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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY
 AUGUST 18, 2010

 50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

VOLUME 105, NUMBER 218

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BSEDC supports 3 projects

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer



Big Spring Economic Development Corporation threw its moral and financial support behind three projects during the board of directors' meeting Tuesday evening. Directors threw their moral support — and paved the way for possible financial support in the future — for the

See **EDC**, Page 3



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

An ultralight pilot waits to tow a hang glider up into the skies above the Big Spring Airport during the U.S. Hang Gliding Championship at McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark. The competition continues through this week and will wrap up Saturday.

Tax free weekend coming up

Shoppers can save about \$8 for every \$100 they spend, according to the Comptroller's Office.

Herald Staff Report

Texas' annual Sales Tax Holiday arrives this weekend, just in time for families to save money on clothes and supplies for the new school year. "This is the 12th straight year in which families will take advantage of sales tax savings," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said. "This Friday, Saturday and Sunday shoppers can stock up on tax-free school supplies, school backpacks and most children's and adults' clothing and shoes." The law exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The sales tax holiday begins at 12 a.m. Friday and ends at midnight Sunday.

See **TAX FREE**, Page 3

Roundups, orientations signs a new school year has arrived

By **STEVE REAGAN**
 Staff Writer

Preparations for the new school year are hitting high gear across the area. The first day of school for Howard County public school students is Monday and all three school districts — Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan — have a full slate of orientation and "meet the teacher" activities scheduled for the next few days. Big Spring High School's "Steer Roundup," orientation and schedule pickup for incoming freshmen and their parents, will be held at the high school auditorium at 6:30 p.m. Thursday. After an introduction and welcome, students will then pick up their registration packets and schedules. The new students, along with parents, will then have the opportunity to walk through their class schedules and meet their teachers.

- Returning BSHS students will receive their schedules at the following dates and times in the high school office:
 - Sophomores — Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon.
 - Juniors and seniors — Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Big Spring Junior High School and Bauer Elementary have already "meet the teacher" nights at their respective campuses.
- Other BSISD campuses scheduling orientations in the next few days are:
 - Goliad Intermediate — Thursday from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 - Kentwood Elementary — Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
 - Moss Elementary — Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 - Washington Elementary —

- Thursday from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
 - Marcy Elementary — Friday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Coahoma ISD will host "meet the teacher" and pickup schedules at their respective campuses at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. High school students have already received their schedules, school officials confirmed.
- Forsan ISD will host orientation for sixth graders from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday at the junior high/high school auditorium. Elbow Elementary, meanwhile, will hold its annual "New Year's Eve Party" from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday. Students can meet their new teachers at that time.

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

INDEX

- Comics 12
- Classified 9-11
- Features 4-5
- Obituaries 2
- Police 2
- Sports 8,13

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54414 79720 9

Police seek motive for gunman's attack

SCHUYLER DIXON
 Associated Press Writer

McKINNEY — A gunman who pulled into a suburban Dallas police station parking lot with a trailer loaded with explosives, set fire to his pickup truck, then started shooting at the building was apparently hoping for a massacre, police say. In the end, only the gunman — identified by police as 29-year-old Patrick Gray Sharp — was killed. Sharp died after a shootout with officers Tuesday morn-

"He was heavily armed. He looked like he knew what he wanted to do. What we don't know is why he wanted to do it."

—Doub Kowalski, McKinney police chief



Sharp

ing. McKinney police Chief Doug Kowalski says it's unclear whether he was killed by an officer's bullet or one of his own. It's also unclear what his motive was. "He had a plan. He was activating his plan. He was heavily armed," Kowalski said. "He looked like he knew what he wanted to do. What we don't know is why he wanted to do it." Sharp may have intended to lure people from the police station so that he could shoot at them from a field across the street where he had taken position, Kowalski said. He also may have intended to kill them by blowing up the trailer, he said. The fire set off ammunition in the truck but failed to ignite the trailer, which was filled with wood chips, ammonium nitrate, gasoline and road flares, Kowalski said.

See **MOTIVE**, Page 3



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Obituaries

Kathleen Faye Burleson

Kathleen Faye Burleson, 94, died Aug. 12, 2010, in Austin following a brief illness. A memorial celebration of her life will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 22, 2010, at the South Austin Christian Church, 206 E. Annie St. in Austin.

She was born Oct. 7, 1916, to Alfred and Elizabeth Runyan in Stanton and lived most of her life in Big Spring.

She is survived by her daughter, Cheryl Wilson of Grapevine; her son, James of Austin; two grandsons, Donald and David Wilson; two great-grandchildren; a niece; and cousins and their families. Her late husband, Howard Burleson, was a longtime employee of the Herald.

Faye was a beautician for 53 years and owned salons in Big Spring and Corpus Christi. She was a life-long member of the First Christian Church. Her entire life was devoted to her immediate and extended family and to her friends. The kindness and generosity of her radiant spirit lives on.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Neptune Society.

Paid obituary

C.A. Ross Jr.

C.A. Ross Jr., 84, of Midland died Sunday, Aug. 15, 2010, at the Hospice House of Odessa. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Aug. 18, 2010, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Gary Groves, pastor of the Church on the Journey, officiating.

He was born Aug. 27, 1925, in Grandview and married Annette McLelland Dec. 4, 1947, in Thornton.

He served in the United States Army Air Corps as a flight instructor. He was a member of the Midland Centennial Masonic Lodge 1448, Midland Scottish Rite Association, Midland Amateur Radio Club, Confederate Air Force Amateur Radio Club and the American Legion Woods W. Lynch Post 19.

He is survived by two daughters, Beth Ann Broughton of Midland, and Jerilyn Wilkerson and husband Mark of Gorman; two granddaughters; two great-grandsons; a sister, Janis Porfilio of Crivitz, Wis.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, a sister and two brothers.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Hospice House of Odessa, 903 N. Sam Houston, Odessa 79761; or to Shriners Hospital for Children, 815 Market St., Galveston 77550.

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

Lottery

Here are the winning numbers selected Tuesday evening in the Mega Millions lottery: 11-19-40-43-44; Mega Ball: 33.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-5-8-13-21. Number matching five of five: 0.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-9-2-4. Sum It Up: 19.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-7-2. Sum It Up: 11

Richard Delgado

Richard Delgado, 65, of Big Spring died Sunday, Aug. 15, 2010, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center. The family will receive friends Thursday from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Chaplain Joe Torres of Home Hospice officiating. Burial with military honors will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

He was born July 31, 1945, to Anita and Ignocensio Delgado in Big Spring. He was a veteran of the Marine Corps, Platoon 3021. He received a National Defense Service Medal. He worked in the oilfield after returning home. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was a Catholic.

He is survived by his mother, Anita Lujan of Big Spring; and several aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ignocensio Delgado; step-father, Dave McWhorter; and his grandparents, Felipe and Rosanda Lujan.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersand-smith.com

Kathleen Aton

Kathleen Aton, 86, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010, at her residence. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Goldie Clawson

Goldie Clawson, 98, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010, in a local hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Margie Cochran

Margie Cochran, 64, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

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

- CHRISTOPHER ALTON RANEY, 37, of Lubbock, was arrested Tuesday on two warrants from another agency.
- MARK ANTHONY LOPEZ, 19, of 411 N. Scurry, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of disorderly conduct - language.
- ERNEST SAIZ, 49, of 901 Magnolia, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for disregarding a stop sign and expired driver's license.
- RICHARD MANUEL GOMEZ, 34, of 1425 E. Sixth St. Apt. 138, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for safety belt - ride without being secured (two counts), failure to appear (two counts) and failure to display driver's license.
- JAYSON WILLIAM WATERS, 35, of 1007 S. Nolan, was arrested Tuesday on warrants for failure to appear (four counts), no inspection certificate and theft.
- JAMES NICHOLAS WINN, 31, of 1200 S. Runnels, was arrested Wednesday on a warrant from another agency and a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 700 block of Tulsa.
- THEFT was reported in the 800 block of W. 17th Street.
- BURGLARY OF A VEHICLE was reported in the 1200 block of W. Sixth Street.

Sheriff

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 66 inmates at the time of this report.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

| Thu 8/19 | Fri 8/20 | Sat 8/21 | Sun 8/22 | Mon 8/23 |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | |
| 97/74 Sunshine and clouds mixed. High 97F. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph. | 99/73 Sunny. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the low 70s. | 98/73 Plenty of sun. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the low 70s. | 98/73 Sunny. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the low 70s. | 96/73 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 70s. |
| Sunrise: 7:13 AM Sunset: 8:26 PM | Sunrise: 7:14 AM Sunset: 8:25 PM | Sunrise: 7:14 AM Sunset: 8:24 PM | Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 8:22 PM | Sunrise: 7:15 AM Sunset: 8:21 PM |

Texas At A Glance



- RICHARD MANUEL GOMEZ, 34, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of no seat belt - passenger, no seat belt - driver, violation of a promise to appear (two counts) and failure to display driver's license.
- MARK ANTHONY LOPEZ, 19, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on a charge of disorderly conduct.
- JOHN MATTHEW MORENO, 18, was arrested Tuesday by the HCSO on a charge of assault by threat - family violence.
- CHRISTOPHER ALTON RANEY, 37, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on Lubbock warrants for evading arrest or detention with a previous conviction and theft.
- JAYSON WATERS, 35, was transferred to the county jail Tuesday by the BSPD on charges of failure to appear (three counts), no valid inspection certificate, violation of a promise to appear and theft.
- ERNEST SAIZ JR., 49, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of running a stop sign and expired driver's license.
- WENDALL CAMPBELL, 49, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of issuance of a bad check, failure to appear - manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance and failure to appear - possession of a controlled substance.
- JAMES NICHOLAS WINN, 31, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on charges of possession of a controlled substance and assault causing bodily injury.
- OSCAR HERNANDEZ JR., 29, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

Fire/EMS

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

- MEDICAL was reported in the 2600 block of Fairchild. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Monticello. One person was transported to SMMC.
- TRAUMA was reported in the 2500 block of Barksdale. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 3200 block of Parkway. One person was transported to SMMC.
- MEDICAL was reported in the 200 block of W. Marcy. Service refused.
- GAS LEAK was reported in the 4000 block of W. Highway 80.

