same thing."

The Nets felt even bet-

ter about their performance, which came from a group headed by new owner Mikhail Prokhorov and part-owner Jay-Z, James' longtime friend. A person briefed on the meeting was told it was "spectacular."

"So far we have met with LeBron," team president Rod Thorn said.

RANGERS

Continued from Page 10

it where he wanted to put it.

"He was making good

pitches with his fastball in good spots when he had to and he didn't make very many mistakes."

The Rangers pulled to 2-1 in the eighth on Ian Kinsler's RBI single off

Fernando Rodney that dropped in shallow left field.

With runners on first and second, Guerrero then grounded to third for an apparent inning-ending double play.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 10

est to Bell. She said she enjoys the atmosphere Coahoma presents.

"Growing up in a 1A school all my life and knowing what to expect, I think that in a small school, your expectations are a lot clearer," Bell said. "Your administration is a lot more on the same page just because it is smaller. The numbers are smaller and you make better connections with kids when your numbers are

smaller."

Bell said her first task at Coahoma will be recruiting. She said numbers are not high for the program so getting girls to play has to start by getting to know the students at the elementary and junior high schools.

As for her players now, she said a connection has to start quickly in order for the team to be successful. Defense is at the top of the list of priorities for Bell, too. She said scramble and full-court presses are among her favorite defenses to run.

Nichols said he is excit-

ed to bring new coaches in this summer and although he has lost some colleagues, it's a credit to Coahoma that some of the former coaches are sought after.

"That's a complement, I think, to us when people come after our coaches and make coaches feel like they've gone on to maybe better jobs," he said. "That's a complement to our system and our programs that other people want our people."

Contact Sports Editor Adam Coleman at 263-7331, ext. 237



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