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Crispy Goat Cheese Salad
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Grilled Gulf Shrimp Caprese
tomato, fresh mozzarella & basil \$10

Jalapeno Soup
potato, bacon, red onion, jalapeno \$7

Entrées
1lb. Bone In Rib Eye
poblano potatoes, crispy onion, shiner bock sauce \$30

Blackened Red Snapper
white cheddar rice, broccoli & lemon butter sauce \$25

Citrus Marinated Chicken Breast
roasted thigh, garlic mashed potatoes, cajun-jalapeno creamed corn \$20

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brandy-green peppercorn, bacon-green onion-horseradish mashed potatoes, asparagus \$27

Add to your Entrée, sautéed mushrooms \$3
sautéed onions \$2, béarnaise sauce \$4, baked potato \$3

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EDC

Continued from Page 1

Howard County Community Health Clinic's plans to move into the old Mountain View Nursing Lodge on Virginia Avenue.

"The resolution ... opens to the door for us to help fund a part of the project in the future," said Terry Wegman, executive director of BSEDC. "Exactly what that support will be has not been determined yet. All they were looking for at this time was a resolution of support from us."

The clinic, which would serve uninsured and underinsured Howard County residents, would be under the auspices of South Plains Rural Health Services of Leveland.

Ann Farley of the county health clinic said the board's resolution was indicative of overall support for the clinic.

"Community support has been tremendous," Farley said. "We've received around 3- letters of support ... which really shows the dire need for medical support for the uninsured and under-insured in this community."

South Plains must first receive federal approval to expand to the Big Spring area. Once that approval is received, Wegman said BSEDC would revisit the possibil-

ity of providing funds which would be earmarked for renovation of the building.

No timetable has been set for receiving federal approval, Farley said.

In other business, the board of directors:

- Agreed to provide Helios Energy a 120-day option to purchase land owned by BSEDC on Midway Road. If the purchase is completed, Helios would build a solar energy farm at the site.

Wegman said Helios will use the interim to study whether existing transmission lines can handle the added electricity — estimated at 60 megawatts — the solar farm would generate.

If the company exercises the purchase option, it would buy the 300-acre tract for \$85,000, Wegman said. Construction would take between two and three years and employ between 300 and 400 people during the building phase.

Once the farm is operational, it would employ five or six full-time employees, Wegman added.

- Approved a "forgivable loan" of \$14,000 to American Limestone to help the company purchase a crane.

Wegman said the loan is forgivable in that the company will receive \$1 credit for every \$15 of new employee payroll it adds over the course of the next five years.

TAX FREE

Continued from Page 1

Backpacks under \$100 and used by elementary and secondary students are also exempt. A backpack is a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags.

The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffel/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks. Ten or fewer backpacks can be purchased tax-free at one time without providing an exemption certificate to the seller.

Qualifying school supplies (if priced less than \$100) include binders, book bags, calculators, cellophane tape, blackboard chalk, compasses, composition books, crayons, erasers, folders (expandable, picket, plastic and manila), glue, paste, paste sticks, index cards and index card boxes, legal pads, lunch boxes, markers, notebooks, notebook paper, copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper, manila paper, colored paper, poster board, construction paper, pencil boxes and other school supply boxes, pencil

sharpeners, pencils, pens, protractors, rulers, scissors and writing tablets.

Tax-free items include the following:

- Baby clothes
- Backpacks for use by elementary and secondary students
- Belts with attached buckles
- Boots — cowboy, hiking
- Caps/hats — baseball, fishing, golf, knitted
- Coats and wraps
- Diapers — adult and baby
- Dresses
- Gloves (generally)
- Gym suits and uniforms
- Hooded shirts and hooded sweatshirts
- Hosiery
- Jackets
- Jeans
- Jerseys — baseball and football
- Jogging apparel
- Neckwear and ties
- Pajamas
- Pants and trousers
- Raincoats and ponchos
- Robes
- Shirts
- Shoes — sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking
- Socks (including athletic)
- Shorts
- Suits, slacks, and jackets
- Sweatshirts
- Sweat suits
- Sweaters
- Swimsuits
- Underclothes
- Work clothes and uniforms

Items which will be taxed include:

- Accessories (generally) - barrettes, elastic ponytail holders, wallets, watches
- Backpacks — unless for use by elementary and secondary students
- Baseball cleats and pants
- Belt buckles (without belt)
- Boots — climbing, fishing, rubber work boots, ski, waders
- Buttons and zippers
- Cloth and lace, knitting yarns, and other fabrics
- Dry cleaning services
- Football pants
- Golf gloves
- Handbags and purses
- Handkerchiefs
- Hand hats
- Helmets — bike, baseball, football, hockey, motorcycle, sports
- Ice skates
- Jewelry
- Laundering services
- Leather goods — except belts with buckles and wearing apparel
- Pads — football, hockey, soccer, elbow, knee, shoulder
- Personal flotation devices
- Rented clothing (including uniforms, formal wear, and costumes)
- Roller blades and skates
- Safety clothing, glasses
- Shoes — bicycle (cleated), bowling, golf

MOTIVE

Continued from Page 1

Investigators found an assault rifle, a shotgun and a handgun on Sharp. Kowalski said Sharp fired at least 100 rounds at the police station, and the chief counted at least 23 bullet strikes on the building.

The chief said Sharp was found dead after police fired an unknown number of rounds while pursuing him in a line of trees where Sharp had taken cover and into an open field near Collin College, which was on lockdown after the shooting.

Sharp's roommate, Eric McClellan, told The Associated Press by phone that he was on vacation outside Texas when he received calls from state troopers and his stepfather telling him what happened. He said he was "still in shock" and that there was nothing about Sharp that would lead him to believe he would try to attack police.

"He was fine and dan-

dy when I left Texas two days ago, and, all of a sudden, I get a phone call," McClellan said. "There's nothing I can say. He was a great guy, a good friend."

McClellan said he was questioned about Sharp by police and couldn't provide them with much information.

He said he and Sharp kept guns in their residence because they like sports shooting.

"We're Texans," he said. "We have the right to bear arms."

McClellan said he was doing contract work for building wire manufacturer Encore Wire Corp. six years ago when he met Sharp, who was an employee of the company. They had been roommates for four years, he said.

Collin County records show Sharp and McClellan are co-owners of the home they shared near Anna, a town about 15

miles north of McKinney.

Authorities descended on the rural cluster of manufactured homes not long after news of the shooting broke, neighbors said. They were still there nearly 12 hours later, plainly visible after dusk through windows of the light-brown home with a large yard.

Investigators combed the property with bomb-sniffing dogs, and Kowalski said more weapons were found.

Sharp's truck was backed up to the home the night before the attack and there was nothing noticeable behind it, said neighbor Randy Mullins.

"Everything seemed

good last night," Mullins said. "There was no noise, no nothing. The lights were on."

Matt Payne, who witnessed some of the clash, told the AP he was on his way to work with his wife and 10-year-old son when they heard "this popping sound" while they waited at a red light near the police station. They drove in front of the station and saw the truck engulfed in flames before looking across the street and seeing a man in an open field in an olive-colored flak jacket and carrying what looked like a military-style rifle.

A campus police vehicle drove around a building and the man turned his weapon to-

ward the officer's car before gunfire broke out, Payne said.

"He was not hidden at all," Payne said. "It was obvious that he intended to go and hurt people and wasn't real concerned about whether he made it or not."

Ed Leathers, Collin College's police chief, said the gunman shot several times at a campus officer's patrol car, but the officer was not struck.

Leathers said the officer, a veteran of more than 20 years of police work, was on a routine patrol when he came across the gunman. Several other campus officers were then dispatched to the scene, but none discharged their weapons, he said.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Richard Delgado, 65, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. The family will receive friends Thursday from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Margie Cochran, 64, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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Why not check this out?

At the Howard County Library

Summer is winding down and soon the library will open on Saturdays, beginning Sept. 11. Hours will be 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. with the Internet/Video Room closing at 1:30. Last week, our reference librarian wrote



HOLLIS
McCRIGHT

about the resources we have available for you. Remember us when research is necessary; Johnny is a whiz at finding materials.

The Friends of the Library book sale will be Sept. 24-26. Donations are trickling in. Criteria for donations are good, clean, relatively new material. If it was stored in the chicken house and is dust covered, it will go immediately into the dumpster. A book that is dirty

and smelly is of no use to the library or the Friends. If assistance is needed in unloading books, please call before you come down or come inside and ask for help.

While I am not a big World War II buff, several pictorial histories of submarines, military vehicles and armored cars have come in. "Staghound Armored Car 1942-62" (623.747 ZAL S) by Steven Zaloga; "Military Vehicles in Detail" (623.747 GAN T) by Terry Gander; "British Submarines of WW I (940.451 MCC I) by Innes McCartney and "Panzer-Grenadier Motorcycle Units (940.541 SCH H) by Horst Scheibert are

available for checkout. Farther back in American history is the Civil War. "Confederate Ironclad vs. Union Ironclad: Hampton Roads 1862" (973.752 FIE R) by Ron Field is the history of the Battle of Hampton Road that changed the face of naval warfare. All of these are well worth a read.

C&B Crafts and Mari Clayton have come out with "Ultimate Sewing Guide" (646.204 CLA M). It covers the basics: needles, scissors, pins, thread, sewing machines, sergers and the like. Basic techniques are addressed. French seams, home fashions and curtains are discussed and ana-

lyzed. In one instance, the book analyzes the best type of window fashions depending on where the window is placed in a room. It is a very interesting book and whether you are a novice or an experienced seamstress, I think you will

business by murdering the two CEOs. When found out, Luke's girlfriend is kidnapped and he is threatened not to reveal the plot. It sounds like it might a good one.

Mary Higgins Clark has a formula and she sticks to it. "The Shadow of Your Smile" (M CLA M) has all the cliches: child born out of wedlock, given up for adoption; a nun who is up for beautification due to miracles; the greedy scions of a wealthy family who loot the foundation for personal gain; and the doctor who is in the middle of it.

Sarah Graves, in her latest Jacobia Tiptree mystery "Crawl Space" (M GRA S) stays in Eastport, Maine. True-crime writer Carolyn Rathbone has come to research the Dodd murders and stirs up a hornet's nest. A serial killer, a spooky bar, counterfeit money, all add up into a murderous maelstrom.

Other mystery titles now in are "Final Verdict" (M SIE S) by Sheldon Siegel; Jonathan Kellerman's "Deception" (M KEL J) — this is an Alex Delaware book; "Suspicion of Innocence" (M PAR B) by Barbara Parker; "Dust" (M GRI M) by Martha Grimes; and Tess Gerritsen's "The Keepsake" (M GER T).

On the nights of Aug. 12-13, the Perseid meteor shower could be seen in the northeast quadrant of the sky. If you were up around 2 or 3 in the morning, then you were entertained by "falling" stars. "Backyard Guide to the Night Sky" (520 SCH H) by Howard Schneider in conjunction with National Geographic is an easy to read star guide. From sky watching basics to articles on the planets, constellations and stars, it is full of interesting information.

In need of spiritual guidance? Max Lucado's "Traveling Light: Releasing Burdens You Were Never Intended to Bear" (242.5 LUC M); "The Power of a Praying Parent" (248.32 OMA S) by Stormie Omartian and "What I Learned From God While Quilting" (248.68 DAN R) by Ruth Danner are available to check out.

Howard County Library is open from 9 to 6, Monday through Friday. The Internet/Video room closes one-half hour before closing. The library is located at 500 S. Main and our e-mail address is reference@co.howard.tx.us.

Hollis McCright is director of the Howard County Library.



By Steve Becker

South Gives West a Bum Steer

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ Q 10 8 7 5 3
♥ J 7 2
♦ A K 4
♣ 8
WEST
♠ K 9
♥ A Q 10 9 8 6 3
♦ J 10 2
♣ 5
EAST
♠ J 6 4 2
♥ 5
♦ Q 9 7 6 5 3
♣ 10 3
SOUTH
♠ A
♥ K 4
♦ 8
♣ A K Q J 9 7 6 4 2
The bidding:
South West North East
2♠ 4♥ 4♠ Pass
4NT Pass 5♦ Pass
6♣

Opening lead — ace of hearts.
The outcome of many deals is for the most part predictable, but in some cases one side or the other achieves a better result than would normally be expected.

For example, take this deal where South gets to six clubs on the sequence shown. It is true that six notrump with South as declarer is a much better contract; indeed, it cannot be defeated regardless of how the East-West cards are divided.

Tomorrow: Finding the killing lead.
©2010 King Features Syndicate Inc.

But theory and practice are two different things, and South wound up playing the hand at the practical contract of six clubs instead of the theoretically best contract of six notrump.

The slam would have gone down one but for an unusual play by declarer. West led the ace of hearts and would surely have led another heart had South followed suit with the four.

But declarer, concluding that West would lead another heart if he played his four on the ace, played his king instead! This made it difficult for West to continue with either the queen or a low heart, and, rightly or not, he switched to the jack of diamonds at trick two.

Declarer's brilliant falsecard thus enabled him to make the slam. Perhaps West should have led a second heart, but it was understandably difficult for him to assume that South had dropped the king, a winner, on the ace, instead of the four, a loser.

Actually, South could not have felt absolutely certain that his king play at trick one was correct. West's four-heart bid might have been based on six hearts rather than seven, and in that case the falsecard could have proved fatal. But South backed his judgment that West had a seven-card suit, and was handsomely rewarded for his imaginative play.

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

find something that you didn't know.

"Patsy: The Life and Time of Patsy Cline" (B CLI P) details the rise of a "girl singer" in country music. Born and raised in Winchester, Va., Patsy worked every VFW hall, movie house, juke joint and country fair, trying to make it big. Margaret Jones chronicles the life of Patsy from her short career in a chicken processing plant, her struggle for success and her phenomenal recording career. Jones pulls everything together from interviews with Loretta Lynn, Johnny Cash, Harlan Howard and other well-known recording artists.

Among the mysteries on the shelves is "Business to Kill For" (M BRO M) by Mike Brogan. This looks like it might be self-published. Luke Tanner overhears a plan to take over a

EVERY STUDENT HAS THE RIGHT TO FEEL SAFE AT SCHOOL.

- You have the power to make your school safer.
- If you see sexual harassment - even if it isn't directed at you - ACT! Find safe ways to support the target of the harassment.
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What is Sexual Harassment?

ANY BEHAVIOR OF A SEXUAL NATURE THAT IS:

- unwanted, unwelcome, makes someone feel uncomfortable & occurs on a frequent basis
- unwanted telephone calls, love letters, electronic messages
- unwanted touching, grabbing, "panting"
- unwanted teasing, sexual jokes, rumors or sexual pressure

Why Do Students Do It?

Students sexually harass because:

- of peer pressure
- they think it's funny
- they think everyone does it
- they don't know it's inappropriate
- they see similar behavior from other people in their lives and from TV



What's the Big Deal?

Sexual harassment isn't just embarrassing, it can hurt a student's health, self-esteem & grades. It can also make the school an unsafe place.

What To Do About it...

If someone is harassing you, tell them to stop. If you don't feel comfortable telling them to "stop," make sure you tell a teacher, counselor or principal immediately. Write down details about the harassment. Your parents or other trusted adults can also help you. Keep telling until someone helps you and the harassment stops!

su | do | ku

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ANSWERS

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

PARENT'S CORNER

Make back to school fun

The time has arrived to prepare for the start of a new school year. Kids are feeling nervous or maybe a little scared about the first day of school because of all the new things: new teachers, new friends and maybe even a new school.

Parents can reassure them that everyone is nervous in new situations, and that many teachers, too, face anxiety at the start of a school year. Luckily, these "new" worries only last for a little while and soon things will be normal again. So, let's look into going back to school and what to expect.

Teachers realize that making the transition from the lazy summer days is often difficult for students so they start off the new school year by introducing themselves and talking about all the things that will be taking place. They will go over classroom and school rules. Some teachers give students a chance to tell something about themselves, summer trips or some introductory "show and tell" activity. This is also a time for kids to see friends, meet new friends and get back into the "swing" of school time activities.

Kids are usually happy once the idea of going back to school is accepted. It's good to have the school supplies ready, preparations made for school lunches, information on bus schedules and become familiar with the new school.

Parents should introduce themselves to their child's teacher early in the school year, and let him or her know of any special concerns or worries that the child may have about the school year. Teachers can be contacted informally, with a note, a phone call, or a brief conver-

sation when dropping off or picking up your child. Be sure to make an appointment if you need to discuss things in depth.

When teachers and parents work together to help children have a good start to the school year, they help make the rest of the year go more smoothly as well. In Big Spring, the most challenging thing of going back to school is moving into the fifth grade.

Students from our five elementary schools converge into a single building which serves all fifth and sixth grade students. Kids see many new faces and begin a new kind of school life. They get lockers and have more than one teacher. It's a big change from the elementary school. It offers new opportunities for growth and sets the tone for the rest of the school year.

There is much parents can do to support a successful school start for their child. For every student to have a fantastic first day they need to get enough sleep and eat a healthy breakfast.

Parents should encourage each child to try their best and if there is something they do not understand they need to ask their teacher.

It is extremely important that parents understand that students need to attend school everyday and be on time. Children are at a tremendous disadvantage if they are absent and new material is presented or if they miss a review of understanding.

We are so fortunate in this country that we have free public education where every child has the opportunity to learn. Let's help our kids to understand and realize education is a privilege and the gateway to the future.

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



DARRELL RYAN

Salvation Army asks public to help cool off

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

As the mercury continues to climb this week — with temperatures expected to get into the triple digits heading into the weekend — officials with the Big Spring Salvation Army are doing their part to help local low income residents cope with the heat.

The Salvation Army is conducting its annual fan drive in hopes of reaching out to the young and old in the community that don't enjoy the luxury of air conditioned homes. According to Salvation Army Social Worker Paula Lafler, the program has already provided a number of fans to those in need, and while autumn is right around the corner, the need for donations is still far from over.

"As most everyone who has spent any length of time in West Texas already knows, the heat doesn't let up just because the calendar says it's fall," Lafler said. "There are still plenty of hot days to come before things actually begin to cool down, so the need for fans isn't going to let up any time

soon." According to officials with the National Weather Service in Midland, temperatures this week



and next are expected to hover at or near the 100-degree mark, with little relief in sight.

According to Lafler, the Salvation Army is trying to target the elderly and small children with the program because they are the most heavily impacted demographic when it comes to the heat.

"We're trying to target the elderly because they are the most susceptible to heat related illnesses," said Lafler. "We're also trying to target families with children 5-years-old and younger and who are at home

through the day during the summer months.

"Donations can be made in several different ways. Donors can bring in their used fans that are in good, serviceable condition, or they can make a monetary donation. The box fans that we normally purchase usually run about \$12 each, but with the rising cost of everything, it could end up being higher."

Donations can be made by purchasing fans and taking them to the Salvation Army office — located at 811 W. Fifth Street and open from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30

p.m. with an hour break for lunch at noon — or earmarking monetary donations for the fan drive.

Those in need of fans can apply for assistance at the Salvation Army Office Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. with an hour break for lunch at noon. The office is located at 811 W. Fifth Street.

For more information, call 267-8239.

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

Notice of Public Hearing on Glasscock County Appraisal District Budget

The Glasscock County Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2011 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on September 2, 2010 at 8:45 a.m. at the Glasscock County Courthouse, 117 E Currie, Garden City, TX.

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| The total amount of the proposed budget | <u>\$169,800.00</u> |
| The total amount of increase over the current year's budget. | <u>\$47,894.00</u> |
| The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget. | -0- (full-time equivalent) |
| The number of employees compensated under the current budget. | -0- (full-time equivalent) |

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office. Glasscock County Appraisal District, 124 South Myrl Street, PO Box 89, Garden City, TX 79739, 432-354-2580

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News in brief

Jurors were close to convicting Rod Blagojevich on many charges

CHICAGO (AP) — They were close. After three weeks of respectful but increasingly tense deliberations, 11 jurors were ready to convict Rod Blagojevich of what prosecutors called a "political corruption crime spree" that would have sent yet another former Illinois governor to prison.

Not close enough. On vote after vote, the jury kept coming up one juror short — a lone hold-out who wouldn't budge and would agree only that Blagojevich lied to the FBI. "The person just did not see the evidence that everyone else did," said juror Stephen Wlodek.

The guilty verdict on the least serious of the 24 counts against him, and mistrial on all the rest, led Blagojevich to

taunt prosecutors in the courthouse lobby. More than a year after federal prosecutors accused him of crimes that would make Abraham Lincoln "roll over in his grave," the disgraced politician bragged about essentially fighting them to a draw.

"This fight is a lot bigger than just me and my family. This is a fight for the very freedoms that we as Americans enjoy," said Blagojevich, who promised to appeal his conviction on the single count. "The right to be able to be innocent, the right to be able to do your job and to not be lied about."

Stage set for high-stakes Senate matchup in Washington

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — Democratic Sen. Patty Murray and her Republican challenger dove right into their fall matchup after winning

the primary in a high-stakes election that could determine the balance of power in the nation's capital.

Murray said a vote for Republican Dino Rossi is a vote for the failed policies of former President George W. Bush. Rossi declared that he would put Washington, D.C., on "a pork-free diet" and end what he calls a reckless pursuit of federal money by Murray in her 18 years in the Senate.

Murray and Rossi easily won Washington's primary Tuesday on a day in which President Barack Obama came to the state to campaign for the Democrat.

Obama's presence shows how high the stakes are. Republicans will likely need to oust Murray if they want take back control of the Senate.

Two other states held elections Tuesday, including a tight GOP gubernatorial primary in Wyoming and a closely watched special legislative race along the California coast.

Islamist militants keep pressure on police in Pakistan, even as flooding crisis rages

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — Islamist militants attacked police posts in Pakistan's northwest and killed two civilians active in an anti-Taliban militia, challenging a security establishment straining under a national flooding disaster, police said Wednesday.

The attacks came as the U.N. said an estimated 4.6 million flood victims have yet to get any shelter, despite aid workers' attempts to distribute tents. The floods have submerged tens of thousands of villages, killed around 1,500 people and affected 20 million others, authorities say.

A group of militants first killed two members of a militia in the Ad-ezai area of Peshawar as they headed to pray at a mosque late Tuesday, said Liaqat Ali Khan, Peshawar police chief.

In the hours after, dozens of militants from the Khyber tribal region, which lies near Peshawar and along the Afghan border, attacked police posts in the Sarband area of Peshawar. The two sides exchanged fire for about an hour before the militants retreated to Khyber, Khan said.

He said several militants were killed, but there were no police casualties.

Sheriff: Jobless S.C. mom who 'wanted to be free' suffocated young sons, faked drowning accident

ORANGEBURG, S.C. (AP) — Broke, jobless and berated by her mother for her failings, Shaquan Duley killed her young sons, then strapped their lifeless bodies into their car seats before rolling the vehicle into a South Carolina river in a desperate cover-up attempt, authorities said.

On Wednesday, the 29-year-old mother was expected to appear before an Orangeburg County judge for an arraignment hearing on two murder charges. Authorities did not know if she had an attorney.

Investigators were not convinced when Du-

ley said her sons, ages 2 years and 18 months, drowned after her car plunged into a river. She ultimately confessed to killing the toddlers, they say — not by dumping them in the water but by suffocating them earlier with her own hands.

"She truly felt, 'If I don't have these toddlers, I can be free,'" Orangeburg County Sheriff Larry Williams said at a news conference Tuesday. "I think she was fed up with her mother telling her she couldn't take care of the children, or she wasn't taking care of the children and just wanted to be free."

Coroner Samuella Marshall told several media outlets Tuesday the older boy had defensive wounds that suggested he had been in a struggle.

Insurgents break into home of Afghan official, killing him, wife

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Taliban insurgents broke into the home of a provincial official in southern Afghanistan and killed him and his wife, the latest targeted attack on those with links to the government or international forces, authorities said Wednesday.

Atta Jan Kajrwal, the Zabul province director of border and tribal affairs, was killed along with his wife in the attack Tuesday night in Shahjoy district, said Mohammad Jan Rasoolyar, a spokesman for the governor. Another person in the house was injured, he said.

Also Tuesday, a joint coalition-Afghan force raided a compound used by the Taliban as a prison, freeing 27 Afghan civilians who were shackled and held captive, an official said.

Thirteen Taliban fighters were killed in the raid in the Musa Qala

district of the southern province of Helmand, provincial spokesman Dawood Ahmadi said Wednesday. Five captives had been slain before the force arrived, he said.

Violence is on the rise, especially in the south, as Afghan and international forces push into areas controlled by the Taliban. It's part of a strategy to rout insurgents from their southern strongholds and provide security for the population to allow Afghan officials to bolster governance.

ACT scores dip slightly as record numbers take test, but more students college-ready

(AP) — Average scores on the ACT college entrance exam inched downward this year, yet slightly more students who took the test proved to be prepared for college, according to a report released Wednesday.

The findings sound contradictory. But the exam's authors point to a growing and more diverse group of test-takers — many are likely scoring lower overall, but more are also meeting benchmarks used to measure college readiness.

Last spring's high-school seniors averaged a composite score of 21.0 on the test's scale of 1 to 36, down slightly from 21.1 last year and the lowest score of the last five years.

At the same time, 24 percent of ACT-tested students met or surpassed all four of the test's benchmarks measuring their preparedness for college English, reading, math and science. That is up from 23 percent last year and 21 percent in 2006.


Although that still shows three in four test-takers will likely need remedial help in at least one subject to succeed in college, ACT officials are encouraged to see improvement as ever-larger numbers of students take the exam.

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AP poll: Obama at new low for handling economy

By LIZ SIDOTI
AP National Political Writer
WASHINGTON—President Barack Obama earned his lowest marks ever on his handling of the economy in a new Associated Press-GfK poll, which also found that an overwhelming majority of Americans now describe the nation's financial outlook as poor.

A frustrated electorate could take it out on the party in power — Obama's Democrats — in the November elections.

Eleven weeks before the Nov. 2 balloting, just 41 percent of those surveyed approve of the president's performance on the economy, down from 44 percent in April, while 56 percent disapprove. And 61 percent say the economy has gotten worse or stayed the same on Obama's watch.

Still, three-quarters also say it's unrealistic to expect noticeable economic improvements in the first 18 months of the president's term. And Obama's overall approval rating was unaffected; it remained at 49 percent, in

part because most Americans still like him personally. Americans' dim view of the economy grew even more pessimistic this summer as the nation's unemployment rate stubbornly hovered near 10 percent. That's been a drag on both Obama and Democrats, who control Congress.

"The economy is on life support," says Scott Bradley, 38, general manager of a carpet store in Columbia, Mo. Bradley says he voted for Obama in 2008 but he wouldn't again. He blames Congress for the unemployment woes but says, "Obama's policies are making the economy worse."

Even staunch Obama backers like college student Julius Taylor of Flint, Mich., struggle to stay optimistic about the economy, particularly when they see the recession's toll in their backyard. "I'd like to say it's improving, but there are a lot of indicators it's not," says Taylor, 25.

Viewpoints like those have Democrats on edge as they try to hang onto comfortable majorities in the House and Senate in a political environ-

ment made ever more challenging by economic woes. Republicans are trying to convince Americans that the GOP can create the jobs that Obama hasn't delivered. Obama and his Democrats are pleading for the frustrated public to give them more time to prove that their economic fixes will work.

"The truth is, it's going to take a few years to fully dig ourselves out of this recession. It's going to take time to bring back 8 million jobs," the president said Tuesday while campaigning for Democratic candidates in Seattle. "Anybody who tells you otherwise is just looking for your vote."

Democrats are keenly aware that they face strong headwinds; 60 percent of people say the country's headed in the wrong direction.

And it's hard to overstate the importance of the economy to voters; 91 percent of Americans say it's a top problem, with unemployment close behind.

A whopping 81 percent of people now call the economy poor or very poor, up from 72

percent in June, and just 12 percent say it has improved in the past month, compared with 19 percent in June. Both are record measurements since AP-GfK started asking those questions.

"Everyone is scared — everyone," says Gerda Chapman, 63, a retired schoolteacher in Harrison, Idaho, who backed Obama and isn't ready to ditch him. "The man has not had a long enough time and he's doing a good job." She, like him, urges patience: "We're not out of the recession and we've got a ways to go. It's going to take time, but it is on an upward trend."

Stacey Pederson, 36, a massage therapist and independent voter in Asheville, N.C., agrees that it's improving. But, she says, more progress would be made "if we would have cooperation within the two parties. It's getting to be really difficult watching them fight."

Neither party is faultless, adds Jeff Vick, 49, a self-employed consultant from Fort Worth, Texas.

"Republicans have just been

incredibly greedy," he says, and Democrats are instituting "un-American" policies that inhibit citizens' abilities to earn a living.

People have little trust in Democrats or Republicans on handling the economy; less than half trust either. But voters older than 64 and whites lean heavily toward the GOP.

While Congress' overall performance rating is at a miserable 24 percent, Democrats in Congress are slightly more popular than Republicans; 37 percent approve of Democrats while 30 percent approve of Republicans in Congress.

But in a shift from earlier this summer, when Democrats had an advantage, Republicans now are about even with Democrats on the question of which party should win control of Congress. Among registered voters, 49 percent say they would vote for the Republican candidate in their congressional district — half say to express their opposition to Obama — while 45 percent say they'd cast their ballot for the Democrat.

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Photo Courtesy of Tony Claxton

DaVonte Anderson hands the ball off to Lee Garcia during the Steers' scrimmage against Andrews on Saturday. Big Spring is preparing for its scrimmage against Lubbock Estacado on Friday.

BSHS volleyball falls to Frenship

BY ADAM COLEMAN
Sports Editor

The Lady Steers dropped a match against Frenship on Tuesday in Wolfforth, getting swept 25-20, 25-17, 25-13.

Head coach Lynn Osborne said Frenship was beatable, her girls just didn't step up to the challenge.

"They were a good team, but we've seen stronger opponents. We just didn't play well. Our feet were very slow and sluggish."

The offense just wasn't there for the Lady Steers.

Osborne pulled Morgan Slaughter off the bench and she came through with a team high five kills. Anderson had four kills and an ace.

Osborne said a lot of errors prompted her to bring Slaughter off the bench and she wanted to put a new player on the floor.

Defensively, Valerie

Ross and Desiree Anderson pulled out nine digs each, followed by Carson Reibe's six.

Cerbi Ritchey had 13 assists and Clara Benavides had three.

"We were just plagued with mistakes. Just a lot of mistakes and I really believe not moving our feet, being late to the ball, we had some trouble passing. The feet were just sluggish and if the feet are sluggish, all the skills are going to be just a little off."

The Lady Steers were just coming off a second-place finish in the silver bracket of the Monahans tournament prior to the match at Frenship. There, it seemed the offense was solid, with Anderson's 32 total kills in six matches and contributions from Diamond Mayes and Taylor Seaton.

The loss drops Big Spring to 4-5 on the season with the Granbury tournament looming.

Players might be excited about this tournament, considering it's the last one on the road before the Lady Steers have their home opener against San Angelo Central and Lamesa.

Prior to the match at Frenship, Big Spring was on the road in Abilene in addition to the Monahans to start the season.

The Granbury tournament's first opponent for the Lady Steers will be a familiar one in Abilene Cooper at 10:30 a.m. Friday. Big Spring beat Cooper in five games when the two met to start the season.

Osborne said she hopes the Frenship match ends up being a wake-up call for her players.

Contact Sports Editor Adam Coleman at 263-7331 ext. 237 or at sports@bigspringherald.com.

Garza leads Rays past Rangers in 10-1 victory

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Matt Garza stopped a short skid that followed his big night.

The right-hander scattered five hits over seven scoreless innings for his first win since pitching a no-hitter late last month and the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Texas Rangers 10-1 on Tuesday night.

"It's great, but the biggest thing is that we won," Garza said.

Garza (12-7) went 0-2 in three starts after throwing Tampa Bay's first no-hitter in a 5-0 victory over Detroit on July 26.

"He fought his delivery a little bit early on, but then he

found it," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "I just thought he was throwing the ball better as the game went deeper. He could have gone farther into that game, there's no question. There was no need to."

Garza, who had 10 strikeouts and two walks, struck out AL batting leader Josh Hamilton with runners on second and third to end the third.

"Garza made us look flat," Texas manager Ron Washington said. "You've got to give credit where credit is due. I didn't think he had his real best stuff, but he made pitches when he had to."

Evan Longoria came within a homer of the cycle and had three RBIs for the Rays, who have won the first two games of the three-game series in a potential playoff matchup. The victory gave Maddon his 400th career win.

Carl Crawford also drove in three runs, including a two-run homer during a five-run seventh that extended the Rays' lead to 10-0. Tampa Bay is tied for first place in the AL East with the New York Yankees, a 6-2 winner over Detroit.

The AL West-leading Rangers remained eight games ahead of the Los Angeles Angels, who were beaten 6-0 by

the Boston Red Sox. David Murphy had a run-scoring single in the eighth.

Rangers third baseman Michael Young was out of the lineup due to a stiff neck. He left Monday night's 6-4 loss to the Rays after six innings, but Washington said Young could start Wednesday.

Crawford and Longoria hit consecutive RBI triples, and Carlos Pena drove in a run with a double off Tommy Hunter (9-2) as the Rays took a 3-0 lead in the first. Crawford's triple was the 100th of his career, which made the 29-year-old the youngest player to reach that total since Stan Musial (28 years, 8

months) in 1949.

"It's a real cool thing," Crawford said. "You like to be in the company with guys like that."

Longoria made it 5-0 with a two-run double in the fourth.

Hunter allowed four runs and six hits over three-plus innings. The right-hander was pitching on three days' rest after lasting just three innings in his previous start Friday because of a stomach virus.

Hunter threw 63 of his 83 pitches — including 38 in the first — through two innings. He stayed in the game after

See **RANGERS**, Page 14

Romo: 'We're going to have a good offense, period'

OXNARD, Calif. (AP) — Tony Romo is over his flu bug, but his right tackle just had knee surgery.

He's getting better throwing to Roy Williams, but he's still waiting to get his timing down with injured rookie Dez Bryant.

He's moved the ball every drive he's had this preseason, but he hasn't produced a touchdown and neither has anyone else on the Dallas Cowboys.

For everything that's

gone right so far during training camp, something's gone wrong.

Romo believes the Cowboys are just working out the kinks. He's so sure of it, he said Tuesday: "I think we're going to have a pretty good red-zone offense this year. I think we're going to have a good offense, period. It's going to be fun."

He should be optimistic. He helped shape the plan.

During the offseason, Romo and offensive co-

ordinator Jason Garrett reviewed what worked and what didn't last season, then discussed why. That led to some tweaks of the playbook to make sure they're emphasizing their strengths.

"I think that's a big part of it, learning what we both like, what we think can be more successful, what we can change, what we need to do better, what I need to be better at," Romo said. "That's how you become a better player and a better offense. I think we're

doing that."

It helps that they're familiar with what everyone can do. Dallas has only one new starter on offense, left tackle Doug Free, and he started seven games at right tackle last season. Although right tackle Marc Colombo had an arthroscopic procedure Monday, he's expected back for the opener.

"You get better command of the offense every year that goes by," said Romo, who is going into his fourth full

season as a starter and his fourth working with Garrett. "Me and Jason, you grow together in the system. That's a good thing. I'm lucky to have somebody there for an extended period of time like that."

The Cowboys gained a club-record 6,390 yards last season on their way to going 11-5 and winning the NFC East. However, they scored one point fewer than the previous season, when they were 9-7 and missed the playoffs.

Dallas just had too many problems scoring inside the 20-yard line.

"When you look at it, everything we did last year, there's a lot of correctable things out there," Romo said. "It's not that we need to go out and find someone who is a better football player. Sometimes that's part of it, but we don't have that problem."

Fans are grumbling because the same problem

See **COWBOYS**, Page 13

Sports in brief

Big Spring football season tickets

Get season tickets at the Big Spring High School ATC. Public ticket sales are from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday starting Tuesday and ending Wednesday. The cost is \$25 per ticket book, which includes five home games. Any questions should be directed to Kay Cook at 264-3662.

Soccer sign-ups

Sign-up are still open for the rest of the week until Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The last day to sign up is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 21. All sign-ups are at the Big Spring Mall. There will be no late registration for soccer sign-ups.

This league is for 3- to 13-year-olds and cost is \$65. Call Issac Miramontes at 935-9056 for more infor-

mation.

Big Spring Quarterback Club

The club meets every Monday at 7 p.m. All parents of football players 7th through 12th grade are encouraged to attend.

For more information, call Denise Carrillo at 816-1685.

Ragball tournament

There will be a Ragball tournament Aug. 28 and 29 at the Roy Anderson Sports Complex. Cost is \$10 per person, with a six-game guarantee.

All proceeds will go toward medical costs for Debbie Hicks, who is on dialysis and in need of a kidney transplant. Register at the complex between 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Aug. 28 and games start at 10 a.m. that day.

For more information, call Rodney Jones at 213-

3750 or James Statham at 213-7669.

Lady Steers Booster Club meeting

This club will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Big Spring High School Athletic Training Facility. Contact Carmen Ritchey at 940-389-0633.

Junior High volleyball tryouts

There will be volleyball tryouts for the Big Spring Junior High School team after school from 3:45 p.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 23.

Contact coach Andy Couch at 682-225-2415 for more information.

CYFA Football sign-ups

Remaining sign-ups for this league will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. The last day to sign up is Aug. 29.

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Cemetery Lots

2 CEMETARY Plots Trinity Memorial Park Meditation section 1 & 2 in lot 351. \$3500.00 together. Call Brenda at (325)320-4525.

Garage Sales

1302 HWY 176 (Andrews Hwy), Friday & Saturday. 8-? Piano, sleeper sofa, toys, clothes- 25 & 50 cents, dishes, clarinet & saxophone.

208 WASHINGTON- Saturday, 7am-12pm. Multi-family garage sale. Furniture, clothing, knick knacks. Too much to list!

2610 CINDY Saturday 7am-3pm. Moving Sale: Kids clothes, adult clothes, lots of household items, some furniture, TV's house for sale too! Come see it!

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DENTAL ASST. needed, work week, Monday-Thursday, Experience required, send resume to 710 Main.

Help Wanted

CITY OF BIG SPRING Communications Officer Heavy Equipment Operator Facilities Maintenance Operator

Administrative Assistant For more information go to www.mybigspring.com, or apply in person in the Human Resources Office located at 310 Nolan. (432)264-2346.

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EXPERIENCED DOZER and Trachoe Operator, CDL preferred. Taking application at 600 SE Broadway, Coahoma. Call 432-394-4161.

EXPERIENCED LEAD Maintenance Person needed, Big Spring, 68 Units. Applicants may contact Kendra at Coronado Hills (432)267-6500. Applicants must be able to pass a criminal background checks and drug test.

EXPERIENCED WAIT-STAFF needed for day and evening shift. Apply in person at Big Spring Country Club. No phone calls please.

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FT MEDICAL Record Specialist needed- Big Spring, TX; www.healthport.com/careers to apply.

Lending Position Available An Independent Main Street Community Bank is growing and needs to expand its lending operations. We are seeking a qualified loan officer with 3-5 years consumer, commercial and real estate lending experience. Interested applicants should send resume to Lending Position, P.O. Box 2062, Stephenville, Texas 76401. EOE

MOSS CREEK Ranch is looking for Bartenders, Wait Staff and Bussers. Experience and TABC Certification recommended. Call Chad Nicholes @ 432-816-1321.

PARKS FUELS is looking for someone who can do the bank reconciliation, payables, payroll and financial statements. Please send resume to 417 Main St. Pay would be considered on experience.

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SECURITY OFFICERS Needed for Hospital Federal Inmate Protection detail. All positions are Part-time and PRN. **Physical Requirements:** Must be in general good health and vision must be correctable to 20/30 (SNELLEN) in one eye. The ability to distinguish basic colors is required. Emotional and mental stability is required. **Other Requirements:** Must be able to pass State and Federal Backgrounds and Credit Checks. **Experience Requirements:**

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FOUND FEMALE Chocolate Lab on North FM 700. Please call to claim. If no owner is found she will need a good home. Please call 432-466-9386.

FOUND- DARK Gray Chihuahua, male dog in lower Kentwood. Call to identify at 267-7732, 213-4452, or 213-4618.

LOST CAT- She is mostly white with grey and light tan. She is a little blind, and we miss her a lot. Please call Laura or Amber at 432-517-4175 or 432-213-4136 if you find her.

Miscellaneous

ANNUAL YELLOW box shoe sale-Merle Norman, Big Spring Mall. Sale ends 8-31-10.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

These are the final days of the sun's annual transit through Leo, but the high energy will not dwindle one iota — the Sagittarius moon makes sure of that. The combined efforts of the sun/moon fire sign influences make for a zesty social swirl. It's not enough to be merely congenial. Take a risk. Everyone is looking for the razzle-dazzle.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're still hoping for a certain circumstance. If you knew for certain that this one was going to go your way, what would you do? Do that now to whatever degree you can. You'll hurry things along.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Someone will try hard to make you happy. There's one problem that might come up: This person doesn't know how to do it and won't admit that he or she doesn't know. Spell it out.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Knowing more than anyone else won't help if you don't apply what you know. You'll figure out how to utilize information and use it to your advantage. And you'll impress all with how you do this.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). For you, it's not satisfying to plod along in the middle, making a minimal impact. When you give your energy to a project, you expect the end result to be a major hit. And this expectation will soon be met.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Monotony is a dangerous state, more draining to you than any challenge you've faced. Change your behavior often over the next 24 hours. Ask a different question and you'll get a different answer.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll continue to school yourself in the affairs of the heart and also about human nature. You're getting quite wise and realistic in these regards. No one can shatter your illusions if you don't have them to begin with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Making the sale

depends on thinking about others, about what they need and want. You have an excellent knack for this, and you work fast. In a short time span, you'll ask the right questions and get just the answers you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are socially strategic. You may pretend like you are imparting secret information (when you are in fact sharing public knowledge) just because it makes what you say seem more important.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Go carefully. Be thoughtful. It will be easier to change your mind in the early stages of an idea than it will be to change the circumstances you will create once you've committed yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There are many options you haven't tried. But you don't have to try them to know they are not for you. You feel your way through, and your second sense won't betray you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have the treasure map in your

hand. You might even be standing right where "X" marks the spot. This does not, technically, make you any richer. You have to get your hands dirty first. Start digging.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). This is your day to give. Get in the spirit of it and you will set records. You will be more cheerful, more loving, more gracious and good than your most benevolent moment thus far.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (August 18). You will combine hard work with keen intuition to fantastic effect. A victory in September will be just the start of your many wins. November is filled with romantic evenings. You'll derive great pleasure from pursuing hobbies and talents in January, and you'll make valuable connections in the process. Taurus and Sagittarius people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 14, 39, 20 and 52.

ASTROLOGICAL INSIGHTS: Beyond the 12 Signs of the Zodiac: Aries through Pisces may be our favorite characters to keep track

of, but they are not the only stars in the sky. For instance, what about the lovely constellation Perseus, home of the annual Perseid meteor shower?

Perseus was the hero who came to save poor Andromeda from Cetus, the sea monster, after her vain mother, Queen Cassiopeia of Ethiopia, bragged that she was more beautiful than the daughters of Poseidon, the sea god. The constellation of Perseus is located just beneath Cassiopeia, beside his beloved Andromeda and facing off against the villainous serpent Cetus.

In Greek mythology, when Perseus — who had just rid the world of the snake-headed Medusa — sees that Andromeda is about to become sacrificial fish food, he begs her parents to let him slay Cetus and marry Andromeda, who was actually promised to someone else before all this trouble with Poseidon and the sea monster began. Perseus is associated with Venus, the planet of love, and what could be more romantic than

brave Perseus and beautiful Andromeda living happily ever after? Perseus is also often considered a third decan of Aries. No obstacle is too big to stop an Aries in love!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Two-time Academy Award-winner Sean Penn uses his celebrity, power and influence for the social good, as the world witnessed when he physically rescued victims of Hurricane Katrina and provided relief for tens of thousands of Haitians after the earthquake earlier this year. Leo is the sign that rules the heart, and giving from the heart is Leo's ticket to happiness.

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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"CLASSIC" ANN LANDERS

Editor's Note: Hundreds of Ann Landers' loyal readers have requested that newspapers continue to publish her columns. These letters originally appeared in 1999.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

Dear Ann Landers: I have been dating an attractive woman for several months, and we have a good relationship.

There is one big problem, however. "Lucinda" smokes more than a pack of cigarettes a day.

When we first began dating, I told her I did not want to be in the company of anyone who smokes.

After that, she did not smoke around me, neither in my car nor in my home. Lately, however, to my surprise, Lucinda has been lighting up in my presence.

I offered her a financial incentive to quit (big bucks), and she did for two months. After I paid her the money, she started to smoke again.

This woman keeps promising to quit, and then goes back on her word.

Her mother has emphysema, and I expect that, eventually,

she will have it, too. My doctor says that, considering my age and medical history, passive smoke inhalation could be dangerous.

Therefore, as long as Lucinda smokes, I will not consider marrying her. I have tried all forms of persuasion, but I am now convinced that she will never quit.

I have decided to stop seeing her altogether if she does not quit by November. Am I being cruel? What would you advise in such a situation? — *Undecided Somewhere in Tennessee*

Dear Tennessee: Dump her — now. Marriage would be a constant battle. Take her back only if she manages on her own to quit smoking for three months and promises to stay off cigarettes permanently.

If she goes back on her word, give her a Michigan handshake and start looking for a tobacco-free woman.

Dear Ann Landers: Yesterday, I took my grandson, age 7, and two of his friends to see a children's movie.

The film was delightful, and the kids loved it. Their parents had agreed that the boys could stop by a video arcade after the movie, so I took them there.

We looked around and finally decided on a basketball game.

While they were playing video basketball, I checked out the other games. I saw a young boy insert a quarter into the slot and watched as realistic-looking people appeared on the video screen.

I was shocked to see the teenager maneuver the figures so they would shoot and blow each other up, with body parts flying everywhere.

The purpose of the game was to see how many people one could kill in the allotted number of seconds.

I watched this young boy as he kept feeding money into the machine and mowing people down.

Why is this sort of game allowed after all the trouble we are having with our children killing each other? Any answers out there, Ann? — *A Concerned Grandmother in Louisville, Ky.*

Dear Grandma: Game manufacturers will continue to supply violent games as long as they bring in money.

The parents of young children in your community should get together and call the person who runs the arcade and request that the offensive game be removed.

Since that catastrophe at Columbine High School, people are much more sensitive to this

problem. Move on it promptly.

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ness-sized envelope and a check or money order for \$5.25 (this includes postage and handling) to: Collection, c/o Ann Landers, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. To find out more about

Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

ANN LANDERS (R)
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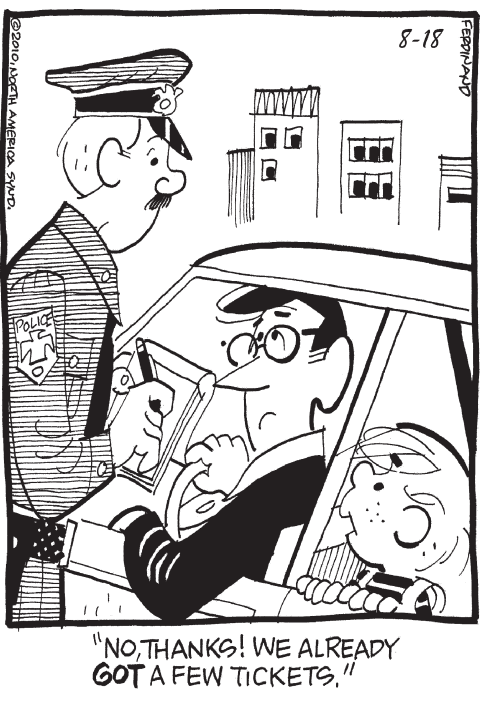
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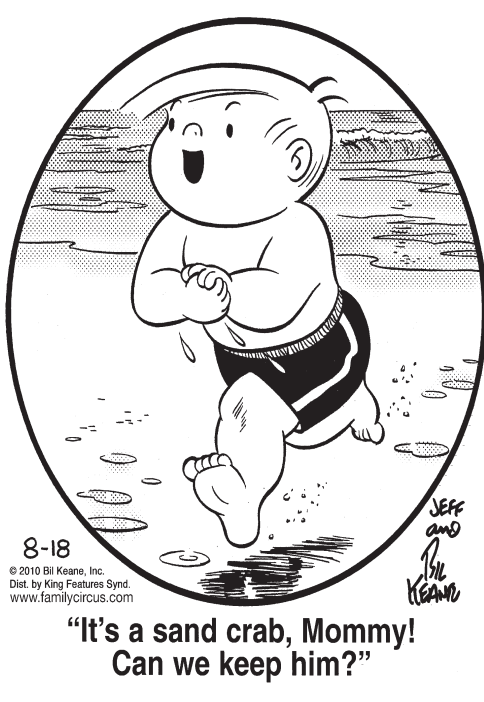
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|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 5:PM ABC | News | Vida | Lopez | News | Noticias | News | King | CCM | BBC | King | Cash Cab | Charlie Wilson's War | CSI: Crime Scene | Law & Order | 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live | Deck | NASCAR | SportsCenter |
| 6:PM ABC | Jeopardy! | Llena de Amor (SS) | Two Men | News | El Cartel II | News | Seinfeld | Faye H. | PBS News-Hour | 70s Show | Man vs. Wild | UFC Un-leashed | Bones | | Wizards | Little League Softball | MLB Baseball: Teams TBA. | |
| 7:PM ABC | Wheel | Hasta que el Dinero | MasterChef | Ent | Big Brother | Millionaire | Seinfeld | Cortes | 70s Show | 70s Show | Man vs. Wild | UFC Un-leashed | Bones | | Hannah | | | |
| 8:PM ABC | Middle | Soy Tu Dueña (SS) | | Criminal Minds | El Fantasma de | Minute to Win It | Payne | Upd House | Live From Lincoln Center | Top Model | Man vs. Wild | UFC Un-leashed | Bones | | Hannah | | | |
| 9:PM ABC | Family Cougar | | | | | America's/ Talent | Browns | Light of the Southwest | | Plain Jane | Man vs. Wild | UFC Un-leashed | Bones | | Hannah | | | |
| 10:PM ABC | (01) Castle | Don Francisco | Simpsons Friends | CSI: NY | La Diosa Coronada | Law & Order: SVU | Browns | | | Married... CW 2010 | Surviving the Cut | UFC Un-leashed | Bones | | Hannah | | | |
| 11:PM ABC | News | Impacto | Raymond | News | Noticias | News | Lopez | Uri Harel | Charlie Rose | Roseanne | Man vs. Wild | UFC Un-leashed | Bones | | Hannah | | | |
| 12:PM ABC | Nightline | Noticiero | Letterman | Letterman | Deci | Jay Leno | Tonight | Dr. Young | | Roseanne | Man vs. Wild | UFC Un-leashed | Bones | | Hannah | | | |
| 1:AM ABC | Jimmy Kimmel Live | Corazón Salvaje | Law & Order: SVU | Late | A Corazón Abierto | Late Night | Name | Jim | BBC | Bernie | Man vs. Wild | UFC Un-leashed | Bones | | Hannah | | | |
| 2:AM ABC | Extra | Amar sin Limites | Paid King-Hill | Insider | Deci | Sex & Sex & Charles | Sex & Sex & Charles | Israel | T. Smiley (Off Air) | Cops | Surviving the Cut | CSI: Crime Scene | Memphis Beat | | Hannah | | | |
| 3:AM ABC | Paid | Clasicos | Paid | Ent | Pagado | News | Lopez | Light of the Southwest | | Cops | Surviving the Cut | CSI: Crime Scene | Memphis Beat | | Hannah | | | |
| 4:AM ABC | Paid | Cero | RENO 911 | Paid | Pagado | Poker After Dark | Lopez | Light of the Southwest | | Videosomnia | Overhauled | Rubicon | Star Trek: Voyager | | Hannah | | | |

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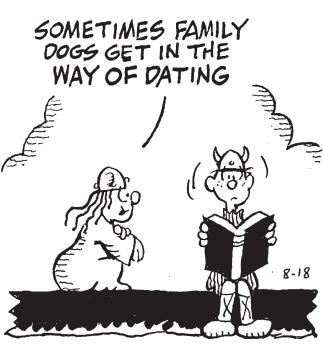
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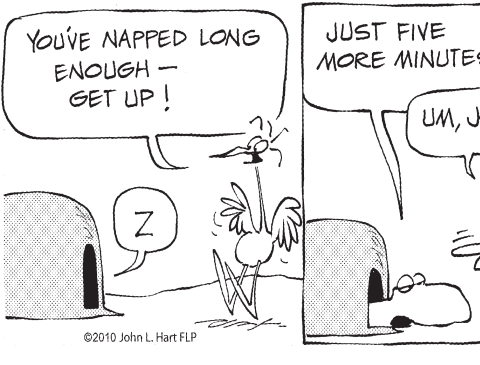
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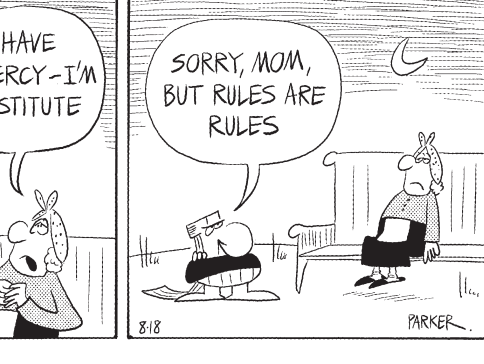
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



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This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 18, the 230th day of 2010. There are 135 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 18, 1587, Virginia Dare became the first child of English parents to be born on American soil, on what is now Roanoke Island in North Carolina. (However, the Roanoke colony ended up mysteriously disappearing.)

On this date:

In 1838, the first marine expedition sponsored by the U.S. government set sail from Hampton Roads, Va.; the crews traveled the southern Pacific Ocean, gathering scientific information.

In 1846, U.S. forces led by General Stephen W. Kearny captured Santa Fe, N.M.

In 1894, Congress established the Bureau of Immigration.

In 1910, floral delivery service FTD began under the name Florists' Telegraph Delivery (the "T" now stands for

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

1 Shot in the dark

5 Shoebox info

9 Pry open

14 Flaw in logic

15 One of Kentucky's 43 Across

16 French farewell

17 Chops down

18 New Haven school

19 Reward for bravery

20 How letters are sent

23 Explosive letters

24 Yes, in Yokohama

25 Adjective for Abner

26 Key time for presidential primaries

32 Greeted a monarch

35 Stately trees

36 Bullfight cheer

37 Work on a manuscript

38 Civil-rights org.

40 Blessing

41 Curtain holder

42 Tractor-trailer

43 Army outposts

44 Egyptian tourist attraction

48 "Iced" drink

49 Brit. flyers

50 Curved path

53 Ring material

58 Spotless

59 Most Little Leaguers

60 Smidgen

OUTSTANDING

by David W. Cromer
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

10 Noble standards

11 Calf-length dress

12 Repast

13 Brynner of The King and I

21 Dull sound

22 Unproductive period

26 Collector's goal

27 Broadcast anew

28 RN's forte

29 Entryway

30 All the time

31 Hankerings

32 Navigation hazard

33 Nasal appraisal

34 Panoramic

38 Himalayan nation

39 Novelist Tan

40 Physique, for short

42 Less lax

43 Apt name for a French poodle

45 Boot-camp command

46 Sock pattern

47 Hordes

50 Steer clear of

51 Make a price change, perhaps

52 Orange holder

53 Job opening

54 Try out

55 Footnote abbr.

56 Too inquisitive

57 Existence

58 Brain of a PC

Answer to previous puzzle

| | | |
|---------|---------|--------|
| JUMP | SLOB | SLASH |
| ISEE | CASE | TENAM |
| GEMS | HULA | RATIO |
| ROOTED | OUTE | VIL |
| RMS | EW | |
| RESCUE | MOAN | SEA |
| ISLAM | DUOS | BAIT |
| STUMPED | THE | PANEL |
| KEYS | RATS | INDIA |
| YES | SAYS | LASSOS |
| SOS | PAN | |
| LEAFED | THROUGH | |
| GAMUT | AHOY | ROOM |
| ELITE | TENN | GAZE |
| EATEN | AMEX | EDEN |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| 14 | | | | 15 | | | | 16 | | | | | |
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| 23 | | | | 24 | | | | 25 | | | | | |
| | | | 26 | | | 27 | 28 | | | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| 32 | 33 | 34 | | | | 35 | | | | 36 | | | |
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| 41 | | | | 42 | | | | | | 43 | | | |
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| 53 | 54 | | | | | 55 | 56 | | | 57 | | | |
| 58 | | | | | | 59 | | | | 60 | | | |
| 61 | | | | | | 62 | | | | 63 | | | |
| 64 | | | | | | 65 | | | | 66 | | | |

Famed HR hitter Bobby Thomson dies

NEW YORK (AP) — We've heard the frenzied call forever, echoing through baseball lore.

"The Giants win the pennant! The Giants win the pennant!"

Bobby Thomson, the man immortalized with his "Shot Heard 'Round the World" in 1951, died Monday night at his home in Savannah, Ga. He was 86 and had been in failing health for several years, the Fox & Weeks funeral home said Tuesday.

He was a good player, not a Hall of Famer. Yet on that October afternoon, with one swing, Thomson transformed a pennant race for one season into a baseball moment for the ages.

He hit perhaps the sport's

most famous home run, connecting off Ralph Branca for a three-run drive in the bottom of the ninth inning that sent the New York Giants over the Brooklyn Dodgers in the decisive Game 3 of their National League playoff.

The drive into the left-field stands at the Polo Grounds and broadcaster Russ Hodges' ecstatic declaration — four times shouting "the Giants win the pennant!" — remain one of the signature moments in major league history.

"I never thought it was going to be that big. Hell, no," Branca told The Associated Press from his home in suburban New York. "When we went into the next season, I thought it'd be forgotten."

"I'll miss him," Branca said.

"I mellowed over the years and we became good friends. I enjoyed being around him."

A three-time All-Star as an infielder and outfielder, Thomson hit .270 with 264 career home runs and 1,026 RBIs from 1946-60 with several teams. He led the league in a hitting category only once, and that was for triples.

But the fly ball that flew over the wall vaulted "The Flying Scot" to a place of almost mythic status. There have been plenty of historic home runs over the years — Bill Mazeroski, Kirk Gibson, Carlton Fisk and Joe Carter, to name a few — but Thomson's shot stands as the giant among them all.

The tall, lanky and self-effacing Thomson, however,

was stunned that in a lineup that included future Hall of Famers Willie Mays and Monte Irvin, he would hit the pennant-winning homer. He called himself "the accidental hero."

Thomson never quite understood all the fuss the homer created. On its 40th anniversary in 1991, he said, "I can't believe we're still talking about it."

"Bobby Thomson will always hold a special place in our game for hitting one of the signature home runs in baseball history. 'The Shot Heard 'Round the World' will always remain a defining moment for our game, illustrating the timeless quality of the national pastime," commissioner Bud Selig said.

The home run decided one of the most memorable pennant races, and later led to one of its most-debated questions: Did he know Branca was going to throw the high-and-inside fastball that Thomson hit out of the park?

More than a half-century later, it was revealed the Giants during the season had used a buzzer-and-telescope system to steal signals from opposing catchers. Helped by the inside information, the Giants overcame a 1½-game deficit to the Dodgers, won 37 of their final 44 games and forced a playoff.

Thomson always insisted he did not know what pitch was coming when he connect-

See **BOBBY**, Page 14

Mets withhold K-Rod's salary, put him on DQ list

HOUSTON (AP) — The New York Mets are withholding injured closer Francisco Rodriguez's salary while he's sidelined, and the team wants to convert his contract to a non-guaranteed deal.

The moves could be a prelude to the Mets releasing the star closer without paying most of his 2011 salary.

Rodriguez was placed on the disqualified list Tuesday, six days after he tore a ligament in the thumb of his pitching hand while punching his girlfriend's father outside a family lounge at Citi Field. Rodriguez had surgery Tuesday to repair the self-inflicted injury and is expected to miss the rest of the season.

The Mets said he won't be paid while on the disqualified list. In addition, they said they were exercising a contractual right to convert the rest of his \$37 million, three-year deal to non-guaranteed, meaning they could try to avoid paying most of what's left on it.

The players' association planned to fight the

team's actions.

The Mets announced the move before Tuesday night's game at Houston in a conference call that included chief operating officer Jeff Wilpon, general manager Omar Minaya and executive vice president and general counsel David Cohen.

Rodriguez, a four-time All-Star, was suspended

for two days without pay following the fight outside a family room at the ballpark last Wednesday.

By going on the disqualified list, Rodriguez will lose \$3,016,393 of his \$11.5 million salary this year. Added to the \$125,683 he lost when the Mets put him on the restricted list for two days last week, the

altercation already has cost him \$3,142,076.

In addition, by converting his contract to non-guaranteed, the Mets gave themselves the ability to release Rodriguez in the early part of spring training next year for 30 days' termination pay. That would mean paying \$1,885,246 rather than his \$11.5 million salary.

COWBOYS

Continued from Page 8

has crept up this pre-season. Dallas already has tried seven field goals in two games.

Romo counters by noting they haven't had any three-and-outs.

"So we're doing some good things," he said. "But scoring touchdowns obviously helps a lot and matters. From a confidence standpoint, there's no question we need to get in the

end zone. And we will."

Garrett was so upset with the offense Sunday that he made them go through an extra round of practice after their second session. They've been crisp in the two workouts since, including while in pads Tuesday.

Part of the problem Sunday might've been Romo playing through his illness.

"You need these days," he said. "So you come out here and fight through it a little bit and you'll be fine."

Williams has been here 1½

seasons without developing a strong on-field relationship. It's a touchy subject because of how much money Williams makes and how much the Cowboys gave up to get him.

If Williams doesn't have big numbers, he probably won't be back next season. The clock could be ticking already because of the high hopes for Bryant, who is eager to return from a high ankle sprain but is being stalled by management concerned about the risk of a setback. Talk of him playing two preseason games

has tilted toward the caution of keeping him out til the opener.

Whenever he's back, Romo will be ready to continue breaking him in.

"He's got good instincts," Romo said. "He's got a natural way about running the routes and being in position. He's still got some stuff to learn that we've got to get through, but he's coming along. ... He had a lot of time, he had a lot of work in, and he corrected a lot of mistakes pretty quickly there. But there are still

things we're going to continue to work on."

Romo came off the practice field having already heard the news of Brett Favre's likely return to the Vikings. He jokingly said he was taking back all the nice things he said a few weeks ago when Favre was thought not to be returning.

"He's terrible. I can't believe he's still playing. He's got no ability left," Romo said, laughing. "No, he's a great player. It's going to be fun to play those guys this year."

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BOBBY

Continued from Page 13

ed. Branca was never quite so sure.

For years, Thomson and Branca appeared together at functions of all kinds, a modern-day Abbott & Costello act, their retelling of the moment filled with fine-tuned comic touches and playful jabs. Often, Branca would prompt Thomson to claim more of the credit.

Only one thing was missing from their act: the home run ball itself. The prize remains an elusive souvenir, with several people claiming to have it but no one able to prove.

"We did award shows, dinners, autograph shows, golf outings, maybe five or six a year," Branca said.

Thomson moved south

about five years ago to be closer to one of his daughters. Branca said he hadn't seen him for a couple of years.

Long after the Giants and Dodgers left town and moved west, Thomson remained a recognized figure on New York streets. Taxi drivers, office workers and pedestrians of a certain age would stop him or call out his name — the old Giants fans cheered, the Dodgers crowd, not so much.

Thomson hit a career-high 32 home runs in 1951, and his shot on Oct. 3 sent the Giants into the World Series the next day. He hit a mere .238 without a home run as his team lost in six games to the cross-town New York Yankees, who were in the midst of winning a record five straight crowns.

The luster from Thomson's shot, though, never dimmed. There was even a funny post-

script, provided by the great Yogi Berra.

Berra and some of his Yankees teammates attended Game 3 of the Dodgers-Giants playoff, eager to see which team they would face. But after Brooklyn scored three times in the eighth inning for a 4-1 lead, Berra decided he'd seen enough and wanted to beat the late-afternoon traffic.

Yep, it's true. The man who coined the phrase "it ain't over till it's over" thought it was over and actually left the Polo Grounds and was driving home when Thomson homered.

"Bobby was a heck of a guy," Berra said Tuesday night at Yankee Stadium.

Moments of silence for Thomson were held at Yankee Stadium, where the grainy, black-and-white clip of his homer was shown on the vid-

eoboard, and Fenway Park.

Thomson's home run came during an era that baseball fondly calls "The Golden Age," a time when the sport was No. 1 in America and New York was its epicenter. The pennant race between those longtime rivals, the Giants and Dodgers, only heightened the tension.

New York won Game 1 of the playoff as Thomson homered against Branca in what turned out to be an eerie precursor. Brooklyn won Game 2 in a rout, setting up a winner-take-all rematch.

Down 4-1 in the ninth, the Giants began to rally when Alvin Dark and Don Mueller led off with singles against Don Newcombe. After Irvin fouled out, Whitey Lockman hit an RBI double that made it 4-2.

Mueller broke his ankle sliding into third and was re-

placed by pinch-runner Clint Hartung — in fact, a little more than a month ago, Hartung died.

Branca then relieved Newcombe and on an 0-1 pitch, Thomson connected. And the rest, really, was history.

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, Thomson was named after an uncle who was killed in World War I. He came to the United States in 1926 when he was 3 years old and the family settled in Staten Island, N.Y., where he played high school and semipro ball. He worked out for both the Giants and Dodgers and after signing contract with the Giants in 1942, he spent three years in the military during World War II.

When Thomson came to the major leagues in 1947, he was a fleet center fielder, often called "The Staten Island Scot".

Brett Favre is back in Minnesota

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Brett Favre's latest summer of indecision finally appears to be over.

Favre arrived in Minnesota on Tuesday and it wouldn't be a surprise to see him in a Vikings helmet and red quarterback's jersey when the team takes the field for practice on Wednesday.

In a scene nearly identical to his signing with

Minnesota a year ago, Favre took a private plane from Mississippi on the Tuesday following the Vikings' first preseason game, was followed by news helicopters from a suburban airport to the team headquarters and was greeted by dozens of fans and media members upon his arrival.

"Helicopters acting like they are follow-

ing O.J.," tight end Visanthe Shiancoe tweeted. "Where is the bronco."

The big difference? His signing with the Vikings — Green Bay's bitter NFC North rival — was a stunner to most observers who watched Favre torment Minnesota for so long as a member of the Packers.

This time around, virtually everyone expect-

ed the quarterback who spends every summer on the verge of retirement to return for a 20th NFL season.

Favre's latest dalliance centered around an ankle that was injured in the NFC championship game loss to New Orleans in January. Favre had surgery on his left ankle in June and told teammates and team officials earlier in

August that he didn't think he had another full season left in him.

This is the third straight summer the Vikings have dealt with questions about Favre, so they weren't convinced he was done. The team sent Jared Allen, Steve Hutchinson and Ryan Longwell — three of the 40-year-old quarterback's closest friends on the team — to Missis-

issippi to woo Favre one more time, and it appears to have worked.

Despite Favre's late afternoon arrival at Winter Park, the Vikings did not hold a news conference on Tuesday or put out a statement officially announcing the quarterback was returning for another season.

The Vikings instead issued a media schedule for Wednesday.

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RANGERS

Continued from Page 8

taking Crawford's second-inning single off his right hand.

"He's healthy," Washington said. "It's one of those nights. He kept the ball out over the plate and they didn't miss it. It happens."

Tampa Bay's Jason Bartlett, running toward second on John Jaso's bunt in the fourth, collided hard with Rangers second baseman Andres Blanco, but both were able to stay in the game.

NOTES: Crawford is the 15th player since 1900 to have at least 100 triples and 400 steals. ... Texas plans to recall LHP Derek Holland from Triple-A Oklahoma City to start Wednesday's game against the Rays.



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